

Austin EcoSchool
2011-2012 Application Packet

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Austin EcoSchool

General Application Information

The goal of our application process is to ensure that all AES students and families share and respect our core values and commitments, and that AES is a fit for every enrolled student.

Austin EcoSchool serves students from homeschooling, alternative and public school backgrounds. Together, we endeavor to create a vibrant and dynamic community of young people in active pursuit of knowledge, self expression and the tools to understand and create a better world.

Austin EcoSchool reviews each application individually and we welcome a wide variety of applicants. We celebrate diversity and embrace children with a wide variety of backgrounds, beliefs and learning styles. Because we do not provide learning remediation, therapy, or behavior modification, we cannot accept children with serious learning differences or behavioral issues. We recognize that these issues vary broadly and are happy to discuss your child's specific needs to determine if EcoSchool is a possibility for your family.

Austin EcoSchool is an ideal learning center for young people:

- Who have respect for self, others and the environment.
- Who are committed to the pursuit of knowledge and interests in a groups setting.
- Who are self motivated.
- Who are committed to education, exploration of special interests and school participation.
- Whose academic and social needs are met by Austin EcoSchool's educational model.

The following resources are available to all interested families. These are opportunities to familiarize you with our school, not obligatory steps in the application process.

1. Website www.austin-ecoschool.org
2. Facebook Austin-EcoSchool
3. After Hours Tour: Mondays 3:30 – 4:30 all are welcome (this is an excellent opportunity to bring the whole family), please call to confirm.
4. School Hours Tour: Tuesdays, by appointment only, parents and guardians only.

Austin EcoSchool

Application Steps

1. **Contact our Director of Admissions**, Cheryl Kruckeberg at (512) 447-8516 or info@austin-ecoschool.org
2. **Submit Application for Admission, Referral Letters, and Application Fee.**
An application is attached or can be downloaded from our website at www.austin-ecoschool.org. Please note that the application fee is non-refundable and all requested information must be complete in order for your application to be considered. Upon receipt of your application and fee, we will send you a copy of our school handbook for review.
3. **Complete a Student Trial Day and Family Interview** In order that your child may have a personal experience of the school day in action, we will schedule a trial visit. At the end of the trial visit your family will meet with an EcoSchool staff member for an interview.

After the Student Trial Day / Interview and when ALL of your records and application materials have been submitted, the admissions team will meet to discuss your application. The school will then contact you via email or phone to inform you of the status of your application. Please note that returning students and siblings have seniority in placement at Austin EcoSchool. If you are accepted, you will be invited to enroll. In order to enroll, you will:

4. Submit Complete Enrollment Packet and the Registration and Supply Fee

Your child would then officially be an Austin EcoSchool student. Keep in mind that the first 30 days of your enrollment contract is considered a trial period. During that time, you or the Board of Directors may terminate the contract if Austin EcoSchool is not the right fit for your family's needs.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

AUSTIN ECOSCHOOL
2901 Manchaca, Austin, TX 78704
Phone: 512-447-8516 Email: info@austin-ecoschool.org

Student Name _____ Date of Application _____

Birth Date _____ Age _____ Last Completed Grade Level _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Home Phone _____

Home Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Email _____ Cell Phone _____ Other Phone _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Home Phone _____

Home Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Email _____ Cell Phone _____ Other Phone _____

Student lives with Mother ____ Father ____ Both ____ Other (Specify) _____

Office Use Only

Application fees of: _____ check # _____ date: _____

Initial Parent interview/tour with: _____ date: _____

Shadow Date: _____ Parent & Student interview date: _____

Interviewer: _____

Handbook review with: _____ date: _____

Supply & Reg. Fee of: _____ check # _____ date received: _____

Student Start Date: _____

Notes: _____

Austin EcoSchool

Release of Records

TO THE PARENT: Please fill out all requested fields below. You must return this form to Austin EcoSchool in order for us to submit it to your child's current (or most recent) school. Your child's application WILL NOT be considered complete until we have his or her records. If your child has been homeschooled, please disregard this request.

TO THE REGISTRAR: This records request is one part of the application process for gaining admission to Austin EcoSchool. Please mail requested records promptly and directly to Austin EcoSchool. Please provide documents as soon as possible, as the candidate's application cannot be processed until all records have arrived.

Registrar of _____ Fax Number _____
Name of Current (or most recent) School

The student named below is applying for admission to Austin EcoSchool. With my signature, I authorize you to release copies of the information requested by Austin EcoSchool.

Name of Applicant _____ Current Grade Level _____

Signature of Parent _____ Date _____

Austin EcoSchool appreciates your timely assistance in providing the following:

1. Grades at the time of withdrawal from your school.
2. Grades from the most recently completed grading period of your school.
3. An official transcript for all years at your school.
4. Scores of all standardized testing found in the applicant's file
5. Medical records

Please mail these materials directly to Austin EcoSchool.

Austin EcoSchool
2901 Manchaca
Austin, TX 78704
Phone: 512-447-8516
Email: info@austin-ecoschool.org

Austin EcoSchool

Questionnaire and Informal Assessment

Student's School History

| Age/Grade | Dates Attended | Name of School Mailing Address Phone Number | Reason for Leaving |
|-----------|----------------|---|--------------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

If your child has participated in any educational testing, please attach the results.

Please tell us about your child's past educational experiences. Include why these experience were or were not positive for your child and/or your family. Why are you seeking a change to your child's current educational setting?

What are your expectations for your child's academic, social and emotional growth at EcoSchool?

Please describe the ideal learning environment for your child

How did you hear about Austin EcoSchool?

Informal Assessment

The following questions provide background information for your child's teachers. All information is voluntary and will remain confidential. Please be as specific as possible.

Interests, hobbies, and extracurricular activities

Languages

Academic/Learning Challenges

Academic/Learning Strengths

Behavioral/Social Challenges

Behavioral/Social Strengths

Please describe how your child reacts to frustration and/or general upset

Describe your child's response to rules and boundaries.

How would you describe your child? Circle the words you agree with and provide some of your own.

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|---------|----------------|
| Outgoing lucky | Shy | Competitive | Fearful | Curious | Happy-go- |
| Energetic | Cautious | Social | Athletic | Quiet | Distractible |
| Observer | Physical | Anxious | Independent | Focused | Quick-tempered |
| Explosive | Talkative | Spirited | Judicious | Leader | |
| Contemplative | | | | | |

Other: _____

Please describe your child's emotional concerns (fears, traumas, sensitivities).

Please share any medical or physical issues that may affect your child's participation and enjoyment of school activities. (A complete Health/Medical history will be included in the enrollment form).

Any additional information you would like to provide for your child's teachers?



Please include two letters of referral from teachers, mentors, tutors, guides or other adults who have experience with your child in a learning situation. We recognize that

some families applying to Austin EcoSchool are coming from homeschooling, or unschooling backgrounds and may not have had a formal teacher – student relationships to draw upon. These letters can be formal or informal; we are simply looking for additional perspectives from adults familiar with your child.

Family Involvement

Austin EcoSchool relies heavily on the involvement of its community members to fulfill its mission. We are not able to maintain the low student ratio and quality of guidance offered at EcoSchool at the current tuition without significant participation from our families. This participation is essential to the growth and development of our school. **Austin EcoSchool requires 15 work hours per year, per family.** *(These hours do not include traditional parent roles such as classroom assistance, field trips, potluck, and event participation.)* One or more adult from each family serves on either the Fundraising/ Outreach or the Campus Support Committee. A third “Buy-out” option is available for families simply unable to give their time (see below).

1. Please indicate below which committee(s) you are interested in joining for the coming year.
2. List your individual talents, experience, specializations, connections that you would be willing to share with our community.
3. Indicate if you would be willing to have a leadership role on the committee.

Fundraising / Outreach (grant research and writing, event planning, donation programs, letter writing, promotional material creation, etc.)

Campus Support (Building/Grounds Maintenance, IT Support, Website Management, Bookkeeping)

Buy-Out Should your family choose to buy-out of the parent commitment, please submit \$300 annually or \$150 per semester to compensate the school. Families are welcome to take this option at any point in the school year -- a fair buy-out will be calculated in consideration of hours already contributed at that time.

Fee Schedule

| | Application Fee | Registration & Supply Fee |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| New Students | \$75 | \$500 |
| Returning Students | N/A | \$500 |

Tuition Plans

| Tuition | 10 monthly installments | Full up Front payment (5% discount) |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| First child* | \$550 per month** (\$5500 Total) | \$5,225 |
| Sibling (10% discount) | \$495 per month** (\$4950 Total) | \$4,700 |
| Due dates | 1 st day of each Month August - May | August 1st |

* The first child is your oldest child at EcoSchool.

** Please note that while EcoSchool is in session **nine** months (September – May), our Monthly Payment Plan spreads the annual tuition amount across **ten** months (August 1st through May 1st). Any family joining EcoSchool between August 1st and September 1st and choosing the Monthly Payment Plan must make the August 1st payment immediately upon enrollment. Any family joining after September 1st and choosing a Monthly Payment Plan will have missed the opportunity to spread the annual tuition across ten months and therefore will have in-session monthly tuition payments of \$611.11/mo. (\$550 sibling).