

River City Christian Academy



Decatur, Alabama

2023-2024

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River City Christian Academy

Introduction

First Baptist Church of Decatur (FBC) exists to reach, teach, and change lives through God's power and presence. Home schooling does provide greater opportunity in fulfilling this mission as parents carry out God's direction in Deuteronomy 6:6-7

("These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.") Also Paul's encouragement in Philippians 4:8 ("Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things") can be enhanced through the option of home schooling. In view of the FBC mission statement RCCA will provide a Christian atmosphere for the home school families to help achieve personal development and academic excellence.

Philosophy

The philosophy of RCCA is that parents begin training their children at birth. This instruction is rich and varied, and may or may not involve formal instruction. However, RCCA recognizes that all children do not fit into the same mold; thus, homeschooling provides an alternative, enabling parents to customize each child's formal education based on the child's abilities and interests. The branches of study are limited only by the imagination. RCCA desires to help parents succeed in raising godly men and women to the best of their God given abilities. We understand that as parents we are responsible for the educational training of our children and will hold no one else responsible for their training. The position of First Baptist Church and River City Christian Academy is clear. We understand that both of these abide by the Bible and the doctrines defined by the Baptist Faith and Message. I recognize that the River City Christian Academy and the teachers that lead will abide by the same.

Father's Signature

Mother's Signature

Date

Curriculum

One of the greatest legacies you can bestow upon your children is a desire to learn. To engage them in learning, you must choose a curriculum that reflects your desired goals for them academically, spiritually, physically and emotionally. Curriculum may change and grow as your child's specific talents and gifts develop and mature. There are countless curricula available to your family. Carefully research which curriculum best suits your children. We are available to offer suggestions to help you select the right one. Once you have chosen your curriculum, make sure you complete the Curriculum Selection Form to be included in your file. This (and all forms) should be returned to the First Baptist Church main office.

Information

Registration and Enrollment - Registration forms and a non-refundable \$100 per family/per school year is required by October 2, 2023. There are no other required monthly fees. These fees will cover the basic overhead and office expenses associated with RCCA. Additional fees may be required as needed for optional field trips, classes, speaker or other special events.

Home School Legal Defense - An HSLDA membership is required. A **copy of your membership card** must be submitted by October 2, each year. The RCCA discount number to use when you join is 210055. Using that will reduce your cost from \$135/year to \$120/year. Join at HSLDA.org.

The Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) provides legal services for homeschooling families from all over the nation. With your paid membership, HSLDA will provide legal counsel and pay all of your legal fees if you are taken to court for an education-related issue. HSLDA provides many benefits as well as legal counsel.

Your Personal Home School Statement – For new applicants and returning members not enrolled the previous school year, write your family reasons and philosophy for home schooling on the “Why Our Family Home Schools” form provided.

Progress Reports (Grades) – One progress report per child/per semester (2 per child/per school year) is to be submitted. **Progress report forms are provided and should be completed and returned by January 12, 2024 (1st semester) and June 14, 2024 (2nd semester).** You are required to conduct this review and submit the grades and your comments on the forms provided.

Think of the progress review as a time to objectively evaluate your child's educational progress. The review becomes a record of your child's educational progress and is placed in his/her file. The progress report will be kept in your child's personal file and you are required to keep a copy as well.

Attendance Records – One attendance report per child/per school semester (2 per child/per school year) is to be submitted. Your child’s attendance should be posted on the Attendance/Progress Report form which should be returned by January 12, 2024 (1st semester) and June 14, 2024 (2nd semester).

Alabama Law requires that an attendance record be maintained for each child enrolled in RCCA. To accommodate this law, we require you to keep an attendance record for your children. Public and private schools require 180 days of attendance each year and 140 are required for a private tutor. For home schoolers, attendance is determined by “school days”. A School Day is any day you designate as a day in which you are actively pursuing your educational objectives. These days may include field trips and other educationally related activities. We recommend a minimum of 160 days attendance per year. The attendance record will be kept in your child’s personal file and you are required to keep a copy as well.

Supervision – Parents or legal guardians are required to attend all activities with their children unless they have made prior arrangements with another adult to be directly responsible for their care.

Behavior Code – All people and property must be treated respectfully. Damages will be the responsibility of the child’s parents. Inappropriate behavior/language will not be tolerated. While in the Recreation Outreach Center (ROC), the guidelines set within the ROC Handbook will be strictly adhered to. Copies are available in the ROC upon request.

Dress Code – The scripture clearly teaches that as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, we are to present a Christian lifestyle before the world. This lifestyle also includes the area of dress. Therefore, we request that you observe the following guidelines for class sessions and field trips.

- ~ Minimum inseam of 4 inches on all shorts
- ~ All appropriate undergarments will be worn and completely covered
- ~ No exposed midriffs
- ~ One piece swim suits for girls and no Speedos for boys at water events
- ~ No inappropriate logos, printing, or writing on any garments

The dress code will apply to all on-campus and off-campus events when attending an event as a RCCA student. A student may be removed from a class should the teacher and administrator decide the clothing is inappropriate.

Standardized Testing – Standardized testing is not a requirement for RCCA families. If you want to test your child/ren there are several available options. HSLDA offers 3 options through homeschooltestingservices.com:

1-At home testing, 2-Online testing, 3-On site testing.

Another option is through bjupress.com that has at home parent administered homeschool testing available.

High school students see the RCCA website link “Testing For 8th-12th Grades.”

Disciplinary Actions - Students or parents who choose not to follow the established guidelines can be removed from the River City Christian Academy. This decision will be made by the RCCA Administrator and Church Ministerial Staff. If a student is removed from RCCA, the child's school district and the HSLDA will be made aware of the termination in writing. Neither the registration fee nor the HSLDA fee will be refunded should a family be removed from RCCA.

Drop Out/Reenlistment Requirements –Students, who have dropped out of school, whether by completing withdrawal forms with their local school or simply ceased attendance from any previous school, must complete the following requirement along with the above mentioned steps:

Child/ren and parents must attend an interview with the Administrative Committee. Parents need to bring transcript from the school and intended curriculum list for homeschooling.

Any student, who has at anytime dropped out of a public school prior to enrolling in River City Christian Academy, who the Administrative Committee determines to not be completing any of the above requirements, or is found to be enrolled in RCCA for reasons other than educational reasons, will be terminated.

Withdrawing – If you should need to withdraw from the RCCA, attendance records and progress reports should be turned in and made current up to the date of withdrawal. A notification will be sent immediately to the student's appropriate school district/superintendent and the HSLDA. Parents will be given their child's personal records after a signed receipt of records is completed. Effective at the date of withdrawal, River City Christian Academy is no longer considered the Cover School or Church School responsible for the withdrawn student.

Grading Scale – The grading scale used will be assumed to be as follows:

- A 100-90
- B 89-80
- C 79-70
- D 69-60
- F 59 and below

If you choose to use a different scale, please include that with your grades so transcripts will be accurate with your grading.

Alabama State Law

To see the latest information regarding the laws in Alabama that address homeschooling please check the Homeschool Legal Defense Association website (HSLDA.org). On the HSLDA homepage there is a link near the bottom of the page to search homeschool laws by state.

River City Christian Academy

Appendix

Please print the following pages for completing registration
and
reporting grades and attendance

River City Christian Academy

Statement of Cooperation (One per family) 2023-2024 School Year

1. Read the **River City Christian Academy Handbook** before enrolling your child.
2. Sign the **Introduction and Philosophy** form indicating that you understand the mission and beliefs of River City Christian Academy.
3. Complete the **Student Enrollment Form**: A copy will be sent to your child's local superintendent to notify them of your enrollment with River City Christian Academy (this must be done each school year).
4. Complete the **Curriculum Selection** form indicating the curriculum each of your children will be using, as well as the present status of the curriculum.
5. New applicants and returning members who were not enrolled the previous year should complete the **Statement of "Why Our Family Home Schools"** form. Keep a copy for your own files.
6. Complete the **Student Information** form. (Blue immunization card, Social Security number and birth certificate are **not** needed for enrollment)
7. Register with the **Home School Legal Defense Association**. **Submit a copy of your membership card by October 2**. You may register on-line at www.hslda.org. The RCCA discount number to use when you join is 210055. Using that will reduce your cost from \$135/year to \$120 per year.
8. Pay your **tuition** of \$100.00 per family.
(Cash or check made payable to First Baptist Church)
- 9. All forms and payment are due by October 2, 2023.**
Turn them into the church office during office hours or after office hours drop them in the secure drop box slot to the left of the church office door. You may also mail the forms and payment to the church: PO Box 1667, Decatur, AL 35602

We understand that as parents we are responsible for the educational training of our children and will hold no one else responsible for this training. We also agree to cooperate fully with the above stated expectations and requirements.

Father's Signature: _____

Mother's Signature: _____

Date: _____

River City Christian Academy

(One per family)

Introduction

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Father's Signature

Mother's Signature

Date

River City Christian Academy

Student Information Form (One per family) 2023-2024 School Year

Please include all children in River City Christian Academy:

Name: _____

Birthdate: _____ Grade Level: _____

Name and Address of last school attended:

Name: _____

Birthdate: _____ Grade Level: _____

Name and Address of last school attended:

Name: _____

Birthdate: _____ Grade Level: _____

Name and Address of last school attended:

Name: _____

Birthdate: _____ Grade Level: _____

Name and Address of last school attended:

Name: _____

Birthdate: _____ Grade Level: _____

Name and Address of last school attended:

Is your **Home School Legal Defense Association** membership current? ____ Yes ____ No

HSLDA Membership # _____ **Expiration date:** _____

(Submit copy of membership card by October 2)

Home School Legal Defense Association

www.hslda.org

P.O. Box 3000, Purcellville, VA 20134-9000

Phone: (540) 338-5600 · Fax: (540) 338-2733

River City Christian Academy

Student Enrollment Form – One per Student
TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN
2023-2024 School Year

Public School District _____

Student's Full Name _____

Home Address _____

Date of Birth _____ Grade _____ Home Phone _____

Parent/Guardian's Name(s) _____

Home Address _____

E-mail Address _____

First Baptist Church
River City Christian Academy
123 Church Street, NE (PO Box 1667)
Decatur, Alabama 35601/2
256-353-0423, school phone

Date Signature of Parent or Guardian

CONSENT FOR NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT WITHDRAWAL

I hereby give prior consent to the administrator of River City Christian Academy to notify the public school superintendent should the above named student cease attendance at said school.

Date Signature of Parent or Guardian

TO BE COMPLETED BY RCCA ADMINISTRATOR

Date of Enrollment _____, for 2023-2024 school year.

Date Signature of RCCA Administrator

River City Christian Academy
CURRICULUM SELECTION (One per student)
2023-2024 School Year

1. **Circle** current status for your curriculum
 - A. On order
 - B. Received
 - C. Not yet ordered
 - D. Received part of curriculum

2. Please list curriculum/textbooks to be used this year. Add pages if needed or for brief explanation of unit type curriculum planned.

Student Name: _____
Textbook Title: _____
Subject & Level: _____

Student Name: _____
Textbook Title: _____
Subject & Level: _____

Student Name: _____
Textbook Title: _____
Subject & Level: _____

Student Name: _____
Textbook Title: _____
Subject & Level: _____

Student Name: _____
Textbook Title: _____
Subject & Level: _____

Student Name: _____
Textbook Title: _____
Subject & Level: _____

Student Name: _____
Textbook Title: _____
Subject & Level: _____

Student Name: _____
Textbook Title: _____
Subject & Level: _____

River City Christian Academy

STATEMENT OF “WHY OUR FAMILY HOME SCHOOLS” (One Per Family) 2023-2024 School Year

Family Name: _____

**Please explain on this page your reasons for home schooling
and your home schooling philosophy:**

Signature: _____ Date: _____

River City Christian Academy

ATTENDANCE/PROGRESS REPORT *(One per student/semester)*
School Year: 2023-2024

Student's Name: _____
 Grade: _____ Date of Birth: _____
 Teacher's Name: _____

Subject	Letter Grade	Level	Comments on Progress

Number of Days in Attendance:

August _____	December _____	April _____
September _____	January _____	May _____
October _____	February _____	June _____
November _____	March _____	July _____

Total number of days for semester: _____ / for school year: _____