

**The Preuss School UCSD**  
**Fall 2010 Admissions Application**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q What are the requirements for application to The Preuss School?**

There are three requirements for application:

- 1) All families must meet income eligibility criteria as defined by Federal guidelines. For more information please visit <http://preuss.ucsd.edu/admissions>
- 2) Parents or Guardians are NOT graduates of a four-year college or university
- 3) The student must demonstrate the motivation and potential to attend a competitive college or university.

**Q If I do not live in La Jolla, can my student still apply to The Preuss School?**

Yes. The Preuss School accepts students from the greater San Diego Area. All qualified applicants will go through the same application process and lottery with no preference given to families that live in the La Jolla area. However, transportation is not guaranteed for all areas in San Diego.

**Q My child will be entering the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grade in Fall 2010, can he/she still apply?**

No. The Preuss School only accepts students entering the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade; there are no exceptions made to this rule.

**Q What if we can't find the student's teacher from the previous year to fill out the recommendation?**

You can give the letter of recommendation to another teacher or counselor from the previous year or current school year.

**Q What if the student's current teacher is the same as the previous teacher?**

If the child has more than one teacher, give the second letter of recommendation to that teacher OR give the letter of recommendation to a teacher from two or three years prior.

**Q How do I know if my student's teacher, counselor or principal submitted their recommendation?**

The Preuss School will contact you directly if there is any missing information.

**Q What if the student has never taken the STAR test?**

Include a note in the application noting the reason why the student has not taken the STAR test. If the student took a similar type of standardized examination such as the Iowa test please include those scores.

**Q What is IEP?**

Individualized Education Program. If you have not heard of it, your child most likely does not have one.

**Q The student does have an IEP, will that affect their chances of getting in?**

Absolutely not; admissions to The Preuss School is on a nonsectarian basis, and does not discriminate against any pupil on the basis of ethnicity, special needs, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability.

**Q What is the highest gross income a family can have to still qualify for The Preuss School?**

Each family must be considered low income as defined by Federal guidelines. Each family's income is evaluated by the number of people in their household. You can find the maximum income amount specific to your family size at <http://preuss.ucsd.edu/admissions> or you can call the Admissions Office directly at 858-658-7215.

**Q What if I do not file Income Tax but we receive Welfare, CalWorks, SSI or other government assistance?**

You must turn in a COPY of the most recent monthly statement showing how much aid you receive each month. \*Please attach a note describing the situation.

**Q What if I filed taxes in 2008 but I am now unemployed?**

You must turn in a COPY of you Income Tax. Your income will be evaluated based on your 2008 income and if you qualify we will look at you 2009 income. If you currently do not qualify but will in the near future, we encourage you to apply then.

**Q What if the child is a foster child?**

You must provide up-to-date documentation proving the child is a foster child and how much aid they receive monthly. You must also include a copy of your income taxes and your W-2 form. \*Please attach a note describing the situation.

**❏ The student currently has a brother/sister attending Preuss, does that guarantee that they will be accepted?**

No. There is no preference given to student applicants with brothers/sisters/cousins/neighbors already enrolled at Preuss.

**❏ The student has a brother/sister currently at Preuss, are there additional requirements we must meet?**

Yes. If the parent already has a child attending Preuss, the parent must be up to date with their volunteer hours for the previous school year and the current school year in order for the application to be processed. Parents are required to complete 15 hours of service to the school for one child and an additional 10 hours per additional child each school year. **By February 5, 2010** parents with one current Preuss student need to complete at least 7.5 hours; parents with two current Preuss students need to complete at least 12.5 hours and parents with three current Preuss students need to complete at least 17.5 hours. If a student is accepted, parents must complete the total annual requirement by the end of the 2009-2010 school year. If a parent does not meet the requirements mentioned above, **admission will be denied.**

**❏ If we submit the application in a binder, folder, portfolio, box or put it together with a plastic spiral, or expensive bind will that give the application more points?**

No. Turning in the application in anything other than a manila folder slows down the review process. Please do not use any of the above methods for turning in the application.

**❏ Can I fax my application or my taxes?**

No. Due to the confidential nature of the information on the application we do not accept any applications by fax. You can mail the application to the school or drop it off in the front office.

**❏ How do I know that The Preuss School has received my application and that it is complete?**

We highly suggest that you review your application for completeness and make a copy of it for your records before submitting it to the Admissions Department. We will be sending you important information via mail letting you know if your application is complete or incomplete and informing you that we have received your materials. We may also contact you by phone if we need additional documents.

**❏ When will we find out if the student got accepted?**

Admissions decisions will be made in late March 2010. We will not have the decisions before that and therefore cannot provide information regarding the acceptance of the student prior to late March 2010.

**❏ How does The Preuss School select students for acceptance?**

The Preuss School reviews **every** application that is submitted. If a student meets all three requirements for Admission (low income, has parents/guardians who did not graduate from a four-year college or university and demonstrates motivation and potential to attend a college/university) they are entered into a randomized lottery for selection.

**❏ Why do you have a lottery?**

The Preuss School receives hundreds of applications. Typically, we have a lot more student applicants that meet all three requirements than we do number of available spots. For this reason, we must hold a randomized lottery to select students.

**❏ I am not sure how to fill out a certain section of the application, where can I get help?**

Try asking your student's current teacher for help. If they are unable to help you, you may contact the Admissions Department at 858-658-7215.

**❏ Can I take a blank application to the Preuss Admissions Department and get help filling out the entire application?**

Due to the large amount of applications The Preuss School receives, we are unable to provide step by step individual help in filling out the application. We can answer questions about specific sections but we cannot fill out the entire application for you.

**❏ I have a question that is not answered on here, who can I contact?**

You may contact the Admissions Department at 858-658-7215 Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm.

**❏ Where can we find more information about The Preuss School?**

You may visit our website at <http://preuss.ucsd.edu> for more information about our school. You may also call the Admissions Department and schedule a tour of the school.