

EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE

It has been said that our children are our greatest resource, and nowhere is that believed to be more true than in Austin, Texas. Within a town known for its technological advances and political savvy, you'd have to bet that parents here would have very high expectations for their children. School systems and daycare institutions have met the challenge placed upon them by the intellect of Austin, offering a variety of education options for today's young knowledge seekers.



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CHILDCARE

AND PRESCHOOLS

One of the first challenges facing a relocating family is finding appropriate childcare.

Weighing the priorities of quality and cost along with finding an individual or a facility that you can trust is never an easy task.

When considering the possibilities for your child's care, the following seven step checklist might prove useful:

- * Look at all your options – nonprofit, church, and other community child care centers, private centers and company sponsored childcare.
- * Schedule a first visit.
- * Make an unannounced second visit.
- * Ask for names and phone numbers of other parents; call them and ask candid questions.
- * Check safety issues: cleanliness, cleaning supplies and utensils out of reach, furniture and toys in good shape, preparedness for emergencies, current medical records on all children.
- * Check staff qualifications and turnover rates.
- * Make sure the facility is licensed by the state.

Source: Southwestern Bell Consumer Information

Still unsure of tackling the childcare search on your own? The Austin area has several referral and guidance agencies that offer to help parents start their search. There are also a few drop-in childcare services that can assist you once you arrive in Austin.



Child Care Management Services

2538 S. Congress Avenue
(800) 825-1914

Family Connections

825 E. 53 1/2 St., Bldg. E, Ste. 101
(512) 327-7878

Extend-A-Care

After School Childcare
55 N. IH 35, P. O. Box 6308
(512) 472-9402

Austin Capital Grannies

4700 Balcones Woods Dr.
(512) 345-4577

Kid's Space

13376 Research Blvd.
512-918-2562

1401 South IH 35
512-444-7774

The Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services is the governing body responsible for licensure of childcare facilities. This agency suggests that one method of ensuring safety is for parents to follow up on a facilities licensure. The agency also warns that it is the parent that ultimately needs to accept the responsibility of inspecting their daycare facility on a regular basis, thereby catching possible problems before they occur.

Alternate options to daycare include private pre-schools. Dozens exist throughout town, all with differing teaching styles and program choices. The following is a selected few.

All Saints Episcopal Church

209 West 27th Street
512-472-8866

Butterfly Christian Preschool

3525 Bee Caves Road
512-327-6035

Covenant Presbyterian School

3003 Northland Drive
512-454-5231

Elsass Academy

4015 Bee Caves Road
512-327-0888

First Presbyterian Day School

8001 Mesa Drive
512-345-8961

Good Shepherd Episcopal School

2206 Exposition Blvd
512-476-4393

Highland Park Baptist Preschool

5206 Balcones Drive
512-453-6605

Hyde Park Baptist School

3901 Speedway
512-465-8383

Lakeway Church Christian Preschool

2203 Lakeway Blvd
512-261-6632

Montessori School of Lake Travis

13709 West Hwy 71
512-263-8050

Spicewood Country School

6102 Spicewood Springs Road
512-346-2992

St. Matthews Episcopal School

8134 Mesa Drive
512-345-3040

Tarrytown Baptist Children's Center

2600 Exposition Blvd
512-477-5851

**Tarrytown United Methodist Church/
Child's Day Out**

2601 Exposition Blvd
512-478-2276

The Children's School

2825 Hancock Drive
512-453-1126

Westminster Presbyterian Day School

3208 Exposition Blvd.
512-459-5062



AUSTIN PRIMARY

EDUCATION

Kindergarten through 12th grade experiences, arguably, can shape the future of a child. It is with that knowledge that area education providers, both public and private, have molded their curriculum in the hopes of providing as many opportunities as possible. With over 12 major school districts in the area and more than 60 private schools, regardless of your desired characteristics, you're bound to find a suitable source of education.

Public Schools

Austin's public school systems consistently rank among the top in the state. The area is home to award winning programs in athletics, drama and science. Several schools within each of the districts have been named State Blue Ribbon Schools and a few have even received the National Blue Ribbon designation. This honor is bestowed upon those schools meeting certain criteria, including attendance ratings, minimal student dropouts, rigorous curriculum, documented student achievement and excellence in teaching.

Local Independent School Districts

Austin ISD

1111 West 6th Street
(512) 414-1700

The largest of the Austin school districts, it has received national recognition as one of the leading urban districts. A district strong in both racial and economic diversity, year 2004-2005 enrollment surpassed 79,788. Facilities within the district include 74 elementary

schools, 17 middle schools and 12 high schools.

Del Valle ISD

5301 Ross #121, Del Valle
(512) 386-3000

Located in the Southeast countryside of Austin and Travis County, the Del Valle District serves approximately 7,667 students. Facilities include 6 elementary schools, 2 junior high

512-329-3600

One of the wealthiest in the state and one of the most sought after districts in the area, Eanes serves approximately 7,100 students and is well known for its high ratings for both pupils and teachers. The district has 6 elementary schools, 2 middle schools and 1 high school, 6 of which have been designated Blue Ribbon schools.



campus, 1 high school and 1 alternative school.

Dripping Springs ISD

510 West Mercer., Dripping Springs
(512) 858-4905

In Hays County, the town of Dripping Springs is located about 19 miles West of Austin. Though a small district of approximately 3,392 students, it scores among the highest in the area on Scholastic Aptitude Tests. High standards are set and gifted and talented programs are in place to assist in meeting those standards. Facilities include an elementary, 2 middle schools and 1 high school.

Eanes ISD

601 Camp Craft

Georgetown ISD

603 Lakeway Dr., Georgetown
512-863-6595

Located north of Austin, this district serves the small city of Georgetown and surrounding rural areas. In a town where the biggest draw is nearby Southwestern University, Georgetown's 8,800 students get the benefits of a small town philosophy and a University atmosphere. The district has 6 elementary schools, 3 middle schools, 1 high school and 1 alternative school.

Hays ISD

21003 IH 35, Kyle
512-268-2141

Known for an exemplary elementary reading program, this district has 7 elementary schools, 3 middle schools, and 1 high school.

Approximately 9,950 students attend from the communities of Buda, Kyle, Driftwood, Manchaca and surrounding rural areas.

Lake Travis ISD

3322 RR 620 South
(512) 533-6000

This district serves approximately 4,464 students from the southwestern side of Lake Travis including the Lakeway area. This area has grown considerably in the last two years, and the district has done a very good job keeping up with demand. Facilities include 4 elementary schools, 2 middle schools and 1 high school.

Leander ISD

P.O. Box 218, Leander
(512) 434-5000

Northwest Travis County and Southwest Williamson County residents attend Leander ISD schools. These areas include the towns of Leander, Cedar Park and Jonestown and amount to approximately 18,200 students, casting a 16:1 pupil to teacher ratio. A very sought after district, it's facilities include 14 elementary schools, 5 middle schools and 3 high schools.

Pflugerville ISD

1401 W. Pecan Street, Pflugerville
(512) 251-4159

One of the fastest growing districts in the Austin Metro area, Pflugerville is located just



15 minutes northeast of town. The district serves more than 16,575 students in its 11 elementary schools, 4 middle schools, 3 high

schools and an alternative learning center.

Round Rock ISD

1311 Round Rock Avenue, Round Rock
(512) 464-5000

Second in size only to Austin ISD, Round Rock educates approximately 35,000 students. Boasting several Texas and National Blue Ribbon campuses, this district has very high performance ratings for both its pupils and its parents. Community involvement is very much a staple of the teaching program. Currently, Round Rock has 27 elementary schools, 8 middle schools and 4 high schools, but expansion is already in the making.

Austin Area Private Schools

The Austin area's emphasis on quality learning has led to an abundant existence of diverse forums for education. In addition to the many public school districts found in the Austin area, there exist more than 50 private or parochial schools. These schools maintain a variety of curriculum focal points as well as educational approaches for children ranging in age from pre K to 12th grade. In 2000, the total enrollment for Austin area private schools was more than 11,000 with tuition ranging from \$300 per month to over \$22,000 per school year. Below, ranked by enrollment, are the highest attended private schools. (source: The Austin Chamber of Commerce and The Austin Business Journal).

Hyde Park Baptist Schools

3901 Speedway St., 78751
(512) 465-8331

K-12, over 700 students, \$5,950-\$8,000 per school year, Baptist, est. 1968

Brentwood Christian School

11908 N. Lamar, 78753
(512) 835-5983

PK-12, over 700 students, \$4,250-\$4,650 per school year, Church of Christ, est. 1963

St. Stephen's Episcopal School

2900 Bunny Run, 78746
(512) 327-1213

6-12, 649 students, \$15,900-\$17,300 per school year, Episcopalian, est. 1950

St. Andrew's Episcopal School

1112 W. 31st St., 78705 *lower class*
(512) 452-5779

5901 Southwest Parkway upper class 1-12, over 700 students, \$9,500-\$13,000 per school year, Episcopalian, est. 1952

Redeemer Lutheran School

1500 W. Anderson Lane, 78757
(512) 451-6478

PK-8, 489 students, \$2,350-\$3,750 per school year, Lutheran, est. 1955

St. Louis Catholic School

2114 St. Joseph Blvd., 78757
(512) 454-0384

PK-8, 456 students, \$4,095-\$4,736 per school year, Catholic, est. 1956

St. Michael's Academy

3000 Barton Creek Blvd., 78735
(512) 328-2323

9-12, 430 students, \$9,230 per school year, Catholic, est. 1984

Round Rock Christian Academy

301 N. Lake Creek Drive
Round Rock, 78681

(512) 255-4491

PK-12, 363 students, \$2,700-\$4,795 per school year, Baptist, est. 1976

Regents School of Austin

3230 Travis Country Circle, 78735
(512) 899-8095

K-12, 600 students, \$7,430-\$8,970 per school year, nondenominational, est. 1992

San Marcos Baptist Academy

2801 RR 12, San Marcos, 78666
(512) 353-2400/800-428-5120

6-12, 330 students, \$6,787-\$22,750 per school year, boarding available, Baptist, est. 1907

Austin Waldorf School

8700 Southview Road, 78737
(512) 288-5942

PK-12, 360 students, \$3,740-\$6,325 per school year, nondenominational, est. 1980

St. Francis School

300 E. Huntland Dr., 78752
512-454-0848

PK-8, 335 students, \$5,300-\$7,150 per school year, nondenominational, est. 1985

St. Theresa's School

4311 Small Dr., 78731
(512) 451-7105

PK-8, 400 students, \$4,350-\$5,450 per school year, Catholic, est. 1986

The Children's School

2825 Hancock Dr., 78731

(512) 453-1126

PK, 2-5, 200 students, \$4,000-\$6,500 per school year, montessori based curriculum, none, est. 1979

Twin Lakes Fellowship

1150 S. Bell Blvd., Cedar Park, 78613

(512) 258-0080

K-12, 230 students, \$2,800-\$3,350 per school year, Independent Baptist, est. 1980

Strickland School

7415 Manchaca Rd., 78745

(512) 447-1447

PK-8, 230 students, \$2,450-\$3,245 per school year, nondenominational, est. 1964

St. Austin's School

1911 San Antonio St., 78705

(512) 477-3751

K-8, 244 students, \$4,050 - \$5,800 per school year, Catholic, est. 1917

St. Mary's Cathedral School

910 San Jacinto Blvd. 78701

(512) 476-1480

PK, 3-8, 206 students, \$4,300-\$4,600 per school year, Catholic, est. 1866

St. Paul Lutheran School

3407 Red River St., 78705

(512) 472-3313

PK-8, 180 students, \$3,630-\$4,760 per school year, Lutheran, est. 1893

Kirby Hall School

306 West 29th St., 78705

(512) 474-1770

K-12, 161 students, \$4,820-\$6,900 per school year, Christian, est. 1976

St. Martin's Lutheran School

606 West 15th St., 78701

(512) 476-4037

18 mos-K, 125 students, \$7,020-\$8,820 per school year, Evangelical Lutheran, est. 1962

Christ Community Christian School

8210 S. First St., 78701

(512) 282-4263

PK-12, 30 students, \$3,500 - \$4,100 per school year, Christian, est. 1982

Summitt Christian School

2121 Cypress Creek Rd., 78613

(512) 259-4416

PK4-12, 350 students, \$3,000-\$4,570 per school year, nondenominational, est. 2002

HIGHER LEARNING



Once named one of the top five intellectual capitals in the nation by Fortune Magazine, Austin, Texas has many area institutions dedicated to furthering the development of the adult mind. It is estimated that over 100,000 local individuals are enrolled in one or more of the area colleges or universities, with over half of that number attending the University of Texas. The appetite Austin residents have for learning never seems to diminish, and the quality of education the immediate area has to offer only fuels that desire, adding to the quality and richness of life found by those who call Austin home.

In order of size:

The University of Texas at Austin

Office of the Registrar
Main Bldg., Room 1 & 16, 78712
(512) 475-7575
UT Austin means many things to many people. It claims status as being the flagship institution of the University of Texas System, as well as the nation's largest single campus university with a 2004-2005 enrollment of 48,000, and UT-Austin is also the largest employer in the city with more than 21,000 workers. Academic programs consist of 15 colleges and schools, the Graduate School and the Division of Continuing Education, which together offer more than 100 undergraduate degree programs, 170 graduate programs and 50 honors programs. Highlights of the UT-Austin education programs include 10 doctoral programs being ranked among the best in the nation, the fifth largest academic library on campus and excellent faculty with scores of prestigious awards including Nobel Prizes, Pulitzer Prizes, the National Medal of Science and many others. Distinguished alumni include Lady Bird Johnson, Walter Cronkite, Bill Moyers, Federico Pena and Lloyd Bentsen.

Austin Community College

5930 Middle Fiskville Road
(512) 223-7000

ACC offers a wide range of courses catering to diverse segments of the Austin population. More than 26,000 students attend seven permanent campuses scattered around the city, while another 15,000 students are enrolled in noncredit courses. Programs include two-year associate degrees and one-year certificates in 137 majors. Students' choices include 66 applied sciences, 16 arts, 14 sciences and 41 college credit certificates. ACC continues to grow and develop while consistently receiving high praise for the quality of the curriculum combined with the ease of enrollment and affordability of its tuition.

Texas State University

601 University Drive., San Marcos
(512) 245-2111

A short 35 mile drive south of Austin, in the town of San Marcos sits this public, four year university which also happens to be the alma mater of former President Lyndon Johnson. Southwest Texas State provides its current enrollment of more than 20,000 students with 105 undergraduate majors and 88 graduate programs. Major areas of study include teacher education, liberal arts, fine arts, business and health care training. Recently, Southwest Texas State opened a satellite campus in Round Rock at the Westwood High Community School.

St. Edward's University

3001 South Congress Avenue
(512) 448-8400

Created in 1873 as a primary school, St. Edward's started its first year of instruction with only 3 pupils. Now a historical landmark, this private Roman Catholic university currently offers graduate and undergraduate degrees to a little more than 3100 students. It is a liberal arts school whose undergraduate curriculum has been deemed among the most rigorous in the nation by the Carnegie Foundation. Students here can choose from over 30 different undergraduate degree programs as well as graduate programs in business administration and human services.

Southwestern University

1001 E. University Ave., Georgetown
(512) 863-6511

Considered by many to be one of the best unknown universities in the nation, Southwestern University holds the distinction of being the first institution of higher learning in Texas. This private, four year University has received high praise for its liberal arts programs, it's academic excellence and it's adherence to high admissions standards. Enrollment is little more than 1,200 undergraduate students, the majority pursuing majors in humanities, natural sciences, social sciences and fine arts.

Concordia University at Austin

3400 N. IH- 35
(512) 486-2000

This private university is owned by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, however the enrollment, just under 800, is made up of those from diverse Christian and non-Christian backgrounds alike. The Austin campus is one of 10 across the nation and offers 16 majors in business, education and liberal arts along with pre-professional programs in dentistry, law, medicine and the seminary. Concordia also has an adult degree program, which includes evening and televised courses.

Huston-Tillotson College

900 Chicon Street
(512) 505-3000

Located in East Austin on 23 acres of rolling hills that overlook downtown, Huston-Tillotson College serves approximately 650 students from diverse ethnic backgrounds. Courses offered are housed under five divisions: business, natural sciences, social sciences, humanities and education. The college has notable programs in chemistry, African-American studies, sociology, biology and teacher preparations. Historically an African-American college, and the city of Austin's oldest institution of higher learning, the Huston-Tillotson of today is a center for cultural and community involvement for the majority of Austin's east side neighborhoods.

