



ARCHBISHOP SPALDING HIGH SCHOOL  
8080 New Cut Road  
Severn, Maryland 21144-3299

# Archbishop Spalding HIGH SCHOOL



## *AQUINAS PROGRAM*



**PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

	Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average
Maturity for grade level				
Maturity for age				
Perseverance				
Self confidence				
Motivation				
Integrity				
Emotional stability				

**COMMENTS:**

What educational accommodations did the applicant need in your English/Language Arts class to be successful?

How much work was the applicant expected to complete outside of the school day? Did the applicant complete it on a timely basis?

What are the applicant's interests academically or co-curricular?

Please describe the parents' relationship with teachers and the school.

Please describe the student-parent relationship.

Is there any additional information that might be helpful in evaluating this applicant? ? (i.e. How much homework is required in your class each night?)

Has the applicant, to your knowledge, been evaluated for any physical, emotional, or academic reasons?

Yes\* \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Unaware \_\_\_\_\_

Is the applicant currently or has the applicant previously, to your knowledge, been on medication?

Yes\* \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Unaware \_\_\_\_\_ \*If Yes, please explain:

May we contact you by phone if we have further questions? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, phone # and best time to call

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of recommending professional

*If not already sent, please enclose copies of Standardized Test Scores, complete transcript, and an explanation of your school's marking system and sectioning.*



Dear Parents,

The administration and faculty of Archbishop Spalding High School are pleased to hear of your interest in the Aquinas Program. Candidates for the Aquinas Program must complete the general admissions procedures required of all applicants as well as the forms and process outlined in this section. Please note that the Aquinas Program adheres to the same deadlines as the general admissions calendar.

As director of the Aquinas Program I would like to assure you that students in the Aquinas program are no different from other members of the Archbishop Spalding High School community. Aquinas students participate in all school events, club activities and sports programs. Participation in extra-curricular activities is essential to the development of a "well-rounded" student. Every Spalding student is urged to become fully involved in the high school experience.

I look forward to working with you as you move through the admissions process. If you have any questions regarding the Aquinas Program do not hesitate to contact me at (410) 969-9105 (Baltimore) or (301) 261-2170 (Washington) extension 264. Thank you again for your interest in the Aquinas Program at Archbishop Spalding High School.

Sincerely,

*Elaine Wells*

Director of the Aquinas Program

**AQUINAS PROGRAM**

The Aquinas Program at Archbishop Spalding High School is designed to provide alternative academic instruction and assessment within a supportive, structured environment. This Program offers support for high school students who display characteristics of mild learning disabilities in the areas of reading and language.

The Program is committed to providing students with basic strategies, academic skills, self-esteem and the knowledge necessary for them to assume realistic and contributing roles in our school community and society at large.

Aquinas students are placed in classes with a **low pupil-teacher ratio**. Experienced faculty who receive in-service training and education in the area of learning disabilities teach the Aquinas classes. Lessons and assessment methods are designed to meet students' individual needs and learning styles. Flexible class placements address academic strengths and weaknesses.

Courses offered through the Aquinas Program meet the academic standards for graduation from Archbishop Spalding. The Aquinas Program faculty works with the Guidance Department to monitor student progress, academic performance and plans for post-secondary education. Many students transition out of the Program into the general high school courses because of the skills and learning strategies they have acquired.

**Admission** to the Aquinas Program is limited to sixteen students per grade level in order to provide a supportive academic environment. Students admitted to the Program have average to above average intellectual abilities and need additional support in the area of language arts.

The **enhanced services** of the Aquinas Program are designed to provide a supportive, challenging environment to students with unique learning differences. Course instruction includes strategies for time management, personal organization and specific academic study skills. Students formulate individual learning profiles to better understand the nature of their academic studies and success. Self-advocacy with the faculty is fostered to facilitate course success and self-esteem. The enhanced services and flexible class placements permit Aquinas students to integrate into the Spalding community and benefit fully from their high school experience.

Aquinas students pay an additional \$2,000 tuition. As additional information is required to evaluate applicants to the Aquinas Program, students applying to the Program must submit the **Supplemental forms** included in this packet.

**TECHNOLOGY:**

- Access to "Alpha Smart" processors and Kurzweil Reader
- Multimedia presentation equipment and software designed for individually paced instruction
- Audio and Video enhanced presentations to augment classroom instruction
- Access to computers in all academic courses in which Aquinas students are enrolled

**RESOURCES AND MATERIALS:**

- Manipulative and laboratory equipment for multi-sensory instruction
- Reading-age level appropriate textbooks and supplementary materials
- Resource consultation services for students, teachers, and parents
- Learning differences library materials available for students and parents
- Assistance in obtaining study aids such as taped textbooks, tape recorders and word processors
- Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic materials

**SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS:**

- Low pupil-teacher ratio
- Transitions courses for Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior year
- After school support programs
- Strategic career and college planning services
- Program-specific academic advising and course scheduling

**AQUINAS PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION FORM - Language Arts**

**DIRECTIONS** for recommending professional: The items below ask for your knowledge of this applicant's academic, social, and emotional qualities. All information you furnish will be kept confidential and does not become part of the student's permanent record. Please check the items below and mail directly to the **Office of Admissions, Archbishop Spalding High School, 8080 New Cut Road, Severn, MD 21144**. On behalf of this student, and Archbishop Spalding High School, we thank you for your cooperation.

Name of student \_\_\_\_\_ Present grade level \_\_\_\_\_

Current school \_\_\_\_\_ Date this form is being completed \_\_\_\_\_

Name of recommending professional (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to applicant (if teacher, please note subject area) \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

**ACADEMIC ABILITIES:**

	Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average
Verbal skills				
Reading skills				
Creativity ability				
Intellectual curiosity				
Ability to grasp new concepts				

**CLASSROOM PERFORMANCE:**

	Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average
Participation in discussions				
Writing mechanics				
Quality of written ideas				
Oral expression				
Work habits				
Ability to follow directions				

**LEARNING SKILLS:**

	Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average
Attention span				
Ability to work in groups				
Ability to work independently				
Study habits				
Preparation for class				
Response to suggestions				
Willingness to seek help				
Receptive to constructive feedback				
Interaction with peers				
Conduct				

**CIRCLE THE TERMS THAT DESCRIBE THIS APPLICANT:**

aggressive    anxious    articulate    cheerful    disobedient    easily discouraged    helpful    charming    respected  
 follower    honest    influential    irritable    manipulative    organized    confident    spoiled    over-protected  
 passive-resistant    perfectionist    responsible    self-centered    self-disciplined    motivated    overzealous    funny  
 athletic    shy    social    vivacious    well-liked    positive leader    negative leader    conscientious    outspoken  
 impulsive    loner    distracting    confident    involved    introverted    challenging    respectful of class

**PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

	Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average
Maturity for grade level				
Maturity for age				
Perseverance				
Self confidence				
Motivation				
Integrity				
Emotional stability				

**COMMENTS:**

What educational accommodations did the applicant need in your Math class to be successful?

How much work was the applicant expected to complete outside of the school day? Did the applicant complete it on a timely basis?

What are the applicant's interests academically or co-curricular?

Please describe the parents' relationship with teachers and the school.

Please describe the student-parent relationship.

Is there any additional information that might be helpful in evaluating this applicant? (i.e. How much homework is required in your class each night?)

Has the applicant, to your knowledge, been evaluated for any physical, emotional, or academic reasons?

Yes\* \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Unaware \_\_\_\_\_

Is the applicant currently or has the applicant previously, to your knowledge, been on medication?

Yes\* \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Unaware \_\_\_\_\_ \*If Yes, please explain:

May we contact you by phone if we have further questions? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, phone # and best time to call

Signature of recommending professional \_\_\_\_\_

If not already sent, please enclose copies of Standardized Test Scores, complete transcript, and an explanation of your school's marking system and sectioning.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR THE AQUINAS PROGRAM**

In addition to the Application Procedures for all Archbishop Spalding High School prospects, candidates for the *Aquinas Program* have the following requirements for applications to be considered complete:

- 1) Parents/Guardians:
  - Provide copies of a current educational/psychological evaluation to include the results of both a **cognitive and achievement test** (the *WISC-III* and the *Woodcock-Johnson Tests of Achievement* are preferred - Not more than three years old)
  - Ensure that two teacher **recommendation forms** include one from a language arts teacher and one from a math teacher
  - Provide a copy of the student's **IEP or 504 Plan** if applicable
  - Disclose any other pertinent information from medical history or personal records on the ***Aquinas Program Information Form***.
- 2) Candidates for the *Aquinas Program* will spend a **Shadow Day** at Archbishop Spalding "shadowing" an *Aquinas* student of the same grade level as indicated on the application.
- 3) Ninth grade candidates will take the **Archdiocese of Baltimore's Admissions/Placement Test** on December 15, 2001 (documentation must be provided before December 1 in order to receive special accommodations on this test).
- 4) The candidate and parents/guardians will participate in a formal **interview** session with the reading specialist. (Steps 1&2 must be completed prior to the interview.)

- ❖ *The Spalding Aquinas Program is a great partnership between the faculty/ student. The Program has afforded our son the opportunity to pursue a learning process that results in success! -Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Schisler*
- ❖ *The Aquinas Program helped me to understand that my learning disability is not an excuse for doing poorly in school. It also showed me I have strengths and how to use them to my advantage. -Alex Ruoff, Class of 2004*
- ❖ *This Program has helped me to have the confidence to try and succeed. -Wyatt Unger, Class of 2004*
- ❖ *The Aquinas Program's structure was great for me because it allowed me to be in the Program with the classes I needed extra support in and be out of it with the classes I did not. -Katelyn Rubright, Class of 2004*
- ❖ *The Program gives you a chance to ask questions you need to ask. -Justin Perry, Class of 2004*
- ❖ *The Aquinas Program taught me how to study better and enabled me to have a quieter learning environment. -Kelly Harmon, Class of 2004*
- ❖ *Because of the Aquinas Program at Archbishop Spalding I have gotten the best education with the best help and the most confidence I have ever had. -Shannon Aiello, Class of 2004*

**AQUINAS PROGRAM INFORMATION FORM**

**APPLICANT'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** *Parents/Guardians please complete and return to the Admissions Office prior to student interview.*

Describe your child's primary strengths.

What are your child's greatest needs?

Is your child receiving any medication? Please list the name, dosage, and condition for which it was prescribed and when it was initiated.

What teachers, physicians, psychologists/psychiatrists are currently working with your child in addressing his/her learning differences?

Name \_\_\_\_\_ How often? \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ How often? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe any physical and/or emotional conditions that would impact your child's classroom performance.

Has your child exhibited behavioral problems at school? If yes, please explain.

Has your child been absent from school for an extended period of time? If yes, please describe the circumstances.

What special accommodations does your child receive in his/her current school?

Please provide any other pertinent information:

*I affirm that the information in this form is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and understand that any misrepresentation or failure to provide complete information may result in the applicant's immediate removal from consideration for attendance at Archbishop Spalding High School at this time or in the future.*

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

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

**AQUINAS PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION FORM - Math**

**DIRECTIONS** for recommending professional: *The items below ask for your knowledge of this applicant's academic, social, and emotional qualities. All information you furnish will be kept confidential and does not become part of the student's permanent record. Please check the items below and mail directly to the Office of Admissions, Archbishop Spalding High School, 8080 New Cut Road, Severn, MD 21144. On behalf of this student, and Archbishop Spalding High School, we thank you for your cooperation.*

Name of student \_\_\_\_\_ Present grade level \_\_\_\_\_

Current school \_\_\_\_\_ Date this form is being completed \_\_\_\_\_

Name of recommending professional (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to applicant (if teacher, please note subject area) \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

**ACADEMIC ABILITIES:**

	Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average
Basic calculation skills				
Quantitative concepts				
Problem solving rate				
Intellectual curiosity				
Ability to grasp new concepts				

**CLASSROOM PERFORMANCE:**

	Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average
Participation in discussions				
Oral expression				
Work habits				
Ability to follow directions				

**LEARNING SKILLS:**

	Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average
Attention span				
Ability to work in groups				
Ability to work independently				
Study habits				
Preparation for class				
Response to suggestions				
Willingness to seek help				
Receptive to constructive feedback				
Interaction with peers				
Conduct				

**CIRCLE THE TERMS THAT DESCRIBE THIS APPLICANT:**

aggressive    anxious    articulate    cheerful    disobedient    easily discouraged    helpful    charming    respected  
 follower    honest    influential    irritable    manipulative    organized    confident    spoiled    over-protected  
 passive-resistant    perfectionist    responsible    self-centered    self-disciplined    motivated    overzealous    funny  
 athletic    shy    social    vivacious    well-liked    positive leader    negative leader    conscientious    outspoken  
 impulsive    loner    distracting    confident    involved    introverted    challenging    respectful of class