

Project for

Alternative

Learning



Application



Project for Alternative Learning (PAL)

815 Front Street, Helena, MT 59601

(406) 324-1630 Fax: (406) 324-1631

Charting a New Course

Welcome to PAL. Taking the step to apply for the program means you have decided to make your education a priority. If accepted, you agree to uphold and support the philosophy, curriculum, benchmarks, policy and procedures in place for the program. We use a multi-faceted educational model that works best when students are motivated and are accountable for their learning. Please take some time to review these ideas as you move through the application.

At PAL, we enroll families. We look for families with a spirit of community, a willingness to build relationships based on trust, and students who will enrich life within our school environment. Parents are an integral part of our school and they will be asked to remain committed to their child's education.

If you and your family want this kind of learning experience, please take time to fill out an application and return it to your guidance counselor at your home school or to PAL.

I thank you in advance for taking the time to apply to PAL and taking the step to make your education a priority.

Matt Carey, Principal

PAL Mission

The mission of PAL is to facilitate academic growth through career exploration and cross-curricular activities within a diverse learning community.

Student Statement of Philosophy - TARPIT

Tolerance-Acceptance-Respect-Pride-Individuality-Trust

This is our school, a place of knowledge, tolerance, respect and understanding. We welcome the people who want to be here and we invite them to share in our unique learning community. We are unique individuals and allow individuals to be unique. We work together not only to listen, but to hear what each other has to say and to respect and learn from our differences.

Application Process

At PAL we want to engage students and their families in all aspects of the application, admission and education process. In order to apply for PAL, students and their parent(s) and/or guardian(s) must complete the following steps with the assistance of your home school guidance counselor:

CHS guidance: 324-2500

HHS guidance: 324-2200

Step 1: Attend a PAL information meeting. Home school guidance office has handout with dates and times (can also pick up at PAL). Attending an information meeting gives you a chance to understand more about our school culture and learning environment.

Step 2: Complete the following sections of the application and return to your guidance counselor:

___ Part 1 *Application for Admission* completed by student and parent.

___ Part 2 *Student Questionnaire* completed by student.

___ Part 3 *Parent Questionnaire* completed by parent/guardian.

___ *Part 4 *Teacher/Counselor Referrals* completed by high school staff familiar with the applicant's academic, social and/or emotional history.

* To be completed by the high school counselor.

Step 3: Following the initial application screening, you may be invited for an interview with the principal, counselor and teacher to ensure PAL is the right for you and your family. You will receive a phone call setting up the meeting date and time.

Step 4: When notified of acceptance into PAL you will need to:

A) Start the process of turning in material/books to your current school;

B) Make arrangements for transportation to PAL;

C) Expect a home visit with two PAL staff to be scheduled prior to the first day of the quarter. The date/time will be agreed on by the family and PAL staff;

D) Be prepared to attend a 1-hour student and parent orientation meeting on day 1 of the quarter you have been accepted.

Return all materials to your school guidance counselor.

If you have questions, contact your guidance counselor or:

The Project for Alternative Learning (PAL)

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Part 1

Application for Admission

Current Date: _____

Full Name: _____
Last First M.I.

Address: _____
Number Street

City or Town State Zip Code

Home Phone/Cell _____ E-Mail _____

Sex M F Date of Birth ___/___/___ Place of Birth _____

Current School: Helena High Capital High Current Grade: _____

Elementary School(s) _____

Middle School(s) _____

High School Counselor: _____ School Therapist: _____

Private Counselor or Therapist: _____

Do you have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)? Yes No 504 Plan? Yes No

If yes, who is your Case Manager? _____

Applicant lives with: Both Parents Mother Father Legal Guardian

Full Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

(circle)
Name _____ Parent, Guardian, other explain _____
Best Phone Number _____ cell, home, work
Alternate Number _____ cell, home, work

(circle)
Name _____ Parent, Guardian, other explain _____
Best Phone Number _____ cell, home, work
Alternate Number _____ cell, home, work

Part 3

Parent Reasons for Student Coming to PAL

1. Why do you want your student to be enrolled in school at PAL?
(use complete sentences)

2. What do you see as your responsibility with regards to your student's education?
What are you willing to do to ensure the success of your student at PAL?
(use complete sentences)

3. Do you feel your student has special need for extended services?
Academic _____ Social _____ Emotional _____

If my student is selected, I, as a parent/guardian, agree to take part in developing and participating in the educational program of my son/daughter throughout his/her high school career.

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Date: _____



Project for Alternative Learning (PAL)

Teacher Referral Form

Teacher _____

Class _____

School _____

Date _____

_____ is applying for admission to PAL. Please take some time to provide information concerning their potential success.

Has the student had success in your class? (We would be interested in academic progress, peer interaction, learning styles, behavior in class, parental involvement)

Do you think placement at PAL would be successful? What comments would you give to staff to help teach this student?

Do barriers exist in this student's life need to be addressed in order for their education to be optimal? What are those barriers?

Thank you,
PAL Staff

Return to your School Guidance Counselor By: _____