



Durham Catholic District School Board
"The Board"

POLICY

ADMISSION TO SCHOOLS

POLICY AREA: **OPERATIONS**

Policy #: **PO410**

INTRODUCTION

The Durham Catholic District School Board as followers of Jesus, is a Catholic learning community committed to educating students to contribute their God-given talents in service to others. The Durham Catholic District School Board embraces the opportunity to provide a learning environment in which Christ's teachings and our Catholic faith have a central place. The Durham Catholic District School Board believes Catholic schools exist primarily to meet the needs of Catholic students and their families.

PURPOSE

To establish criteria for the admission of a student to the Board.

APPLICATION/SCOPE

This policy applies to the admission of all students in elementary and secondary schools operated by the Board.

PRINCIPLES

The Board has a mandate to provide Catholic education to the students registered in its schools.

The Ministry of Education recognizes the right of Catholic schools to provide Catholic education.

The Board believes that its Admission Policy must respect the constitutional rights of Catholic ratepayers in order to maintain the Catholicity of our schools.

PRINCIPLES Cont'd

The Board shall provide Catholic education at the elementary level to the children of Catholic school supporters, in accordance with the Education Act of Ontario and the Regulations under the Act, in order to maintain the Catholicity of our schools.

The Board shall provide Catholic education at the secondary level to the children of Catholic school supporters and others who elect to attend in accordance with the Education Act of Ontario and Regulations under the Act.

The age of admission for all students, shall conform with the provisions of the Education Act of Ontario and Regulations under the Act.

REQUIREMENTS**1. Admission to Elementary Schools**

- i. Prior to admission, parents(s)/guardian(s) of children who qualify for elementary school must provide evidence to the school Principal that the student has the right to attend a Roman Catholic School.

Such evidence shall include:

- copy of Birth Certificate,
 - copy of Baptismal Certificate of child or parent(s)/guardian(s) from a Roman Catholic Church including an Eastern Rite Catholic Church that is in communion with the See of Rome, and
 - completed and signed Application for Direction of School Support form
- ii. Children who qualify to attend a Roman Catholic Elementary School who have met the requirements of 1.i above shall be admitted to their designated home school in accordance with the Board's geographic boundaries.

2. Admission to Secondary Schools

- i. Secondary school students of all faiths may attend a Catholic Secondary School provided that:
 - the student and the parent(s)/guardian(s) is a resident within the jurisdiction of the Durham Catholic District School Board and
 - the student and the parent(s)/guardian(s) is a Canadian Citizen or landed immigrant.

REQUIREMENTS Cont'd

- ii. All secondary school students and their parents(s)/guardian(s) must accept and support the distinctive Catholic programs, character, culture and rituals that are an integral part of the Catholic Secondary School community.
- iii. Children who qualify to attend a Roman Catholic Secondary School who have met the requirements of 2.i above shall be admitted to their designated home school in accordance with the Board's geographic boundaries.

3. Special Admission Procedures for the following registration categories can be found in Administrative Procedure 410-1

- Ward of the Children's Aid Society
- Parent(s)/Guardian(s) is Roman Catholic and Residing in Temporary Residence
- Baptized Roman Catholic Child Residing with Non- Roman Catholic Parent(s)/Guardian(s)
- Children whose Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Enrol(s) in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adult(s) (RCIA) Program
- Admission of Students Residing Outside Board Jurisdiction
- Admission of Students Under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act
- Permanent Resident (Landed Immigrant)
- Work Permit, Diplomatic Status, or Visiting Forces
- Refugees
- International Students (Student Authorization)
- Admission of Native People (Government of Canada)
- Admission of Students from Out of Province
- Exchange Student

SOURCES

Education Act of Ontario and Regulations
Archdiocese of Toronto – Eastern Churches in Communion with the See of Rome

RELATED ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Admission of Students (AP-410-1)