**The Exploris School**

**STUDENTS**

Lottery Selection

As required by G.S. 115C-29F(g)(6): During each period of enrollment, the charter school shall enroll an eligible student who submits a timely application, unless the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or building. If there are more applications than spaces, the available spaces will be awarded by public lottery.  Once enrolled, students are not required to reapply in subsequent enrollment periods; however, students who are placed on the waiting list must reapply for the lottery in subsequent school years.

Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a charter school may refuse admission to any student who has been expelled or suspended from a public school under G.S. 115C‑390.5 through G.S. 115C‑390.11 until the period of suspension or expulsion has expired.

Enrollment Application Time Period

Requested applications for the upcoming school are available on the school’s website, and can be mailed or electronically sent upon request, beginning in November through the  time the lottery enrollment closes the first Friday of February of the proceeding school year. Any applications received after the close of business on the first Friday in February will be placed on the waiting list in order of receipt.

Lottery Process

Applications for enrollment will be made available from November through February.  All applications must be received by the first Friday in February in order to be considered for the school’s lottery. The Lottery is conducted on the first Friday of March.  The date and location are made public so that anyone may attend. The lottery is conducted by the organization’s Director and certified by an outside, unbiased volunteer. Following the lottery, parents are notified of their acceptance.  Upon filling all the available positions, the lottery continues through the entire pool of applicants to establish a waiting list.

Any student receiving a seat either through the initial lottery or through the wait list will have a limited time to accept or decline the seat and, if offered the seat prior to the first day of school, must be present beginning the first day of school. Should a parent decline a spot, the open position will be offered to the next chronological applicant on the waiting list and these guidelines will apply. Outlined below are the time limitations to accept or decline a seat:

* **From date of posting lottery results until June 1**: 1 week to accept or decline a seat for the next school year and submit required enrollment paperwork
* **From June 2 - to the first day of the new school year:** 48 hours to accept or decline a seat for the upcoming school year and submit required enrollment  paperwork
* After the first day of a current school year: 48 hours to accept or decline a seat for the current school year

Parents/Guardians must return all enrollment materials required within the time limit set above to accept your seat at The Exploris School.  Should an applicant decline enrollment, or fail to submit the required enrollment materials by the deadline, the slot will be offered to the next student on the wait list, and the wait list will be updated accordingly.  If we do not receive your completed registration packet materials by the time allowed, families will be contacted by phone or email to inquire as to the status of your materials and your intent to enroll. If we do not hear back from you or you decline enrollment, your spot will be offered to the next applicant on the waiting list.

**YOUR CHILD MUST BE IN ATTENDANCE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.** If your child is not in school on the first day of school your seat will be offered to the next student on the wait list.

Lottery Preference

The charter school shall not discriminate against any student on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual identity, gender, gender identity or expression, or disability. Except as otherwise provided by law or the mission of the school as set out in the charter, the school shall not limit admission to students on the basis of intellectual ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, or athletic ability.

Siblings of already enrolled students, children of all full-time employees, and children of the school’s Board of Directors will receive priority enrollment in the following manner~~:~~

Lottery Priorities

Children of current staff and siblings are given priority over children of board members.  Should a full-time staff member be hired after the annual lottery has occurred, space will be made available for said staff member’s children for the upcoming school year.  Children of Board members are given lowest preference.  If there are fewer available spots than the number of priority applicants, then a separate lottery is held for applicants with priority status in the following order:

1. Children of current eligible staff
2. Siblings of currently enrolled students
3. Children of current Board members

* **Siblings:** It is the intent of Exploris to support whole families and create school community.  All families with siblings of currently enrolled students must submit an application. Siblings of enrolled students will receive priority for admission during the lottery process if their applications are received by the designated deadline.
  + If siblings apply for admission to a charter school for the upcoming school year and a lottery is needed under G.S. 115C-238.29F(g)(6), the charter school will enter one surname into the lottery to represent all of the siblings applying at the same time. If the surname of the siblings is selected, then all of the siblings shall be admitted to the extent that space is available and does not exceed the grade level capacity. Should the sibling’s requested grade level be full, the sibling’s name will receive priority status on the waiting list.
  + If multiple birth siblings apply for admission to a charter school and a lottery is needed under G.S. 115C-238.29F(g)(6), the charter school shall may enter one surname into the lottery to represent all of the multiple birth siblings. If the surname of the multiple birth siblings is selected, then all of the multiple birth siblings shall be admitted.
* **Employees and Board of Directors:** Exploris will limit to no more than 15% of the school’s total enrollment priority admission to children of full-time employees and the charter school’s Board of Directors

*Transportation*

Parents or guardians of a student accepted under this enrollment policy will be responsible for transporting their child(ren) or ward(s).

Legal Reference: Article 14A of Chapter 115C, **G.S. 115C-218**

Adopted: 11/19/13

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