

Open Door Christian Academy
1260 Fort Washington Avenue, Fort Washington, PA 19034
215.542.9795 www.opendoorchristianacademy.com

We are delighted that you are considering applying for admission at Open Door Christian Academy (ODCA)! Below is an outline of the process. Please take special note of the pre-application steps; we consider them so important that we will not process the other application forms until the pre-app steps are fully completed and both you and ODCA are in agreement that the application should move forward. Any questions? Feel free to call (215.542.9795) or email (kwiley@OpenDoorChristianAcademy.com).

PRE-APPLICATION PROCESS (GRADES 1-8)

1. Parent(s)/guardian(s) **take home** the *ODCA Faith & Family Affirmations* form, **review It carefully** and, if in complete agreement with it, **sign and submit** it to ODCA (along with the requested personal testimony of faith in Christ)
2. Parent(s)/guardian(s) submit current **church and pastor contact information**.
3. **School sends ODCA Church/Pastor Reference** form directly to pastor/church.

The pastoral reference is intended to confirm: a) that basic Christian beliefs central to ODCA's teaching are also endorsed by the church that the student attends; b) that the parent(s)/guardian(s) evidence agreement and practice consistent with those beliefs; and c) the family is actively and consistently involved in the worship and life of the church.

PLEASE NOTE: No written application materials will be processed or considered until steps 1-3 (above) are completed and approved by ODCA.

APPLICATION

4. **ODCA contacts family** and asks them to proceed with the student/family application.
4. Family submits the student application, and all **accompanying requirements** (academic records, immunization records, and the non-refundable application fee).

A satisfactory written application is primarily based on: a) parent(s) testimony of genuine conversion/coming to salvation in Jesus Christ; b) the expressed desires of the parent(s) regarding their child's education are compatible with those of ODCA; and c) the academic, physical, social and emotional needs of the student(s) are within the range that ODCA is equipped to meet.

5. Pending approval of the family's application materials, student(s) take **academic testing**.
6. Pending successful testing, an **interview with parent(s)/guardian(s)** is scheduled to meet one another, confirm all previous information, and answer questions parents may have.
7. Following the interview, ODCA will contact the parent(s) within one week to **confirm acceptance or non-acceptance**.

Notice of Non-Discrimination:

Open Door Christian Academy admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

ODCA Faith & Family Affirmations Form

MISSION STATEMENT:

Open Door Christian Academy is an educational ministry to children, *operating as an extension of the Christian home*, to prepare students spiritually and academically to live the Christian life in our contemporary society.

At Open Door Christian Academy we recognize that a "Christian home" cannot be defined with absolute precision. Only God can assess the invisible realities of the human heart! It is certainly not possible nor the intent of ODCA to make judgments about things unseen. However, we do affirm that certain observable beliefs and practices are necessarily part of what it means to be a Christian family. In light of this, ODCA seeks to enroll only families that:

- a) confirm wholehearted agreement with ODCA beliefs about Jesus Christ and the Bible,
- b) acknowledge that these beliefs often run contrary to our contemporary culture and even to the belief and practice of some churches that increasingly accommodate a departure from biblical standards, and
- c) expressly desire their children be taught these ODCA beliefs as God's truth for all humankind.

ODCA has come to recognize that the following three specific tenets are of unique importance in upholding our commitment to serve Christian families:

- 1] Jesus Christ, fully man and fully God, is the only way of salvation from sin and the only way to eternal communion with God in heaven.
- 2] The Christian Bible, both Old and New Testaments, is wholly true and authoritative for all matters of faith and life, belief and practice. As such, it is the necessary foundation for all trustworthy education.
- 3] God's design and command governing sexual intercourse is that it is a gift reserved exclusively for expression within the bounds of a monogamous covenant of marriage between one man and one woman. Cohabitation, pre-marital sex, homosexual intercourse, polygamy or any kind of extra-marital sex or appearance thereof is sinful and explicitly violates the direct teaching of the Bible.

We ask that all applicants consider the previous three statements carefully. Please do not sign below as simply a matter of course. If you, in principle or practice, cannot honestly affirm these beliefs, or if you do not desire that your children be taught them, we ask that you please discontinue the process of application.

•••••

I/we, _____ fully understand ODCA's beliefs about Jesus Christ, the Bible, and human sexuality (as expressed in items 1, 2 and 3 above). I/we desire that my/our child/children be taught that these beliefs are true and commanded by God for all people, including myself and my/our family.

Signed Mother (Guardian): _____ Date: _____

Signed Father (Guardian): _____ Date: _____

Family & Church Contact Information Form:

Name(s) of parent(s)/guardian(s): _____

Child(ren)'s Names & Grade(s): _____

Home Address: _____

Phone number(s): _____

Email address(es): _____

Active involvement in a **Christian church** is a prerequisite for admission, so if you are not currently involved in the worship and life of a local church we kindly ask that you discontinue the process of application. Thank you!

Name of current church: _____

Name of senior pastor: _____

NOTE: 1) If the church is extremely large and the pastoral reference will likely be completed by an assistant pastor who is better acquainted with your family, please provide that pastor's name and title:

Name and title of alternate pastor: _____

2) If the pastor who would normally complete this form is a family relative, please provide the name and title of an appropriate elder or other church leader who will complete the reference instead:

Name and title of church leader: _____

Church Telephone: _____

Church Email: _____

Church Fax (if available): _____

•••••

How long have you been attending this church? _____

In addition to attending, do you hold formal membership there? _____

(This is not a specific requirement for admission to ODCA)

Office Use Only:
Pastoral Ref. Req: _____
Pastoral Ref. Rec'd: _____
Student App. Sent: _____

Thank for providing this information. ODCA will contact your church directly in order to complete the pastoral reference.

FAMILY LIFE VALUES STATEMENT:

Open Door Christian Academy works side-by-side with parents to train their children in body, mind, and spirit to be prepared for life and eternity by providing a quality Christian education. We believe that parents have a responsibility before God for the instruction, discipline and training of their children. It is our desire to assist each parent in meeting this responsibility by providing curriculum, resources and professional, godly instruction.

In order to properly work with each parent we believe it is vitally important that there be unity concerning the Biblical standard of marriage. The Bible speaks of marriage as the union between one man and one woman and that sexual intimacy is a gift reserved exclusively for the marriage relationship. Any extra-marital, pre-marital, post-marital or homosexual sexual intimacy is a sin against God's ordained institution of marriage and in violation with the standards taught and expected by Open Door Christian Academy.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. We believe in one God; Creator of heaven and earth; Spirit, Light, Love and Truth; eternal, almighty, infallible, and unchangeable, infinitely wise, just and holy, and that God eternally exists and manifests himself to us in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
2. We believe in Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, the eternal Word manifested in flesh. We believe that He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary, and that He is true God and true man. We believe in His vicarious substitutionary and redeeming death, Christ receiving in Himself the penalty of man's sin. We believe in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension and in His personal, imminent and pre-millennial return for His redeemed ones, followed by His coming in glory to judge the rebellious and to establish His millennial reign.
3. We believe in the Holy Spirit, in His personality, that He is God; and we believe that His work is to convict men of sin; to regenerate, indwell and set the believer apart to a holy life; to keep and empower the believer day by day. We believe that He is the Teacher of God's Word and the Guide for the daily life.
4. We believe that the whole Bible, consisting of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is verbally inspired of God and inerrant in the original writings, and is the supreme and final authority in faith and life.
5. We believe that man, having been created pure and in the image of God, is by his own sin fallen from grace. And then we believe that in consequence, all have sinned, are guilty and lost, and absolutely incapable of saving themselves by their own works, being dead in trespasses and sins.
6. We believe that we are saved solely by grace, through faith in the blood sacrifice, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
7. We believe in the eternal security and everlasting blessedness of the saved, and the eternal judgment and punishment of all who reject our Lord Jesus Christ. "This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the Lake of Fire." (Rev. 20:14-15)
8. We believe that Satan is a person, the author of the fall, and that he shall be eternally punished.
9. We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men; the saved to eternal life, and the lost to judgment and everlasting punishment.
10. We believe that Jesus Christ instituted the Lord's Supper to commemorate His death till He comes. We believe that Water Baptism is a symbol of the believer's union with Christ and His death and in His resurrection.
11. We believe that the Church of Jesus Christ is composed solely of those who have been redeemed and washed in His blood, and regenerated and sealed by the Holy Spirit, and that they are saved to serve; and that

it is the responsibility and privilege of all who are saved to seek to win others to Christ, to the “uttermost part of the earth”, that they must seek to live a holy life, to separate themselves from and forsake all that might dishonor God or cast discredit on His cause, or weaken their testimony.

STATEMENT OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN

In signing this application I (we) agree that:

1. I have read and agree with the Statement of Faith and Family Value Statement of the school and am willing to have my child(ren) educated in accordance with it;
2. in full cooperation with the school, we will regularly support those functions requiring our participation;
3. the school has full discretion in the discipline of my child(ren) in accordance with its discipline policy;
4. the school has full discretion regarding the grade placement of my child(ren);
5. the school reserves the right to dismiss any student who does not cooperate with the educational process;
6. I understand that tuition fees do not cover the cost of operating the school and, therefore, my participation is needed in lending practical help and prayer support in a mutual effort to train our children.

Signed:

Father (or guardian)

Mother (or guardian)

Printed Name

Printed Name

Date: _____

Date: _____

TESTIMONY

On a separate sheet of paper, please state in more detail how and when you received Christ as your personal Savior. Please describe His meaning in your life to the present time. It is required that both mother and father give their testimonies. **The application is not complete without this or a satisfactory explanation.**

What happens next:

Please note that once we have processed and approved your pre-admission form and pastoral recommendation (steps 1-3) listed on the first page of this application, we will follow up with you for the remaining steps in our application process.