

**WASHINGTON
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL**

PRIMARY SCHOOL
1690 36th STREET NW
WASHINGTON DC 20007
PHONE 202.243.1815
<http://wis.schooladminonline.com/portal>

CHECKLIST AND INFORMATION

APPLICANTS TO GRADE 1
2020 - 2021

Checklist

Attend a Campus Tour – throughout the fall

Small-group tours for parents looking at Grades 1–5 are held on select mornings starting at 9:00 AM. The visit lasts approximately 1½ hours. Tours are conducted by members of the Admissions Team. Because tours are parent-focused, we ask that parents arrange to come without their children. An Open House will be held on Friday, December 6 as an overflow event to accommodate parents who have not had an opportunity to attend a small-group tour.

Tours are by appointment only and can be scheduled online at https://wis.schooladminonline.com/portal/new_inquiry or by calling the Admissions Office at 202.243.1815. The Primary School is located at 1690 36th Street NW (between Reservoir Road and R Street). On the day of your tour, please park on the street, as all the spaces on campus are reserved for faculty. Two-hour parking is available on 36th and R Streets.

Submit an Application and Application Fee – due Saturday, January 5

You will use the online Admissions Portal to manage your application process. You can complete the application and pay the application fee at <https://wis.schooladminonline.com/portal>. Each application should be accompanied by a \$75 application fee. Families who are re-applying within one calendar year pay a reduced application fee of \$50. Families applying for financial aid pay a reduced application fee of \$25.

Schedule Admissions Testing – January 11 or 25 & February 4 (if applicable)

Applicants to Grade 1 will have WIS-administered Admissions Testing in reading, writing, and math that lasts approximately half an hour. If the applicant is applying to one of the dual-language programs, a language screening in French or Spanish is required. Admissions Testing will occur on January 11 or January 25, and the language screening will take place on Tuesday, February 4. Parents of local applicants should schedule their child's testing dates through the Admissions Portal. Out-of-town applicants who are not able to visit WIS will provide testing contact information on the Admissions Portal and we will send the Admissions tests to the student's current school.

Submit the Parent Questionnaire – due Saturday, February 1

The Parent Questionnaire helps us to get to know your child from your perspective. The form is available online on the WIS Admissions Portal.

Request a School Recommendation – due Saturday, February 1

Submit a teacher recommendation request through the Admissions Portal. You will be required to provide the email address of the applicant's current teacher. To ensure confidentiality, the teacher recommendation will be sent directly back to WIS and will not be shared with the parents or students.

Request School Grades and/or Reports – due Saturday, February 1

Parents can download a Transcript Request Form from the Admissions Portal. The form should be submitted to the applicant's current school in order to obtain the student's Kindergarten reports. The current school will mail the reports directly to WIS.

Submit WPPSI Report – due Saturday, February 1

The WPPSI-IV test or the WISC-V is required for Grade 1 applicants. Parents should upload the report directly to the Admissions Portal. See the WIS website for a list of possible local psychologists/testing sites offering the WPPSI test. It is not required that you use one of the psychologists/testing sites from the list. Parents should try to secure the WPPSI in their child's strongest language. Early scheduling is strongly encouraged to ensure that your child's test results will be available no later than February 1, 2020.

Optional – Evaluations, Assessments, and Standardized Tests – due Saturday, February 1

Parents may choose to supplement the application by submitting teacher evaluations, assessments, or other standardized test results. Supplemental material may be uploaded to the Admissions Portal.

Optional - Parent Appointments

Parents typically meet with the Director of Admissions and Financial Aid during their small-group tour. However, occasionally parents would like to speak with the Director on an individual basis to discuss a special situation or circumstances that require a one-on-one meeting. WIS does not require parent interviews. To schedule an individual appointment, please contact the Admissions Office at 202.243.1815.

Decision Notification – emailed on Friday, March 6

Age Cutoff

September 1 is the birthday cut-off used by WIS. Therefore, children entering Grade 1 must be six years old by September 1. Experience tells us that children are generally best placed in our program within their chronological age groups. A child whose birthday falls within one month of the cut-off are evaluated for placement.

Length of Day

Students in Grades 1-5 attend school from 8:25 AM to 3:35 PM – except on Wednesdays, when school ends at 2:45 PM. In Grade 1, children spend alternating days of academic instruction in English and French or Spanish.

Financial Aid

WIS offers need-based financial aid for students in Kindergarten through Grade 12. Please consult the WIS website for additional information.

Choice of Language Program

As a tool for intercultural understanding, language is an important component of the WIS curriculum. WIS graduates are proficient in at least one language in addition to English; many are functionally or fully bilingual. All students in Grades 1 through 12 study at least two languages, one of which is English. WIS does not offer an English-only program at any grade level. In Grade 1, WIS offers the following program choices:

- **Dual-Language Program in English/French** — Applicants are expected to be reading, writing, and speaking at grade level in French.
- **Dual-Language Program in English/Spanish** — Applicants are expected to be reading, writing, and speaking at grade level in Spanish.
- **French as an Additional Language Program (FAL)** — This program is open to beginning French learners, as well students who have some knowledge of French, but who are not yet ready to join the Dual Language Program. Grade-level proficiency in English is required.
- **Spanish as an Additional Language Programs (SAL)** — This program is open to beginning Spanish learners, as well students who have some knowledge of Spanish, but who are not yet ready to join the Dual Language Program. Grade-level proficiency in English is required.
- **English Language Support** — WIS also offers English as Additional Language support (EAL) for non-native speakers of English.

Parents indicate their choice of or preference for a particular language program when completing the application.

Selection Process and Criteria

WIS's goal during the application process is to form a general sense of each applicant's verbal expression, gross and fine motor skills, maturity, attention span, and academic skills foundation, and to learn a little about each applicant's personality and interests. We do this through the recommendation, the WIS Admissions Testing, the Applicant Visit, school records, the parent questionnaire, and the WPPSI test results. WIS strives for both balance and diversity in each class, in accordance with the School's mission and strategic objectives.

Late Applications – Local Families

Local families are expected to adhere to the admissions deadlines. Late applications from local families will not be considered in the first round of admissions decisions. Local families who have missed the standard admissions deadlines should contact the Admissions Office for further instructions.

Specific Information for International and Out-of-Town Applicants

International and out-of-town applicants who have missed the standard admissions deadlines should immediately contact the Admissions Office at 202.243.1815 about space availability. The Admissions Office processes late applications from relocating families but cannot always admit qualified late applicants due to space limitations. Families should, therefore, actively seek admission to other schools at the same time as they complete the application process for WIS.

Applicant visits are encouraged but can be waived if it is not possible for the applicant to come to Washington during the application process. However, it should be noted that preference will be given to applicants who have completed an Applicant Visit.

Contact Information

WIS Admissions Portal: <https://wis.schooladminonline.com/portal>

Schedule a Tour: https://wis.schooladminonline.com/portal/new_inquiry

WIS Admissions Page: <https://www.wis.edu/admissions>

Admissions Office: 202.243.1815

Admissions Email: admissions@wis.edu