

Frequently Asked Questions

How do you decide who is accepted to attend Desoto School?

The Admissions Committee considers the complete application file, in addition to class size and dynamics, ability to meet the student's needs, and potential for an excellent partnership between home and school.

When can I apply?

Each year, applications become available on November 1 and close on December 1. If space is still available in certain grade levels, there will be a late application window from March 15 to May 1 or when a grade level is deemed full at the discretion of Desoto Leadership. This will be communicated on Desoto's website and social media platforms.

When do I pay the \$200 New Student Enrollment Fee?

The New Student Enrollment Fee will not be paid until you have been selected for the Admissions Wait Pool, offered an available opening, and wish to accept it.

Do you accept students mid-year?

Should space become available mid-year, students will be selected from the Admissions Wait Pool and notified of the opening by email/phone call. Families notified of an opening will have 48 hours to accept and one week to complete their enrollment before the opening is offered to another family in the wait pool.

What can I do to prepare my child for the admissions process?

The admissions process is designed to give the Admissions Committee the best overall picture of your child. The most valuable thing you can do for your child is follow the process and have all required forms and references submitted before the deadline. We are here to help every step of the way. Please contact desotoadmissions@gmail.com at any time if you have a question.

What does it mean if my child is selected for the Admissions Wait Pool?

Application numbers often exceed the number of spaces available in any given grade. After review of the complete application and testing, a qualified applicant will be selected for the Admissions Wait Pool. When space becomes available in any grade level, we will offer the opening to a student within the Admissions Wait Pool. Families notified of an opening will have 48 hours to accept and one week to complete their enrollment before the opening is offered to another family in the wait pool.

If I am in the Admissions Wait Pool waiting for an opening, do I have to reapply each year?

No, Admissions Wait Pool students do not need to reapply from year to year. Their application will remain open until an opening is offered or the family wishes for their application to be withdrawn. Updated supporting documents may be requested.

If I am offered an available spot and decline, am I guaranteed a spot for the following year?

If you are offered an available spot but decline the offer, you will not be guaranteed for the following year. You will need to reapply and complete the admissions process again. Your former acceptance may be taken into consideration, but decisions for available space will be made based on the most qualified applicants for the current year.

I have a student with a 504, IEP, or diagnosed learning disability. Will Desoto consider them for admission?

Desoto is committed to serving all families and does not select students based solely on academic abilities. We understand that there are unique students. Through the admissions process, we strive to determine if a student can be successful at Desoto School. We also seek to understand if Desoto can meet the needs of each student. We desire to see all of our students succeed academically; therefore, we will compare a student's needs with our available learning services. Desoto School may not be the best fit for every student. We reserve the right to determine whether or not a student is

a good fit for admissions, continued enrollment, or re-enrollment. Students receiving services at Desoto are supported with a Directed Services Plan and must be able to operate in a standard classroom setting. We are not set up to offer one-on-one instruction or to provide paraprofessionals. Desoto's Directed Services program is limited and can only serve a certain number of students in the school. It is in high demand and is currently at maximum capacity at all grade levels.

Can a student be considered for admission if they have been suspended, expelled, or enrolled in a residential program?

Desoto School has a policy that requires a student to operate in a standard, in-person learning environment with a clean record for at least one year before the student can be considered for admission.

Does Desoto accept LEARNS ACT funds?

Desoto has been approved by the State of Arkansas to receive funds as a private school through the LEARNS ACT. For more information on the Learns Act, please go to the State website learns.ade.arkansas.gov/.

I've been selected from the Admissions Wait Pool for an available opening at Desoto. How do I complete enrollment?

Please notify the Admissions team by phone at 870-572-6717 or by email at desotoadmissions@gmail.com. They will assist you in completing the final steps of enrollment, which include creating your parent portal account, selecting your tuition plan, and submitting your \$200 New Student Enrollment Fee. You will have an additional week to complete these final steps of enrollment.