

<b>ODCA Family Application Process, Grades 1-8</b>
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We are delighted that you are considering applying for admission at Open Door Christian Academy! Below is an outline of the process. Please take special note of the pre-application steps; we consider them so important that we do not make the application forms themselves available 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), email (kwiley@OpenDoorChristianAcademy.com) or stop by the school office.

### PRE-APPLICATION

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.
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 accepted or considered until steps 1-3 (above) are completed and approved by ODCA.

### APPLICATION

4. **ODCA contacts family** and asks them to proceed with application.
5. Family submits **written application and accompanying requirements** (personal testimony of faith in Christ, academic records, 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.*

6. Pending approval of the family's application materials, student(s) take **academic testing**.
7. 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.
8. Following the interview, ODCA will contact the parent(s) within one week to **confirm acceptance or non-acceptance**.

**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: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**ODCA Church/Pastor Contact Information Form**

Parent(s)/guardian(s), please complete this form as part of the ODCA pre-application process. Active involvement in a Christian church is a prerequisite for admission, so if you are not currently involved in the worship and life of local church we kindly ask that you discontinue the process of application. Thank you!

Name(s) of parent(s)/guardian(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of children seeking to enter ODCA: \_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_

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CHURCH/PASTOR INFORMATION: Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax (if available): \_\_\_\_\_

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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)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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