

RYKEN STUDIES PROGRAM

Ryken Studies is a college preparatory program designed for highly motivated students who have been diagnosed with mild learning differences. This program assists students in their core courses using varied teaching styles and strategies that focus on skill development in smaller group settings.

How does my child apply to the Ryken Studies Program?

ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT

1. Applicants must complete a Good Counsel online admissions application and submit it to Good Counsel with a non-refundable \$70.00 application fee by **Friday, December 6, 2024**. Please note on the application that the student is applying for the Ryken program.
2. Applicants must take the High School Placement Test in their parochial school. Students who miss the test must email the Catholic Schools Office at hspt@adw.org to arrange a make-up test.
3. The Archdiocese sends choice cards to 8th graders in parochial schools, and each applicant uses these cards to select three high schools. Please select Our Lady of Good Counsel High School in order to have the proper information sent to us.
4. The parochial school then sends the applicant's complete transcript to the selected three high schools. The transcript consists of report cards, standardized testing results, and recommendations from the principal and teachers. Archdiocesan students do not need to submit the transcript release and recommendation forms to their school.
5. Applicants must upload a written report for all psycho-educational testing in the applicant's Veracross account. Testing must have been conducted no earlier than 7th grade and must include at least:
 - An intelligence test (WISC V or similar)
 - An achievement test (Woodcock-Johnson or similar)
 - Summary and recommendations
 - Suggested accommodations at Good Counsel

It is helpful to also include data regarding accommodations for standardized testing and data on the student's ability to meet foreign language requirements.

Beginning in December, upon receipt of a completed application file, the applicant and parent(s) will be contacted to schedule an interview with the Ryken Director/Counselor.

NON-ARCHDIOCESE STUDENT

1. Applicants must complete a Good Counsel online admissions application and submit it to Good Counsel with a non-refundable \$70.00 application fee by **Friday, December 6, 2024**. Please note on the application that the student is applying for the Ryken program.
2. Applicants must make arrangements with the Catholic Schools Office to sit for the High School Placement Test. For information about testing, visit the Archdiocese High School Placement Test (HSPT) web page.
3. At the end of the first quarter, parents must submit to the student's current school a transcript request. The transcript must include grades and standardized testing information covering the student's prior two academic years.
4. Students must also provide recommendations from their current Math and English teachers. Recommendations must be requested in the Veracross portal and be submitted directly to Good Counsel by **January 6, 2025**. (If applying to STEM, an additional recommendation must be from a science teacher.) We recommend that families request these teacher recommendations no later than the end of first quarter.
5. Applicants must upload a written report for all psycho-educational testing in the applicant's Veracross account. Testing must have been conducted no earlier than 7th grade and must include at least:

- An intelligence test (WISC V or similar)
- An achievement test (Woodcock-Johnson or similar)
- Summary and recommendations
- Suggested accommodations at Good Counsel

It is helpful to also include data regarding accommodations for standardized testing and data on the student's ability to meet foreign language requirements.

6. Beginning in December, upon receipt of a completed application file, the applicant and parent(s) will be contacted to schedule an interview with the Ryken Director/Counselor.

If accepted into the program, is my child required to take all Ryken classes?

No. Students can mix Ryken classes with standard College Prep, Honors, AP and/or IB classes as appropriate to meet their individual needs. The Ryken Studies Program is designed so that students will be able to phase out of Ryken classes.

What are Ryken classes?

Ryken classes are college preparatory classes. They are not remedial or special education classes. They have a smaller student-to-teacher ratio. Teachers are not special education teachers; however, they utilize various teaching strategies and multi-sensory methods.

If it is decided that my child does not need the program, what will happen to the application?

If it is determined that placement for your child is more appropriate in the Honors or College Prep curriculum, the application will be returned to the Admissions Office for consideration.

Are there any additional charges for the Ryken Program?

The standard tuition applies for students in the Ryken Program. There is a fee for the required summer school program.

What is the Ryken Summer School Program?

Students admitted to the Ryken Program are required to participate in an orientation program during the summer before their freshman year. Students take an English and/or math course, depending on the types of Ryken courses in which they will enroll: humanities, math and science, or both. The Ryken Summer School Program is designed to transition students by introducing them to the Good Counsel community.

How will teachers be advised of my child's needs?

Before the fall semester, the Ryken Director/Counselor prepares an individual Official Accommodations Profile for each student in the Ryken Program. At the beginning of the school year, each faculty member who teaches a Ryken Program student receives a copy of the student's Profile.

How am I notified of my child's academic progress?

Ryken teachers distribute multiple progress reports each academic quarter. All parents have access to the Parent Portal where grades are updated every two weeks.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Ryken Studies
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