



Recruitment Process:

Students learn about our school through their middle school counselors; next of kin currently enrolled in our school; our school website announcing recruitment; social media; local area newspapers (*Reporter*); and street banners that are leased by our district's Public Relations Office.

Recruitment begins each year in early December with 8th grade students from our four middle schools participating in two-hour tours the week prior to being dismissed for Winter Break Vacation. Each day of the week one middle school visits our school and a presentation is shown to them outlining our Mission and Vision Statements and expectations. Students also listen to current students' stories relating their high school experience here with us at STEM Early College High School.

Students that participate in our tour, and are interested in attending as incoming 9th grade students, are given an application after they have provided us with their name, student ID#, address, and phone number. They are told to submit their completed application to their middle school counselor or return to our school prior to the last day in January, when they are due.

In mid-February, using the student demographic information gathered by students that picked up an application, we send letters to parents of those interested students inviting them to an information meeting to thoroughly explain our program and answer any questions before the family makes a final decision.

Because we accept students from all over Bexar County, as we are an open enrollment campus, we post our application on our schools' and district's website in both English and Spanish so that any student interested in STEM can also apply.

In early March, we have an essay writing event where students come to our school and for one hour, answer questions about themselves and answer questions regarding why they would like to attend. The essay in no way is intended to screen students for acceptance, but is in fact intended to begin looking at their writing abilities for strengths and weaknesses so that we can begin collecting data to create the curriculum for the Summer Bridge Program which focuses in helping our students pass the TSI Reading and Writing portion of the exam.

Each year, our MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with Palo Alto Community College indicates the enrollment cap of 120 students. We have never had any more than that apply but in the event that more students do apply, then a lottery will have to be held to select the 120 students that will attend our school.

Once all of the applications are collected and we have all of the necessary information from the students, it is the week after Spring Break when acceptance letters are sent to students welcoming them to our school.