



**WAXAHACHIE INDIAN SCHOLARS**

*Rooted in Learning, Grounded in Excellence*

# **Waxahachie High School**

Indian Scholars 2017-2018

Application Packet

FEBRUARY 17, 2017 APPLICATION DEADLINE

WISD Indian Scholars Academy 2017-2018  
**Application Procedures and Guidelines**

Indian Scholars is a cohort of selected WISD students who will participate in extensive Dual Credit coursework beginning in their freshman year of high school with the goal of earning an Associate's Degree through Navarro during high school that will be accepted intact by the University of North Texas at Dallas.

In order to apply, a portfolio of work must be submitted with the components described below. A portfolio is a personalized collection of documents and artifacts. It should reflect the individual student and what he/she has accomplished. It should also show evidence or indicators that support likely success in the Indian Scholars Academy.

**Portfolio Requirements:**

- Structure
  - The portfolio should be no larger than 12" x 18" and be between 10 - 40 pages in length.
  - Pages must be attached by rings or binding of some type; file folders or envelopes are not acceptable.
  - Please include a Title Page followed by a Table of Contents. Page numbers are not required.
  - Ensure that portfolio documents are copies, not originals.
- Required documents (Please include these components in the order specified below)
  - A completed Applicant Information and Acknowledgements page
  - A handwritten writing sample by the student: "Why I desire to apply to Indian Scholars Academy"
  - A copy of the most recent report card
  - A copy of the most current state testing score reports (those subjects available at the time of submission)
  - Documentation of at least one attempt at the TSI test (passing results are not required at this point of application)
  - Include a selection of additional documents, including:
    - Student work samples and/or project artifacts (such as photos or summary articles)
    - Certificates of achievement, letters of commendations, or news articles highlighting the student
    - Documents that reflect leadership, outside interests, service to others, and talents
    - Additional student information that could demonstrate readiness for the program.
  - A minimum of two Reference Recommendations from those that have known the students educationally within the past two years. These will be mailed separately to the committee. Ensure that name and privacy selections are completed at the top of the form, and that the respondent is provided with a stamped, addressed envelope.

Please compile the information and submit your portfolio to Waxahachie High School Counseling Office % Crystal Collins no later than February 17, 2017.

Late submissions, if considered, will be considered separately from on-time submissions.

**Next steps:**

- Upon review of the applicants' testing results and portfolios, selected applicants will be contacted to schedule a panel interview with representatives from WISD, Navarro, UTA, and Texas A&M Commerce.
- Students must meet college entrance testing criteria. On-site TSI testing at WISD is available and can be scheduled through the Counseling Office. If a PSAT test was taken at a non-WISD location, the official score report must be sent to WISD to be considered for TSI exemption.
  - Please note that testing fees apply.
  - Minimum scores on the PSAT for TSI exemption are a combined score of 107 with at least 50 on the critical reading and/or mathematics test; the minimum scores on the TSI test are a score of 5 on the essay, 4 on essay with 363 on writing, 351 on reading, and 350 on mathematics according to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.
- Students accepted to the program will be contacted during late spring 2017.
- Students must be enrolled at WISD and accepted by Navarro to begin as dual credit students before beginning coursework in Indian Scholars Academy.

WISD Indian Scholars Academy 2017-2018  
**Applicant Information and Acknowledgements**

**Student Information**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

8th Grade Campus:    \_\_\_ Finley    \_\_\_ Howard  
                          \_\_\_ Non-WISD (complete the Out-of District Supplementary portion located at the end of the acknowledgements)

Parent/Guardian name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian daytime/cell number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian preferred email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please see the Application Procedures and Guidelines for information on the required elements of application.

**Acknowledgements**

For each statement below, **both the student and the parent/guardian** must initial as a statement of agreement.

I understand that I am applying for a limited-enrollment cohort based upon set criteria. There is no appeals process, and the decision of the admission committee formed jointly between WISD and the Institutions of the Higher Education (Navarro and UTA, and Texas A&M Commerce) is final.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Initial    Student Initial

I understand that financial responsibilities are associated with participation in Indian Scholars. WISD does not assume responsibility for tuition, fees, textbooks, or course costs required by the Institution(s) of Higher Education.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Initial    Student Initial

I understand that participation in dual credit coursework includes the establishment of an official college transcript. Transcripts at Institutions of Higher Education may only be altered according to that Institution's policies and procedures. WISD will not make grade change requests on a student's behalf.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Initial    Student Initial

I understand that a student may be removed from the Indian Scholars Academy for reasons including, but not limited to, inappropriate conduct, failure to maintain necessary grades, or low attendance.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Initial    Student Initial

I agree to adhere (student) and support (parent) the WISD Student Code of Conduct, in addition to those of the Institution(s) of Higher Education. This includes Acceptable Use policies for technology, behavior standards, and academic integrity. Students engaging in scholastic dishonesty will be subject to penalties administered by the Institution. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion on assignments or examinations. Please refer to each college's policies and practices for additional information.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Initial    Student Initial

I understand that payment of tuition does not guarantee credit at Institution(s) of Higher Education. Students must earn grades and credit according to the policies of the Institution that indicate a passing "credit".

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Initial    Student Initial

I understand that as a partner in student success, WISD reserves the right to limit the number of dual credit courses a student is approved to take during the school year and during the summers according to the parameters of the Texas Administrative Code and in the best interest of the student.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Initial    Student Initial

I understand that transferability of course credit is institution-specific, and therefore I agree to work closely under the advisement of WISD, Navarro, UTA, and Texas A&M Commerce. while working on the Associate's Degree through Navarro. However, should plans for a major area of study change, or a later institution of enrollment change, there is the possibility of a loss of transferability or applicability of credit earned.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Initial      Student Initial

(Parent/Guardian only) As a parent, I agree to model appropriate behavior for my student in my interactions with the Institutions of Higher Education. I will abide by the Institutions' procedures for directing questions, communication with staff members, and financial transactions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Initial

(Student only) As a student, I agree to maintain a strong work ethic and integrity in my work. I also understand the importance of asking for assistance in a timely manner, and seeking guidance where necessary. I agree to adhere to the policies and procedures of WISD as well as the Institution(s) of Higher Education.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Initial

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Out-of-District Supplementary Information** (Not required for current WISD students)

Students accepted to the Indian Scholars Academy must be enrolled in Waxahachie High School. In addition, currently enrolled WISD students as of the application portfolio due date will receive first consideration for cohort selection. In order to enroll in WISD, students must reside within district boundaries or meet inter-district transfer policies set forth by the WISD Board of Trustees. Proof of Residency is required for enrollment. For inter-district transfer student requirements and information, please visit [www.wisd.org](http://www.wisd.org) or call 972-923-4617.

Student Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Current 8th Grade Campus: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you participated in Honors or Pre-AP coursework in the past?     yes     no

If yes, please provide more details: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

WISD Indian Scholars Academy 2017-2018  
**Reference Recommendation Form**

\_\_\_\_\_ is applying for admission in Indian Scholars Academy in Waxahachie ISD. This program is designed to allow select cohorts of students to earn an Associate's Degree in high school and then transfer to a four-year university as a classified junior. As someone who has educational knowledge of the student from the past two years, the student has selected you as a reference. The admission committee would appreciate your completing this form and returning it by mail at your earliest convenience. Completed forms may not be submitted to the admission committee by the student or parent.

**Applicant's Statement:** *I am aware that under the Congressional Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (Sec. 438 (a) (20) (B) C ©, I am not required to, but that I may voluntarily waive my right to access confidential letters and statements of recommendation submitted to Waxahachie ISD in support of my student's application to the Indian Scholars program. I further understand the provision of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, an applicant not chosen for the program, regardless of whether such applicant has signed a waiver, has no right to inspect any of the admission application materials accumulated in his/her case. The signing of this waiver shall not be regarded as a condition for admission to the Indian Scholars program.*

*I hereby: ( ) do ( ) do not waive my right of access to any and all letters or statements of recommendation, which may be submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ (Applicant must specify name of person submitting this recommendation before sending this form to that person) in connection with my application to the Indian Scholars program of Waxahachie ISD.*

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Respondent Information**

Respondent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Respondent Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Respondent Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Respondent Phone Number(s) and/or Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximately how long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_ year(s), \_\_\_\_\_ month(s)

How well do you feel that you know the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_ casually \_\_\_\_\_ well \_\_\_\_\_ very well

What is/was the nature of your contact with the applicant?

\_\_\_\_\_ teacher in an academic class \_\_\_\_\_ teacher in an elective class \_\_\_\_\_ Principal, Asst. Principal, or Counselor

**Relative Rating of Applicant**

Please rate the applicant in the areas below compared to his/her peer group at time of your contact.

Academic ability

\_\_\_\_\_ Exceptional \_\_\_\_\_ Above Average \_\_\_\_\_ Comparable to peers \_\_\_\_\_ Below average \_\_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_\_ Insufficient knowledge

Work ethic and motivation

\_\_\_\_\_ Exceptional \_\_\_\_\_ Above Average \_\_\_\_\_ Comparable to peers \_\_\_\_\_ Below average \_\_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_\_ Insufficient knowledge

Ability to use effective written and oral expression

\_\_\_\_\_ Exceptional \_\_\_\_\_ Above Average \_\_\_\_\_ Comparable to peers \_\_\_\_\_ Below average \_\_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_\_ Insufficient knowledge

Emotional maturity

Exceptional  Above Average  Comparable to peers  Below average  Poor  Insufficient knowledge

Organizational and time management skill

Exceptional  Above Average  Comparable to peers  Below average  Poor  Insufficient knowledge

Level of independence with work

Exceptional  Above Average  Comparable to peers  Below average  Poor  Insufficient knowledge

Some talented individuals demonstrate comparatively low achievement in scholastic records. In your opinion, is the applicant's scholastic record, as you know it, an accurate indicator of his/her ability?

Yes  No  Don't Know

Please explain further, if desired.

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Do you have any information related to character, temperament, or maturity which should be considered by the admissions committee or that should be taken into account when advising the applicant in his/her future coursework?

Yes  No  Don't Know

Please explain further, if desired.

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Please add any other information about the applicant that you would like to share:

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In summary, I would give a:

very strong  strong  average  average recommendation, or  no recommendation

Please explain further, if desired.

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Signature of respondent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return by mail to:  
ATTN: Indian Scholars  
Waxahachie High School  
Counseling Office  
1000 Highway 77 North

Waxahachie, Texas 75165