

NEW MEMBER APPLICATION



REVISED 2.27.24

Welcome to the ACEL!

Thank you for considering membership into the Association of Christian Educators of Louisiana. The ACEL purposes to bring honor and glory to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ through athletic, artistic, and academic competition, and to foster Christian leadership and fellowship among our students. The ACEL represents approximately 30 Christian private schools and Christian homeschool organizations, located in 20+ cities throughout Louisiana and is comprised of an estimated 1000 students and their families.

The ACEL Executive board and I look forward to getting to know you and your organization in the coming weeks. If you have any questions don't hesitate to email me at admin@theacel.com or you may call 337-366-1394.

Blessings,
Sandra Merrow
Executive Director, ACEL



THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOU APPLY

GET FAMILIAR WITH THE ACEL

Please spend some time reviewing our website at theacel.com. From the website you will be able to gain a good sense of the sports that the ACEL currently offers and the number of teams participating in each sport. Current year athletic dates are available for download from the homepage. These dates are relatively the same each year and will give you a good idea of yearly due dates and the length of seasons.

READ THE ACEL RULES

The standing rules for the ACEL are available for download under the Rules tab of the website at theacel.com. Please make sure to review these rules and to ask any questions that you may have before applying or at your application interview. The ACEL defaults to NFHS rules in areas not covered by ACEL standing rules or the sport plan published yearly for each sport.

READ THE ACEL NEW ORGANIZATION BROCHURE

Please read the ACEL New Organization brochure available for download from the downloads section of the ACEL website containing details that new ACEL organizations need to know for a successful ACEL season.

COST OF ACEL MEMBERSHIP

An application fee of \$100 is due with your ACEL member application and is non-refundable. Once an ACEL member, there is a yearly membership fee of \$300 per organization. In addition to the membership fee, each varsity sport in which you participate is \$250 and each JV sport is \$150 (Jv track is \$250) due at the commitment deadline for each sport.

Please be aware that membership in the ACEL does require travel to away games. The amount of travel is dependent on the number of teams participating in each sport. Be prepared to travel 3-4 hours for a few away games during the regular season.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE 2024-25 ACADEMIC YEAR

April 30, 2024: Membership Fees for Due
8-Man Football Commitments Due
Boys and Girls Volleyball Commitments Due

April 17, 2024: Applications for New ACEL Members Due (for those competing in football or volleyball)


May 15, 2024: Applications for New ACEL Members Due (for those not competing in football or volleyball)

May 16, 2024: 8-Man Football and Volleyball Schedules Released

August 5, 2024: Annual ACEL Membership Meeting

Week of August 7: 8-Man Football and Volleyball regular seasons begin

(The complete 2024-25 ACEL calendar will be available on the website by April 30, 2024)



ACEL MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS

FULL MEMBERS

Current member organizations in good standing eligible for regular season league play, playoffs, and state championship play. Representatives of full member organizations may serve on the ACEL executive board, committees of the executive board, and as sports commissioners.

PROBATIONARY MEMBERS

Member organizations in good standing eligible for regular season league play, but ineligible for playoffs, state championship play, or representation on all-district/ all-state teams. Probationary members are subject to the one-year assessment period as stated in ACEL Rule 2.2 at the end of which they may apply for full membership. All newly accepted organizations are admitted as probationary members. Full members may be placed on probationary status at the sole discretion of the ACEL executive board.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Current member organization in good standing eligible for regular season league play, playoffs, and state championship play. Associate members have proven themselves by interview to be compatible with the purpose of the ACEL but do not state in their by-laws a doctrinal Christian position. Representatives of associate member organizations may serve on committees of the ACEL executive board and as sports commissioners.

ALL NEW ACEL MEMBERS ARE PROBATIONARY MEMBERS



ACEL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

ORGANIZATIONS APPLYING FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS OF LOUISIANA (ACEL) MEMBERSHIP MUST SUPPLY THE FOLLOWING:

- Submit a completed Membership Application Form along with the \$100 non-refundable new member application fee.
- Write a “Letter of Intent to Join” which includes both the history of your organization and why your organization is a good fit for the ACEL.
- Submit at least 3 letters of recommendation from other teams, pastors, and/or schools or associations; preferably teams in the ACEL.
- Provide references from previous leagues and/or athletic associations, if applicable. Two references shall be provided by the applicant for every league and/or association of participation within the last five years.
- Interview with the ACEL Executive Board.

These documents shall be submitted to the ACEL Board of Directors for review. The ACEL Board of Directors will contact the references provided by the applicant. After contacting references, the ACEL Executive Director will schedule an interview between the applicant and the ACEL Executive board. The applicant will be notified by the ACEL Executive Director of the status of their application within the week following the interview.

If selected as a new member, an organization’s membership will become effective May 1 with yearly membership fees due at that time.



ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS OF LOUISIANA

Membership Application Form
(Please type or print information)

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Academic Year for which you are applying: _____

Organization's Type (check one):

☐ Private School

☐ Homeschool

Organization's Current Total Enrollment:

K – 6: _____ 7 – 8: _____ 9 – 12: _____

Number of students expected to participate on ACEL teams per grade level:

K – 6: _____ 7 – 8: _____ 9 – 12: _____

Principal's Name: _____

Email address: _____

Phone number: _____

Athletic Director's Name: _____

Email address: _____

Phone number: _____

ACEL MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION

Check all sports in which your organization is interested in participating in for the athletic year in which you are applying: (Each sport is offered based on proper amount of participation)

__8-Man Football

__Varsity Softball

__JV Girls Volleyball

__JV Girls Track*

__Varsity Girls Volleyball

__Varsity Girls Track*

__Varsity Boys Volleyball

__JV Boys Track*

__JV Boys Basketball

__Varsity Boys Track*

__Varsity Boys Basketball

__JV Girls Cross Country*

__JV Girls Basketball

__Varsity Girls Cross Country*

__Varsity Girls Basketball

__JV Boys Cross Country*

__JV Coed Soccer

__Varsity Boys Cross Country*

__Varsity Coed Soccer

__Tennis*

__Varsity Baseball

* SINGLE ATHLETES MAY COMPETE IN JV AND VARSITY IN THESE SPORTS WITH DISCOUNTED RATES AVAILABLE FOR 1-9 ATHLETES. TEAMS START AT 10 ATHLETES.

COMMENTS: _____

Please email all application documents to admin@theacel.com or you may mail them to the ACEL, PO Box 8731, Shreveport, LA 71148. Please make your check for the \$100 application fee payable to the ACEL. The application fee may also be paid online under the payment tab of the ACEL website.

