

TRACY HIGH SCHOOL

ACADEMIES APPLICATION FOR 2025-26 Year



Thank you for your interest in the Academies at Tracy High!

You may apply to one, two or all three academies with this one application.

Rank your preferences at the top!

Performing Arts Academy (PAM)—Intra/Inter students only.

In addition to this application, you must submit a middle school transcript and an **audition video** by **Friday, December 6, 2024** to Lisa Pribble lpribble@tusd.net You do NOT need to apply for this academy if you live in the Tracy High School zone; choose a performing art class at Tracy High.

International Baccalaureate (IB)—Intra/Inter students only,

You do NOT need to apply for this academy if you live within the Tracy High School zone; choose advanced or enhanced classes to prepare to take IB classes. Students that reside OUTSIDE the Tracy High zone, please read the application carefully for the **IB Learner Profile essay** that must accompany all documents and application. Application due **Friday, December 6, 2024** to Lisa Pribble lpribble@tusd.net

AG/Science (Ag/Sci)—ALL interested students, including THS

zoned students, please complete the application AND Ag/Science Essay located in this application packet. All students who wish to be in the Ag/Sci Academy MUST apply! Application due **Friday, December 6, 2024** to Lisa Pribble lpribble@tusd.net

ALL ACADEMIES DOCUMENTS: To apply to a Tracy High Academy check here to see what supporting documents you will need:

1. **Academies Application, 2 PAGES, ALL ACADEMIES**
2. **Middle School Transcript, Grades 6-8 ALL ACADEMIES**
3. **IB and Ag/Science ONLY:** Standardized Test Scores from Middle School
4. **Ag/Science ONLY:** Student essay. See prompt and Rubric in the Ag/Sci pages of this application.
5. **IB Only:** Student essay on IB Learner Profile – see prompt on IB page
6. **PAM Only:** Audition Video
7. **Inter-District Transfer** – copy of application - only for students who live OUTSIDE Tracy (ie. Mountain House or Manteca, or Patterson) Students living within TUSD boundaries will receive a transfer with their acceptance letter if applicable.
8. **504 or IEP,** For **all** applicants, **if** your student has one, the latest copy – Ag/Sci and IB Academies have advanced English classes that all accepted students must attend.

Please make sure to register for high school at your home zoned high school. If you live in the Tracy Unified School District you **must** complete high school registration by the deadline indicated at that high school, even if you have been accepted into one of our academies. If accepted **as a transfer** student, you will receive an Intra District Transfer with your congratulatory letter. This transfer document must be completed and returned to the TUSD Office, 1875 W. Lowell, no later than **January 17, 2025.** **Failure to complete these steps may disqualify you from the academy.**

APPLICATIONS FOR ACADEMIES ARE DUE FRIDAY, 12/6/24, BY 4:00PM AT TRACY HIGH

Students and parents may return completed applications in 1 of 3 ways:

1. Scan and send to lpribble@tusd.net. You will receive a confirmation email – if you do not receive an email, please call 209 830-3360 ext. 2080 to make sure your application has been received.
2. FAX to 209-830-3363 (Academies Office FAX) You will receive an email confirmation if it is received.
3. During the school day (8:00-4:00), applications may be dropped off in the Attendance Office in the “A” building in a box labelled “Academy Applications”. Applications are picked up daily and you will receive an email confirmation of receipt at that time.

Helpful Information about High School Registration for Current 8th Graders

Dear Students, Parents and Families,

Welcome to the Academies at Tracy High School. Your first step towards academy admission is **high school registration at your home zoned high school. This is completely separate from applying to an academy!** Failure to register for high school at your home zoned high school (including Tracy High) may jeopardize placement in an academy at Tracy High.

Current 8th grade students who are zoned to attend a TUSD high school but are currently not in Tracy Unified School District (Jefferson, Hawkins, Traina, St Bernard's, or New Jerusalem students) should receive information on high school enrollment in November or December. Fill out the enrollment on-line and bring your documentation to your zoned high school Counseling Office. If you are unsure or have questions about your high school attendance zone please contact TUSD student services 209-830-3200, Ext. 1600 or Mrs. Pribble in the Academies Office 830-3360 ext. 2080. We realize that your high school registration may not be completed by the time your THS academy application is due, but you should have started this process so this will not cause a problem with your academy application. Please do not forget to complete the **9th grade Course Request sheet** for high school. Those course requests will transfer to Tracy High School if your student ends up here. If you include a copy in the application packet we can make sure the Tracy High School counselor will have access to the student's choices.

Enrollment in any Tracy High program is not complete and your student is not officially a member of an academy until you have successfully registered for high school. If you fail to complete high school registration by the deadline our registrar cannot pull the student into our database – so it is very important to register for high school in a timely manner. Remember, applying to and being accepted into a THS academy program is **not** high school registration. If you have any questions about THS Academy applications please contact Mrs. Lisa Pribble, academy secretary lpribble@tusd.net or phone 830-3360 ext. 2080. If you do not register your student, your spot in the academy may be given to another student. Again, if you have any concerns contact our office.

Unfortunately, for school safety reasons we cannot allow parents or 8th grade students to tour the campus, sit in on classes or shadow current students while school is in session. This is a school and District policy. Academy Night is November 14, 2024 at 6:00 PM in the Main Gym at Tracy High School. This is for all eight graders anticipating enrolling to Tracy High or who wish to learn more about the different academies and other programs offered on our campus. For more specific information regarding your student or situation, please contact our Academy Office 209.830.3360 ext. 2080.

Students who live outside of TUSD must apply for and be granted an INTER District Transfer from their home school district. Please provide a copy of your application for the transfer with your academy application. **We understand sometimes these things take time, please let us know if you are experiencing a delay in registering.** Unfortunately this may take a few months for your zoned school district to release the student to enroll at Tracy Unified School District. Once this approval is granted you must enroll as soon as possible into Tracy High School to ensure your student receives their proper classes.

Notification letters of acceptance or regret will be mailed mid-December. All applicants will receive a letter notifying you of the status. Unfortunately, we usually have more applicants than spaces available in our programs. If your student is admitted to one of the Academies, you will also receive an Intra District transfer form, signed by the Academy Coordinator, along with the congratulatory letter. Please complete this goldenrod form and return it to Student Services, 1875 W. Lowell Ave, as soon as you are able, or no later than **Wednesday, January 15, 2025.** If you do not return the transfer form we may assume you do not accept the offer to attend Tracy High. **If you decide to attend your home zoned school or elect to accept another academic opportunity, please be considerate and let us know as we may be able to offer the seat to another student.**

Page 1, Tracy High School ALL ACADEMIES, Student Information

ALL ACADEMIES

Please indicate which academy or academies you are applying to, IF YOU ARE APPLYING TO MORE THAN ONE ACADEMY please indicate order of preference 1 – 3 (1 being the most preferred):

_____ Performing Arts
(Intra/Inter students only)

_____ IB
(Intra/Inter students only)

_____ Ag/Science
(ALL interested students)

Name: _____
Last Name First Name Middle Name
Legal name as it appears on your birth certificate/birth record/school record

Address: _____
Street Address City Zip Code

Mailing Address: _____
If different than above, Street Address City Zip Code

Student Email Print neatly!

Date of Birth: _____ Current Middle/K-8 School: _____

High School you are zoned to attend: _____

If you do not reside in Tracy Unified School District, name of school district you are living in:

_____ Name of District City

There are be a limited number of seats for Inter District students. This is determined solely at the discretion of Tracy Unified School District. **If you live OUTSIDE Tracy Unified School District indicate the DATE you applied for the release from your home zoned school district or the Date you may be able to apply.**

Parent/Guardian Contact Information:

_____ Parent/Guardian #1 Name Address if different from student

_____ Parent/Guardian #1 Cell Phone

_____ Parent/Guardian #1 Email address

_____ Parent/Guardian #2 Name Address if different from student

_____ Parent/Guardian #2 Cell Phone

_____ Parent/Guardian #2 Email address

Is either parent/guardian a TUSD employee, circle YES or NO; if YES, which school/site: _____

If YES please circle: TEACHER ADMINISTRATOR CLASSIFIED

References and Recommendations: Please neatly print the name and school email address for your current 8th grade teachers. We will contact your teachers with specific recommendation instructions.

CORE/English Teacher Name	Email Address
Science Teacher Name	Email Address
Math Teacher Name	Email Address

Parent/Guardian Verification:

I, _____ (print your name) verify that the above information is true, accurate and complete and that Tracy High School will make Academy/program decisions based on the information I have provided. I will complete the high school registration process at our home zoned high school for/with my student by the high school registration deadline. I understand that if I provide inaccurate information or misrepresent anything in this application that my student can be disqualified from attendance at Tracy High School.

Parent/Guardian Signature	Date
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Ag/Science Applicants ONLY:

Indicate your interest for freshman Science Class, **CHECK 1 CHOICE** (WE CANNOT GUARANTEE PLACEMENT IN REQUESTED CLASS):

- _____ **Course #3362**, ENH Bio Acad, Taught in the Science Department – This is an **Enhanced** Bio class
- _____ **Course #3105**: Biology Ag, Taught in the Agriculture Department, includes membership and participation in FFA (Future Farmers of America)

PLEASE EMAIL OR DROP OFF THIS APPLICATION, TRANSCRIPT, TEST SCORES AND THE AG/SCI ESSAY – ESSAY PROMPT AND RUBRIC FOLLOWS

PAM Applicants ONLY:

Indicate your freshman Performing Arts Class, **CHECK 1 CHOICE:**

- Concert Choir
- Concert Band
- Drama 1
- Orchestra
- Piano Keyboarding



PLEASE EMAIL OR DROP OFF THIS APPLICATION, TRANSCRIPT AND EMAIL THE PAM AUDITION – PROMPT FOLLOWS



IB PROGRAM ONLY

IB Essay:

PLEASE EMAIL OR DROP OFF THE APPLICATION, TRANSCRIPT, TEST SCORES AND THIS ESSAY--

Please read through the following IB learner profile carefully. These are the main characteristics IB students are expected to develop as they go through IB courses. It is not expected for you to be strong in all areas right now, rather these are areas to develop. **Please write an essay, 250-500 words, identifying your two strongest qualities, and why, as well as your two weakest qualities and what you plan to do while at Tracy High to develop these weaknesses.**

IB Learner Profile: The aim of all IB Programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

As IB learners we strive to be:

- Inquirers:** We nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.
- Open-minded:** We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.
- Knowledgeable:** We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.
- Caring:** We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.
- Thinkers:** We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyse and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned ethical decisions.
- Risk-takers:** We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.
- Communicators:** We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.
- Balanced:** We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives-intellectual, physical and emotional-to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.
- Principled:** We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.
- Reflective:** We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.

Academies Application, MAKE SURE YOU INDICATE YOUR SCIENCE CLASS PREFERENCE ON APPLICATION- Enhanced Biology or AG Biology, Transcript, Test Scores, and THIS ESSAY - -

Ag/Science Application Essay Instructions:

TASK: Respond to **The first prompt (A) AND one of the other prompts (B, C or D)** below in 350-500 word essay. Essay must follow standard essay format and rules of grammar as well as address all aspects of the prompt. Standard essay format includes having a clear introduction with thesis statement, body paragraphs, and a conclusion that addresses the thesis. The grading rubric for this on the next page.

A. (For ALL Students) Describe a part of your identity, background or story that is essential to who you are.

AND then One of the following:

B. Write about a time that you failed at something. How did that failure affect you?

C. Describe a favorite book or movie where the main character has to decide something difficult. What did you think about their choice.

D. Describe something you are passionate about. What have you learned about it? What makes it so appealing?

SELECTION PROCESS: All applications that meet the minimum requirements, a fully completed application with requested materials, a score of 70% on the application essay, and a 70% average on the teacher recommendation, are placed in a pool from which students will be selected randomly for acceptance.

INTRA/INTER DISTRICT TRANSFERS: There are a limited number of seats for Intra/Inter district students. All applications from students outside of the THS boundary will be placed in a separate pool and will also be subject to a random selection process.



Essay Grading Rubric, 28 point possible, must obtain a 70% to pass.

Criteria for Evaluation	Score Point 4	Score Point 3	Score Point 2	Score Point 1
Introduction provides an engaging opening	An engaging opening grabs the reader's attention	Introduction takes readers into account but does not grab their attention	Introduction is only partially successful at addressing the reader's attention	Introduction lacks an engaging opening and fails to interest
Introduction supplies a clear thesis statement that previews the structure of the paper	Introduction supplies clear thesis that effectively establishes the structure of the paper.	Introduction supplies a somewhat clear thesis that effectively establishes the structure of the paper.	Introduction supplies a thesis that is somewhat unclear and does not effectively establish the structure of the paper.	Thesis statement is missing or otherwise irrelevant to paper.
Body includes plenty of relevant specific examples that address all aspects of the prompt	Body includes plenty of details, including concrete examples supporting all aspects of the prompt and creating effective images.	Body includes some details, including mostly concrete examples that support most aspects of the prompt.	Body includes few details, some of which are not concrete and/or are somewhat irrelevant to the prompt.	Concrete examples are missing and/or are completely irrelevant to the prompt.
Structure of the paper follows thesis statement	Structure of the paper clearly follows the thesis statement.	Structure of the paper somewhat follows the thesis statement.	There is some confusion between the structure of the paper and thesis statement.	Structure of the paper does not follow thesis statement.
Shows the scene uses precise, vivid and grade level appropriate vocabulary. Paper "sounds" like a student.	Shows the scene using precise, vivid and grade level appropriate vocabulary, paper clearly sounds like a student.	Shows the scene using mostly precise, vivid and grade level appropriate vocabulary, paper mostly sounds like a student.	Precise, vivid language is sparse, and/or is not grade level appropriate, paper somewhat sounds like a student.	Language is vague and unclear, paper does not sound like a student.
Conclusion restates the thesis, does add new information, and includes clear final remarks.	Conclusion clearly meets criteria.	Conclusion mostly meets criteria.	Conclusion somewhat meets criteria.	Conclusion seems unrelated to the rest of the paper.
Standard English spelling, punctuation, capitalization and manuscript form are used appropriately.	Standard English spelling, punctuation, capitalization and manuscript form are used appropriately throughout the narrative.	Standard English spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and manuscript form are used appropriately for this grade level, with few problems,	Inconsistent use of standard English spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and manuscript form disrupts readers' comprehension.	Minimal use of Standard English spelling, punctuation, capitalization and manuscript form confuses the reader.
Standard English sentence and paragraph structure are used appropriately.	Standard English sentence structure and paragraph structure, grammar, usage, and diction are used appropriately throughout the narrative.	Standard English sentence and paragraph structure, grammar, usage, and diction are used appropriately for this grade level with few problems.	Inconsistent use of Standard English sentence and paragraph structure, grammar, usage and diction disrupts readers' comprehension.	Minimal use of Standard English sentence and paragraph structure, grammar, usage and diction confuses the reader.

Performing Arts Academy Audition, Application, and Transcript Required for transfer students

If you live **outside** the Tracy High School boundaries, please carefully study and prepare the following audition requirements and procedures. If you have any questions, please contact the Academy office 209.830.3360 ext. 2080 or email lpribble@tusd.net for further clarification.

Audition Registration and General Information:

- Along with the application, you must include the middle school transcript and audition video.
 - Email an audition video to our THS Academies secretary, Lisa Pribble, lpribble@tusd.net **209.830.3360 ext. 2080.**
 - For band or orchestra auditions please scan and email the music with your application and audition video. You may take a scan or a photo of the music and email it to Mrs. Pribble. As long as the notes can be read, this will work.
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Band and Orchestra Students:

1. Students should perform a piece of music of your individual choosing. Represent your highest level of musicianship (both technically and expressively) and no more than 3 minutes in performance length.
2. Additionally, perform two scales of your choosing (multiple octaves, extended range, difficult keys, & varying modes [major & minor] are encouraged).
3. Students are asked to supply a copy of the music to score the audition.

Piano Students:

1. Students should play 2 major scales, either one hand at a time or hands together (one sharped key and one flatted key.) And then play any piano piece that demonstrates their skill level.

Choir Students:

1. Students should perform a piece of music of your individual choosing. Represent your highest level of musicianship (both technically and expressively) and no more than 3 minutes in performance length.

Theatre Students:

1. Students should prepare and perform one monologue. Your monologue should be memorized, acted, and no longer than 2 minutes in performance length.
 2. Monologues will begin with a brief introduction. Introductions should include the student's name, school, course level, the name of the character, the title of the play, and the name of the playwright. Students may also include one sentence of vital background information on the introduction. For example, "Hello, My name is John Smith. For my monologue I will perform the role of Romeo, in William Shakespeare's *Romeo & Juliet*."
 3. No props or costumes are allowed.
 4. All students in theatre must audition. Students may transition to Theatre Tech their sophomore year.
 5. All theatre students are required to participate in plays outside the official school hours during the school year.
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