

ROISD Hawk Scholars Academy 2018-2019  
**Application Procedures and Guidelines**

Hawk Scholars is a cohort of selected ROHS students who will participate in extensive Dual Credit coursework beginning in the 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 Texas at Arlington.

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 Hawk 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. Pocket folders with brads are preferred, but the choice of presentation is not a factor in portfolio evaluation.
  - 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 score report from at least one attempt at the TSI test (passing results are not required for initial application)
  - A completed Applicant Information and Acknowledgements page
  - A handwritten writing sample by the student: "Why I desire to apply to Hawk Scholars Academy"  
(Please contact Paula Barnes at ROMS if accommodations are required.)
  - 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)
  - Include a selection of additional documents from within the past 3 years, including:
    - Student work samples and/or project artifacts (such as photos or summary articles) that demonstrate academic readiness for advanced work
    - Certificates of achievement, letters of commendation, or news articles highlighting the student
    - Optional: Documents that reflect leadership, outside interests, service to others, and talents
    - Optional: 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 Amanda Hulett at the Middle School no later than Feb 22, 2018. Late submissions, if considered at all, 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 ROISD, Navarro, and UTA.
- Students must meet college entrance testing criteria. On-site TSI testing at ROHS is available and can be scheduled through the Counseling Office. If a PSAT test was taken at a non-ROISD location, the official score report must be sent to ROISD 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 and ABE diagnostic of 4, OR 4 on the essay with at least 340 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 2018.
- Students must be enrolled at ROHS and accepted by Navarro before beginning coursework in Hawk Scholars Academy.

# HAWK SCHOLARS ACADEMY



## **What is Hawk Scholars Academy?**

Hawk Scholars Academy is a group of selected 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 during high school that will be accepted intact by a 4-year University. Dual Credit courses allow a student to earn high school and college credits at the same time.

## **What institutions are involved in Hawk Scholars Academy?**

Red Oak ISD has a joint agreement with both Navarro College and The University of Texas at Arlington which allows students to earn an Associate's Degree with Navarro which will then be transferable to UTA. Once students begin classes at UTA, they would be classified as a junior, and would be considered for multiple scholarship opportunities not available to many other incoming students.

## **What is the cost to participate in the Hawk Scholars Academy?**

Although participation in Hawk Scholars Academy affords a great financial savings over a traditional 4-year degree, it does have associated costs. If accepted to the program, students will be taking college courses and beginning a college transcript. Tuition rates set by the institution apply. For Navarro, current tuition is \$56 per semester hour. Most dual credit courses are 3-hour courses, making the cost per class about \$168 plus textbook and course fees when applicable. Departmental fees, distance learning fees, and course-specific fees may sometimes apply, and rates may change.

## **How is Hawk Scholars Academy different?**

Rather than a separate early-college high school, Hawk Scholars allows a student to participate as a student at Red Oak High School, which includes opportunities for extracurricular activities, clubs, and events that are enjoyed by their peers. In addition, rather than focusing on one college major area, the Associate's Degree earned during work in Hawk Scholars Academy is intended to be General Studies, therefore allowing students many avenues of choice for future college majors.

## **How do students apply to Hawk Scholars Academy?**

Students must complete the application and entrance testing (PSAT and/or TSI). Candidates that meet minimum score requirements must also submit a portfolio of work for committee review that represents academic and personal achievement. Selected candidates will then be invited to participate in a panel interview including members of both Navarro and UTA in addition to district representatives. Candidates accepted to Hawks Scholars Academy will be notified during the summer. The application documents may be found at [www.redoakisd.org/hsa](http://www.redoakisd.org/hsa) or in the Counselor's Office.

## **Is Hawk Scholars Academy only for ROISD Pre-AP and/or Gifted & Talented students?**

Any 8th grade student may apply to be considered for Hawks Scholars Academy. The entrance testing, portfolio of work, and panel interview process will apply equally to all applicants regardless of current course enrollments. However, advanced course enrollments will be considered along with classroom grades in the portfolio evaluation. Non-ROISD students may apply if they meet residency or transfer student policies set forth by the local Board of Trustees and they enroll for the 2018-2019 school year.

## Applicant Information and Acknowledgements

### Student Information

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

8<sup>th</sup> grade campus:  ROMS  Non-ROISD (complete supplementary information below)

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 ROISD and the Institutions of Higher Education (Navarro and University of Texas at Arlington) is final.  
Parent initial      Student initial

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that financial responsibilities are associated with participation in Hawk Scholars. ROISD 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. ROISD 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 Hawk 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 ROISD 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.  
Parent initial      Student initial

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that as a partner in student success, ROISD 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 ROISD, Navarro, and UTA 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 Institution(s) 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 ROISD 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 ROISD students)

Students accepted to the Hawk Scholars Academy must enroll in Red Oak High School. Current ROISD students as well as students with a completed enrollment packet on file as of the application portfolio due date will receive first consideration for cohort selection. In order to enroll in ROISD, students must reside within district boundaries. Proof of residency is required for enrollment. For student enrollment requirements and information, please visit [www.redoakisd.org](http://www.redoakisd.org) or call 972-617-2941.

Student date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Current 8<sup>th</sup> grade campus: \_\_\_\_\_

School district: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Permanent address: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you participated in Honors or PreAP coursework in the past?  yes  no

If yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Reference Recommendation Form

\_\_\_\_\_ is applying for admission into Hawk Scholars Academy in Red Oak 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 (c), I am not required to, but that I may voluntarily waive my right to access confidential letters and statements of recommendation submitted to Red Oak ISD in support of my student’s application to the Hawk Scholars program. I further understand that under 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 Hawk 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 the person submitting this recommendation before sending this form to that person)** in connection with my application to the Hawk Scholars program of Red Oak 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? \_\_\_ years, \_\_\_ months

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.

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.

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

In summary, I would give a:

very strong    strong    average    average recommendation, or  no recommendation.

Please explain further, if desired.

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

Please return by mail **no later than Feb 21, 201** to:

Red Oak ISD  
Curriculum Department  
109 West Red Oak Road  
Red Oak, TX 75154

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

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

#### **Respondent Information**

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

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

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

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