



International School
of San Antonio

Admission Policy

I. Nondiscrimination Statement

The International School of San Antonio admits students regardless of race, color, religion, gender, nationality, or ethnic origin in all educational policies, admissions procedures, and school programs.

II. General Admission Principles

Admission to ISSA is selective and based on a comprehensive, holistic review of each applicant. The Admissions Committee evaluates academic readiness, developmental appropriateness, and the student's fit with ISSA's language-immersion model. Decisions are made on a case-by-case basis to ensure students are placed in environments where they can thrive.

ISSA reserves the right not to provide detailed explanations regarding admission or non-admission decisions.

III. Age Eligibility and Grade Placement

ISSA follows Texas Education Agency (TEA) guidelines to ensure age-appropriate placement. Students must meet the following age requirements by **September 1st**:

Grade	Age	Grade	Age
PK3	3 years old	2nd Grade	7 years old
PK4	4 years old	3rd Grade	8 years old
Kindergarten	5 years old	4th Grade	9 years old
1st Grade	6 years old	5th Grade	10 years old

Early Learning & Kindergarten Specifics

- **Toilet Training:** Children must be three years old and fully toilet-trained prior to their first day. Applicants under three may be considered if they are fully toilet-trained and complete the interview process.
- **Attendance:** While Kindergarten is not mandatory in Texas, regular attendance is expected for all enrolled ISSA Kindergarten students.

- **Transfers:** Students transferring from abroad must meet ISSA age requirements unless official documentation from an accredited school confirms prior grade completion.

IV. The Admission Process

1. **Family Interview:** Prospective families must participate in an interview to discuss the child's developmental history and learn about ISSA's educational philosophy.
2. **Academic Assessment:** Students undergo an individual assessment (without parental presence) to evaluate literacy, numeracy, and cognitive skills. For Early Learning, focus is placed on fine motor skills, social-emotional development, and attention span.
3. **Teacher Recommendation:** When applicable, a recommendation from the child's current or most recent teacher is required.
4. **Documentation:** Enrollment is finalized only after the submission of application forms, signed financial contracts, waivers, and up-to-date immunization records.

V. Language Proficiency Requirements

ISSA utilizes the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) to evaluate proficiency:

- **Kindergarten:** Beginners are eligible for admission.
- **1st–2nd Grade:** Minimum **A1** proficiency.
- **3rd Grade:** Minimum **B1** proficiency.
- **4th–5th Grade:** Minimum **B2** proficiency.

Note: For Primary School (1st–5th), language proficiency is a requirement for admission.

VI. Students with Special Needs and Disabilities

ISSA is a private school and does not provide special education services, IEPs, IFSPs, or Section 504 plans.

- **Compliance:** ISSA complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and all applicable federal, state, and local laws, including Texas Minimum Standards §746.2202, and provides reasonable accommodations when possible.
- **Documentation:** Current medical or educational documentation (e.g., physician's report, specialist diagnosis, therapy evaluation, Individualized Education Program (IEP), or school evaluation) must be submitted and reviewed before the admissions process can proceed.
- **Program Fit:** Admission is contingent upon the school's ability to safely and appropriately meet the child's needs within the scope of its language-immersion curriculum.

VII. Texas Education Freedom Accounts (TEFA)

Families qualifying for TEFA may apply these funds toward tuition at ISSA. However, the use of TEFA funding does not guarantee admission.