

The Alberta School of Performing Arts

Enrollment Guidelines: Students Must Reside Within Tuscaloosa City School Zones

A. School Overview

The Alberta School of Performing Arts (TASPA) is a K – 8 school with a curriculum focused on exposure and specialized instruction in dance, theatre, music and the visual arts. Grades K – 5 are populated by students living in the Alberta school zone only. Grades 6 – 8 will receive in-depth and specialized instruction in dance, music, theatre and visual arts. As such, these grades are open to enrollment for all TCS students only through application and audition. Students of incoming grades 6, 7, and 8 living within the Alberta K – 5 school zone will attend their zoned middle school unless accepted to Alberta through audition.

B. Admission Policy

Students residing in any Tuscaloosa City School zone are eligible to apply for enrollment at The Alberta School of Performing Arts in grades 6 through 8. See eligibility, application and selection process below.

C. Student Eligibility

1. Incoming K – 5 students already zoned for Alberta through established attendance zones need not apply other than through regular enrollment.
2. Incoming 6th through 8th grade students living within all Tuscaloosa City School zones are eligible to apply with:
 - 2.1. An audition process in two of the fine arts disciplines of dance, music, theatre, or visual art.
 - 2.2. Eligibility is determined by such factors as available program seats, artistic potential, skill, talent, interest, conduct and attendance.
3. Home school or private school students who live in the zone of the Tuscaloosa City Schools but not currently attending a Tuscaloosa City School are eligible to apply under guideline 2 above; however, verification of residence must be provided at time of acceptance to the attendance office at the Tuscaloosa City Board of Education, including:
 - Proof of residence within Tuscaloosa City Schools attendance zone
 - Current report card
4. Children in grades K - 5 of teachers currently employed at The Alberta School of Performing Arts will be allowed to enroll and attend the school according to board policy.
 - 4.1. Children in grades 6 – 8 of teachers currently employed at The Alberta School of Performing Arts will be allowed to enroll and attend the school if they fulfill the requirements for student eligibility 2.1 and 2.2 above.

D. Application Process

1. A Completed application includes meeting deadlines for registration, auditions, and intent for acceptance.

E. Selection Process

1. Students and families will be contacted to confirm an audition date and time following application to the specialty school.
2. Offers of acceptance to TASPA must be returned within the specified timeframe.
3. Failure to respond to an offer of acceptance by the specified timeframe will render the outcome as a parent/legal guardian decline.
4. K – 5 children of staff employed at the school will be accepted pursuant to board policy. Children of staff grades 6 – 8 will be considered with audition.

F. Enrollment

1. Once students are approved and accept a placement at The Alberta School of Performing Arts, they should remain in the school for the entire school year. Transferring back to the zoned school may be done through the hardship transfer request pursuant to board policy.

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2. 8th grade students currently attending TASPAs will complete an opt-out form regarding their decision to NOT attend the Tuscaloosa Fine Arts Academy (TFAA) housed at Paul W. Bryant High School for the next school year. The opt-out notice must be completed and returned to the school no later than the last working day of January.
3. 8th grade TASPAs students opting in to TFAA are not required to apply or audition for admission to TFAA, though a placement screening may be scheduled.
Note: Athletic eligibility rules apply for students from the Northridge or Central High School zones transferring to TFAA at Paul W. Bryant High School.
4. 8th Grade students opting-out of TFAA will attend their zoned high schools for grades 9 – 12.
5. Note: There is no exit procedure for the school to remove a student.
6. Note: Once students accept a placement and remain enrolled in The Alberta School of Performing Arts, re-application is not required excepting promotions from grades 5 to 6.