

The East Catholic High School Entrance Exam Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who must take the entrance exam?

Eighth graders applying for entry to ECHS for the next academic year must take the HSPT entrance exam, including those students being homeschooled. A student currently enrolled as a freshman in another high school, who is applying as a transfer student, must also take the test.

2. Is there a fee to take the exam?

Yes. There is a \$25 *non-refundable fee* that covers the cost of processing the exam.

3. How long is the exam? Do I need to bring anything to the exam?

The exam is approximately 3.25 hours long. There are two parts; multiple choice questions followed by a writing sample (essay). The multiple choice sections include: Reading comprehension; grammar, usage and spelling; math problem-solving; and math computation. All test materials including No. 2 pencils are provided. No calculators are permitted. There are several short breaks between sections and a snack and water are provided.

4. Are there any scholarships awarded based upon the entrance exam results?

There are merit awards in the form of reduced tuition for students who score well on the entrance exam. The amount of the award is determined by performance on the tests given in November and December. The awards are renewed each year depending upon the student remaining in good academic standing.

5. Is the admission to East Catholic based only on the entrance exam results?

No. The admissions committee considers the entrance exam results, the student's academic performance and behavior as reflected in the current report card and grade transcripts, the ECHS application and other documents as needed. The committee takes a holistic and comprehensive approach in weighing the student's needs and the program provided at East.

6. May students who qualify for a merit award also receive need-based tuition assistance?

Yes. Families must complete the tuition assistance request form available on our [school web site](#). Students must have completed their application process and been accepted to the school to be eligible for need-based assistance.

7. What if we registered for the November or December exam, but were unable to attend, will the registration roll-over as paid to the next exam date?

Yes. The student would be pre-registered for the January make-up exam.

8. If the exam cannot be held as scheduled what happens?

If the exam has to be cancelled due to inclement weather we'll post the information on our web site, notify WFSB and WVIT of cancellation information, and send e-mail to those who have previously provided their e-mail address. The re-scheduled date will be announced. The "snow" date for the December exam is always the following Saturday in December.

9. Can entrance exam scores be shared with other schools?

Yes. Upon the parent's request, East Catholic will share entrance exam results with other schools that use the HSPT test, including Norwest Catholic, St. Paul Catholic, Sacred Heart and Springfield Cathedral as well as Xavier and Mercy High Schools. These schools, in turn, will share results with East at parent's request.

10. How are the exam results used?

The entrance exam is used for admissions and as a test to guide course selection and placement.