

Admission: Lottery Policy

Effective Date: May 8, 2020

Policy:

Admission to the Charter School requires a commitment from both students and parents to the goals and vision of the JCS Family of Charter Schools. All prospective students and their parents or guardians must complete an enrollment application before admission. The Charter Schools shall actively recruit a diverse student population who understands and values the School's mission and are committed to its instructional and operational philosophy. As such, the Schools will be open to any TK-12 grade students who wish to attend. (JCS Pine Hills and JCS Manzanita are currently K-12.) The Schools student demographics will be reflective of the general population residing within the County.

Each year the Board shall establish the maximum capacity of the Charter Schools, in accordance with Education Code Section 47605.6(e)(2)(B). The Schools shall admit all students who wish to attend the Charter Schools. In accordance with Education Code Section 51747.3, students must be residents of the authorizing county or an adjacent county (e.g., San Bernardino County, Orange County, Imperial County, and San Diego County).

If the number of students who wish to attend the program/facility exceeds capacity, the program shall hold a public random drawing (or "lottery") to determine admission for the impacted grade level, with the exception of existing students, who are guaranteed admission in the following school year. In the event of a lottery, admission preference is given to students in the following order: (1) Currently enrolled students of the school; (2) Siblings of currently enrolled students in the program or school; (3) Employees' children; (4) Students in the network; (5) Siblings of students in the network; (6) Residents of the county.

In accordance with Education Code Sections 49011 and 47605.6(e)(2)(B)(iv), admission preferences shall not require mandatory parental volunteer hours as a criterion for admission or continued enrollment. The Schools and the authorizers agree to adhere to the requirements related to admission preferences as set forth in Education Code Section 47605.6(e)(2)(B)(i)-(iv).

The Board of Directors will take all necessary efforts to ensure lottery procedures are fairly executed. In the event of a lottery, spaces are pulled in order of grade level by the designated lottery official (appointed by the Executive Director or Principal). Separate lotteries shall be conducted for each grade in which there are fewer vacancies than pupils interested in attending. All lotteries shall take place on the same day in a single location. Lotteries will be conducted in ascending order beginning with the lowest applicable grade level. There is no weighted priority assigned to the preference categories; rather, within each grade level, students will be drawn from pools beginning with all applicants who qualify for the first preference category and shall continue with that preference category until all vacancies within that grade level have been filled. If there are more students in a preference category than there are spaces available, a random drawing will be held from within that preference group until all available spaces are filled. If all students from the preference category have been selected and there are remaining spaces available in that grade level, students from the second preference category will be drawn in the lottery, and the drawing shall continue until all spaces are filled and preference categories are exhausted in the order provided above.

Public random drawing rules, deadlines, dates and times will be communicated in the application form and on the Charter Schools' website. Public notice for the date and time of the public random drawing will also be posted once the application deadline has passed. The Charter Schools will also inform all applicants and interested parties of the rules to be followed during the public random drawing process via mail or email prior to the lottery date. Students selected through the lottery process have thirty (30) days to enroll. The Charter Schools shall then proceed to offer enrollment to the next student on the waiting list created through the lottery process. After the school year has begun, applications for enrollment continue to be accepted and date/time stamped on a rolling basis, with students accepted for enrollment on the basis of available capacity. In accordance with Education Code Section 47605.6(e)(2)(C), the School makes every reasonable attempt to accommodate all the students who wish to attend until it is determined the program is full for the year. The Charter Schools shall be secular in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations, and does not discriminate against any student on the basis of ethnicity, national origin, gender, gender expression, gender identity, disability, or upon any of the characteristics listed in Education Code Section 220. The Charter Schools shall comply with all laws establishing minimum and maximum age for public school attendance.