

Henderson High School's

P.R.I.D.E.* *Academy*



**Producing Responsible Individuals and Developing Excellence*

Student Information and Application Packet

Principal: Debra Brown, M.Ed.
Location: Central Achievement Center
Address: 101 Mary Street, Henderson, TX 75652
Telephone: 903-655-5552

► Forward To Prospective Students and Parents The Information & Application for PRIDE Academy Packet for 2011-12 is a companion piece to the Henderson High School Student and Parent Handbook. The information in this packet is subject to change and the information contained in this packet is the primary explanation on areas connected to/with PRIDE Academy.

► Program Vision *“To educate and prepare students to become productive citizens and lifelong learners who value excellence and integrity.”*

► Program Overview PRIDE Academy is a non-disciplinary alternative school providing a self-paced base curriculum for students enrolled in the Henderson Independent School District/Henderson High School. The academy is an accelerated learning environment for non-traditional students. PRIDE Academy teachers facilitate the coursework and provide direct instruction and tutoring to enhance the computer-based instructional platform.

► Entry Requirements Students will be assigned to the PRIDE Academy program by their home campus in accordance to program guidelines. **Admission to PRIDE Academy is through application and by committee selection only.**

Applications for the program are available through the HHS grade-level campus principals only. The student must return the application to the same principal upon completing the form.

An HHS selection committee will review applications on file and placement(s) in PRIDE Academy will be during the first and fourth six weeks only. The PRIDE Academy principal will contact the parent and make an appointment for a brief intake conference prior to changing a student's schedule.

Students must be cleared by all applicable teachers, departments and the HHS office for fines, books and outstanding obligations. These things must be cleared before enrollment in PRIDE Academy can begin.

A new application is required each year. Selections are made in first and fourth six weeks grading periods by Henderson High School officials.

Program guidelines include:

- Be enrolled in Henderson High School.
- Classified as an HHS junior or senior student and at least 1 year behind in academic credits from their targeted graduation class/cohort.
- Have passed: the 10th grade TAKS test(s) **OR** passed the End of Course Test(s) for English I and Algebra I and a freshman level science.

Special consideration for application approval will be given to applicants who are:

- Teen parents.
- An adult student living independently of a parent or guardian and totally self-supportive.
- Married.
- Have health issues requiring permanent homebound instruction.
- Faced with extenuating circumstances that prohibit graduation through a traditional educational setting.

► Graduation PRIDE Academy is not a program for students seeking early graduation.

Students enrolled in PRIDE have two options for graduation:

1. Receive a Henderson High School diploma that will be awarded in May at the traditional commencement exercises upon completion of all approved coursework (no later than 15 days prior to the last day of classes for the spring semester) and passing all required testing; or ,
2. Receive a Henderson High School diploma individually awarded (allow 15 days for processing) upon completion of all approved coursework and passing all required testing.

The PRIDE Academy student makes the final decision regarding which option he/she chooses. The decision must be in writing no later than the end of the 5th six weeks grading period during the student's final semester as a senior. See the PRIDE Academy principal for the current year graduation form.

► **Expectations** Due to the unique configuration of the program, PRIDE Academy students are expected to:

- Respect themselves and others.
- Be on time and attend school 100% of the time.
- Earn a minimum of at least 8 credits per year.
- Be enrolled in a vocational program through Henderson High School, or have a job of their own, or have daily parental responsibilities that require the care of a small infant or child.
- Demonstrate acceptable behavior at school.
- Take notes in each class/subject daily.

► **Attendance** Excellent attendance at PRIDE Academy is imperative. Only excused absences, including tardies, (see HHS Student Handbook and HISD Student Code of Conduct) are allowed. Excessive absences or tardies will be grounds for dismissal from the program. State law requires that students in programs such as PRIDE Academy spend a minimum of four hours per day in school.

There are two block sections of PRIDE Academy daily. Each section is four (4) hours in length. The first session begins at 7:15 am and goes until 11:15am. The second session begins at 11:20 am and goes until 3:20 pm. Henderson high school counselors place students in a particular section based on credit needs.

Students wishing to attend more than one section per day should see the campus principal for limited permission.

Students wishing to take classes at Henderson High School's main campus are advised that these courses are additional to the four hours required per day in PRIDE Academy.

► **Transportation** Transportation is not provided to PRIDE Academy. Students must provide their own daily transportation to/from the Central Achievement Center and the PRIDE Academy program.

► **Drug Testing** Henderson High School conducts random drug testing of students involved in extracurricular activities and who desire to park on campus. Details concerning drug testing can be found at HISD Board Policy FNF (LOCAL). This applies to students in PRIDE Academy.

► **Use of Cell phones, electronic devices at PRIDE Academy**

Cell phones are not allowed to be displayed while at PRIDE. Students who wish to listen to music while working at a computer must use an MP3 or I-pod device. Students must wear their own personal headphones at all times in order to use a device in this manner.

Headphones, other than those required in specific courses, will be issued on a daily checkout/check in basis.

1. Use of the computer is limited to academic lessons only as provided through Odysseyware software. Misuse of the computer will result in dismissal from PRIDE Academy.
2. All work must be done at school in order to count toward credit for the course. See PRIDE Academy principal for limited permission request.
3. Tutorials are mandatory based on TAKS/EOC testing results. EXIT Level seniors must attend special tutorial sessions in addition to the daily sessions provided.
4. PRIDE Academy observes a modified HHS dress code. **Presence on the main campus requires 100% HHS dress code compliance.** The dress code for PRIDE Academy is:
 - Appropriate attire each day as if for a job-related activity is required.
 - Any perceived gang-related apparel, including hair, eyebrow cuts, etc., is not allowed.
 - Piercings and allowable tattoos may be worn without covering.
 - No sagging slacks for men or women are allowed.
 - No sleeping attire, including pajamas and house slippers, are allowed.
 - Flip flop-type sandals/footwear is allowed.
 - Clothing may not contain visible holes and must be neat and clean.
 - Small hats and baseball-style caps may be worn during class.

- Except for religious reasons, cloth head wraps, scarves, etc., may not be worn.
- Shorts may be worn only if they reach the student's knee when standing.
- Eye wear is allowed (glasses & contact lenses) only if they are prescription.

The principal of the academy is the final authority on what student attire is/not allowed at PRIDE Academy. The principal at the high school is the final authority on what student attire is/not allowed at Henderson High School.

Students found to be out of approved dress code will be sent home and marked as unexcused/ absent for the day. Parents will be contacted by the campus office personnel. Disciplinary action as noted in the Student Code of Conduct regarding attendance will be applied. Students found to be out of approved dress code at HHS will be sent off campus and not allowed back unless first approved by the high school principal.

► **Tuition and Fees** There is no tuition or fees required in order to be in PRIDE Academy. However, normal lab and supply fees may be required for certain coursework. The student is responsible for the prompt payment of such lab or supply fees as applicable.

► **Faculty and Staff** The faculty and staff at PRIDE Academy consist of highly motivated, fully certified teachers and educational support personnel who are trained in the most effective teaching methods and learning strategies. In addition, Henderson High School provides academic support and special tutorial sessions for students needing intervention assistance. Students with special needs will have access to support staff throughout the day.

While 90% of the PRIDE student's work is done on computers using the Odysseyware software program, the curricula will involve supplemental assignments and direct instruction. Tutorials for TAKS mastery are required and mandatory for every student, consistent with his/her mastery needs.

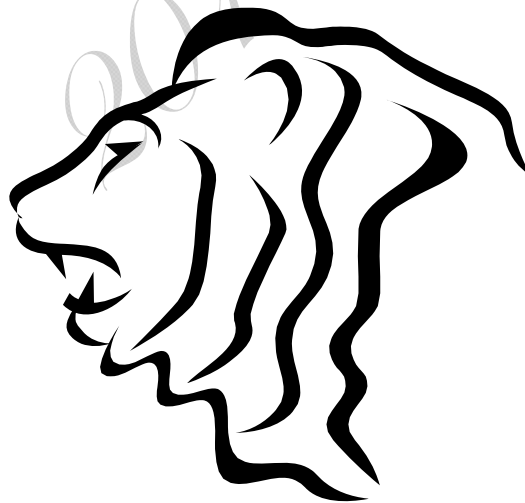
► **Extra-Curricular Activities** Students enrolled in the PRIDE Academy program are allowed to attend extra-curricular activities with the exception of events during the normal academic school day. Attendance at pep rallies at Henderson High School will be allowed with prior written permission (campus pass to the event) of the Central Achievement Center principal.

► **Grades** A daily, weekly or six weeks grade report will be available upon request to students and parents. These grades can be mailed to the home, attached to an e-mail or sent home via the student. Parents are encouraged to call the campus and request a grade update at any time.

Using the electronic grade book and traditional report card documentation, four (4) grades at PRIDE Academy are posted each six week. The four (4) posted grades will be the average for each of the four (4) core academic classes (English, Math, Science and Social Studies).

Grades for courses that are completed are posted to the student's official academic transcript at Henderson High School by the HHS counseling center personnel. Each time a student completes a course, he/she will be provided a copy of the unofficial written documentation of the course grade as a record of their accomplishment through PRIDE Academy.

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APPLICATION FOR PRIDE Academy, 2011-12

Applicants should return the completed form to Henderson High School by June 30, 2011. Students and parents are advised that selection for the school year noted will be prior to the first (1st) six weeks grading period. Available openings, if any, will be filled during the fourth (4th) six weeks grading period from all completed applications on file. Students will be notified by mail or by telephone of their selection for PRIDE Academy prior to the first day of school.

Please print. Do not leave anything blank.

First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ Last: _____

ID#: _____ GRADE: _____ Anticipated graduation date: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Current age: _____

TAKS Information: Grade 10			Comments:
English	Pass	Fail	
Math	Pass	Fail	
Science	Pass	Fail	
Social Studies	Pass	Fail	

Transportation is not provided to this program. How will you get to/from PRIDE each day? _____

Parent Information: Your son's/daughter's decision to attend PRIDE Academy is important. In the space below, please discuss how you will provide support for his/her decision. _____

To be successful at PRIDE Academy, parents and students are to understand that:

- Credit is earned, not given.
- Completed credits can transfer, but incomplete course grades do not transfer.
- The curriculum is designed to be self-paced, but tutorials and direct instruction are also required of PRIDE Academy students.
- Self-motivation and good work habits are essential to success.

Student Information: Please tell us about what led you to apply for PRIDE Academy.

We want you to be successful at the academy. Answer the following questions about your school history. **What has been your most difficult subject while in high**

school? _____ What has been your easiest subject in high school?

_____ Have you ever had truancy issues? _____ Do you skip

school/classes? _____ Did you ever drop out of school/consider dropping out of

school? _____ Have you had any discipline issues at high school? _____

Do you need to work? _____ Do you have a job? _____ If so, how long have you

been employed at this job? _____ Do you work well alone? _____ Are you

willing to take notes daily _____ attend regularly _____ be on time each

day _____ follow instructions of the adults in charge of the PRIDE Academy lab and campus _____? What changes and commitments are you willing to make in order to achieve success and graduate?

HHS Student Handbook/ Student Code of Conduct/Acceptable Use Statements

My signature indicates that I have read and will abide by the district's expectations for student behavior as indicated in the current Student Code of Conduct **and** Acceptable Use policies for computers, electronic mail, and Internet use. Parent/guardian's signature provides permission for student participation in prevention program surveys during the year and acknowledgement of agreement for student conduct.

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Medical Release Authorization

I hereby authorize the person(s) I have listed on the HISD health form as emergency contacts to assume the responsibility for making medical decisions for my student in the case where I cannot be reached after reasonable attempts by the school personnel.

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

I wish to enroll the Henderson High School non-traditional program (PRIDE Academy) for the 2011-12 school year: (Student signature) _____.

I give my permission for (PRINT STUDENT NAME) _____ to enroll in the Henderson High School non-traditional program (PRIDE Academy) for the 2011-12 school year. (Parent signature) _____.

Home address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home telephone: _____ Parent cell: _____

Emergency contact name: _____ Telephone: _____

Other: (Allergies/medical conditions, etc.) _____



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