

Endeavor Charter School Policies and Procedures

Title: Lottery Admission Policy
Approved: May 17, 2022
History: 9/4/2017 12/8/2014 5/29/2009 2/17/2018

POLICY STATEMENT

Endeavor Charter School (“ECS”) is a tuition-free public school. Any child who is qualified under the laws of North Carolina for admission to a public school is qualified for admission to ECS. To qualify to attend a North Carolina public school, a student must be a resident of North Carolina. County boundaries or school attendance areas do not affect a student’s eligibility to attend ECS. ECS does not limit admission to students on the basis of intellectual ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, athletic ability, disability, race, creed gender, national origin, religion, or ancestry.

ECS is authorized to give enrollment priority to certain students as provided by North Carolina General Statute §115C-218.45(f). The enrollment priorities recognized by ECS at this time include the following:

1. First, ECS will admit children of the school’s employees (not to exceed 15% of the total enrollment) at the time of hire.
2. Second, ECS will admit the children of currently active members of the Board of Directors that have served on the Board for a period of time greater than six months prior to the Enrollment Priority Lottery (commonly referred to as sibling lottery).
3. Third, ECS will admit the siblings of currently enrolled students admitted to the school in a previous year. “Siblings” is defined to include half siblings, step siblings, and children residing in foster homes.
4. Fourth, ECS will admit children of currently active members of the Board of Directors that have served on the Board for a period of time less than six months prior to the Enrollment Priority Lottery (commonly referred to as sibling lottery). If the Board Member's children are also siblings of currently enrolled students, the sibling will instead qualify for sibling priority above.
5. Fifth, ECS will readmit those students who have attended ECS within the prior two years if their departure from the school was due to (a) participation in an academic student abroad program or competitive admission residential program or (b) vocational opportunities of the students’ parents.
6. Sixth, ECS will admit the siblings of ECS graduates, so long as that graduate attended ECS for at least four years (that is 5th through 8th grade).

These priorities are followed in order and are provided only when space is available for the student(s) in question.

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During each period of enrollment, ECS will accept applications for new students. Applicants whose applications are received after the application period deadline will be placed on the bottom of the wait list. Once enrolled, students are not required to enroll in subsequent enrollment periods. In order to properly plan, the school will routinely make inquiries of parents in the early spring through letters of intent to ascertain if students are available at the ECS office and on the ECS website. If needed, the application will be mailed or emailed to the parent of a prospective student.

The application period for enrollment priority students will begin on or about mid-late November of each year and end no less than thirty (30) days later. The application period for the general public will begin each year towards the beginning of January and end no less than thirty (30) days later. After each application period, ECS shall enroll for the upcoming school year any eligible students who submit an application, unless the total number of applicants during the applicable applications exceeds capacity, a lottery will be held at the conclusion of each application period to fill any vacant seats for the upcoming school year. After the seats are filled, the drawing will continue to determine the order of the waiting list. The lottery for priority enrollment students shall happen on the last day of second quarter each year. The lottery for the general public shall happen towards the middle of February each year.

From the public lottery date until July 1, the family of a child offered a seat at Endeavor Charter School must notify the school of their decision to accept the seat within four days or 96 hours. From July 1 until the first day of the student school year, families must notify the school of their decision to accept the seat within two days or 48 hours. If a family does not contact the school within the allotted time, their child will be removed from the list and the seat will be offered to the next child on that grade level's wait list.

Days 1 through 20 Attendance Policy

Students not in attendance for any grade level by 12:00 pm on Day 1 of a school year the student will be withdrawn and the next student on the wait list will be contacted and offered admission. The process excludes those with a prior approved absence for Day 1 from the ECS Board of Directors. In the event a student must be absent due to illness or injury on Day 1, the student must present documentation from a physician or advanced practice provider of illness preventing attendance.

Families offered admission from the waitlist will have 24 hours to accept admission, and students will be expected to attend school on Day 2 by 12:00 pm or on Day 3 by 9:00 am.

Enrollment Appeal - A parent/guardian may appeal the withdrawal of a student from Endeavor Charter School due to failure to meet the attendance policy as stated above. A written appeal must be emailed to the Director by 5:00 pm on the day after the notification of the withdrawal. The Director reserves the right to grant or deny re-enrollment based on the merits of the appeal.

Beginning with lotteries for the 2015-2016 school year and continuing forward, current year waiting lists for the general public are only valid until 12 noon of the 20th day of the school year for which the student applied. After 12 noon, the general public wait list will expire and no seats will be filled from the general public wait list for the remainder of the school year. Enrollment priority waiting lists for the current year are valid only until 12 noon on the last day of the school year for which the student applied. Enrollment for students admitted from the priority wait lists for the upcoming school year will become effective at 8 am the day immediately following the last day of the current school year.

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In the event that multiple birth siblings apply for admission to ECS and a lottery is needed, ECS will enter one lottery number into the lottery to represent all of the multiple birth siblings applying at the same time. If that lottery number of the multiple birth siblings is selected, then all the multiple birth siblings shall be admitted.

Lottery procedures will comply with the North Carolina Open Meetings law provided in North Carolina General Statute § 143-318.10. ECS will publicize that date, time and location of the lottery, and all persons are allowed to attend.

Grade Placement Provision

We assess all new students for grade placement. If we determine a child is not appropriately placed for the grade level for which he/she entered the lottery, the school reserves the right to place the student in the appropriate grade level at which the student is performing as long as a seat is available. If there is not a seat available in the adjusted grade level, the student will be placed at the bottom of the wait list for the appropriate grade level.