

ADMISSION

Eligibility

All students applying to this charter school shall be registered in their home public school district. Students being home schooled, attending private school, transferring into the district or otherwise not registered, shall register in their public school prior to enrollment. All New Jersey public school districts shall admit and register to its schools free of charge the following persons over five and under 20 years of age:

- A. Any student domiciled within the district;
- B. Any student kept in the home of a person other than the student's parent/guardian, where the person is domiciled in the school district and is supporting the student without remuneration as if the student were his/her own child;
- C. Any student kept in the home of a person domiciled in the district, other than the parent/guardian, where the parent/guardian is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or the reserve component of the United States armed forces and has been ordered into active military service in the United States armed forces in time of war or national emergency;
- D. Any student whose parent/guardian temporarily resides within the district, notwithstanding the existence of a domicile elsewhere;
- E. Any student whose parent/guardian moves to another district as the result of being homeless, subject to the provisions of administrative code;
- F. Any student placed in the home of a district resident by court order pursuant to statute;
- G. Any student previously residing in the district if the parent/guardian is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or the United States reserves and has been ordered to active service in time of war or national emergency pursuant to statute; and
- H. Any student residing on federal property within the state pursuant to statute.

Residents who reside in the district of residence or region and meet the above criteria shall apply for admission to this charter school and receive preference.

Proof of Eligibility

The board shall accept any of the forms of documentation that are listed in the administrative code when they are presented by persons attempting to demonstrate a student's eligibility for enrollment in the school. The board shall consider the totality of information and documentation offered by an applicant and may accept other forms of documentation or information presented by a person seeking to enroll a student.

The board shall not require or request any information or document protected from disclosure by law or pertaining to criteria that are not legitimate bases for determining eligibility to attend school.

ADMISSION (continued)

Lottery Selection Process

The charter school shall ensure random selection of prospective students by conducting lotteries annually in January. Students may apply for admission to this charter school year round.

Enrollment priority shall be given to siblings of students enrolled in the school. Sibling shall be defined as a brother or sister living in the same household of the sibling student. The application process must be followed and deadlines must be met. Acceptance of siblings shall be automatic when all documentation is received by the stated deadline and space is available in the appropriate grade.

All other students applying for admission to the charter school shall be selected by a random lottery process in accordance with New Jersey Charter School law. Students who are selected in the lottery and are enrolled in the charter school will be guaranteed a classroom placement for the term of their attendance through grade twelve.

New Jersey students who do not live within the district of residence or region may apply for admission. A lottery shall be held only when space is available and after all interested students who reside in the district of residence or region have been enrolled.

Waiting List

When all available spaces in the school are filled, two waiting lists will be kept:

- A. A district of residence or region waiting list; and
- B. A non-resident waiting list.

Each list shall be comprised of applicants selected by lottery and listed in the order in which the name was drawn. As space becomes available students will be contacted and offered admission in the order in which their names appears on the list. Students from the district of residence or region and siblings of existing students shall be offered admission first. Nonresidents shall be offered admission when there are no resident applicants for the space available.

All school waiting lists shall expire annually and all waiting applicants subject to reapplication.

Enrollment

The school business administrator, in conjunction with the lead person, shall annually, in accordance with state requirements, file with the commissioner a report certifying the numbers of students enrolled by grade; students in approved programs, as defined by statute/code; students enrolled in public or private schools to which the board is paying tuition; and students receiving home instruction.

Transfers

Students transferring into the school are expected to present copies of records from the previously attended school to aid in placement. Also required are proof of immunizations and proof of identity.

Within the time prescribed by law, the lead administrator shall request in writing from the school of previous attendance, the student's records.

Initial placement shall be made on the basis of the records, but adjustment may be made at the discretion of the administration when the state-mandated assessment indicates that such adjustments would be beneficial to the child. Parents/guardians shall be informed of this policy on registration.

ADMISSION (continued)

Joint Custody

When divorced parents/guardians have joint custody of (a) minor child(ren), admission shall be based on the present address of the parent/guardian with whom the child(ren) resided as of the date required by administrative code.

Affidavit Students

When there is any doubt as to whether a child is entitled to free public education in the school, all procedures of law and code shall be followed.

Nonresidents

A nonresident is any child who does not reside within the district of residence or region.

The admission of any child who does not reside within the district of residence or region is subject to the availability of space and the participation in the non-resident lottery. No child otherwise eligible shall be denied admission on the basis of the child’s race, creed, color, national origin, gender, or disability.

Students Returning from County Detention

The school shall accept all days of attendance and courses studied by a student at a county juvenile detention center and apply them toward school requirements.

Homeless Students

This charter school shall work in cooperation with the district boards of education within the district of residence or region in determining the educational placement of homeless students that is in each child's best interest and respond to appeals concerning them made by parents/guardians or other parties in accordance with New Jersey statutes and administrative code, as well as, pertinent federal law.

The board shall make this policy available to parents and the public.

Adopted: January 7, 2015

Key Words

Admission, Resident, Student Records, Affidavit Student, Homeless Student, Student Records, Affidavit Student, Homeless Student

<u>Legal References:</u>	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:7B-12	District of residence; determination
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:7B-12.1	Homeless child; responsibility for education; determination of placement; payment of costs
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:7C	High School Graduation Standards
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:36-19a	Newly enrolled students; records and identification
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:36-25.1	Proof of child’s identity required for enrollment; transfer of record between districts
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:36A-1 <u>et seq.</u>	Charter School Program Act of 1995
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:38-1	Attendance at school free of charge
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:38-2	Free attendance at school by nonresidents placed in district under court order

ADMISSION (continued)

<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:38-3	Attendance at school by nonresidents
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:38-4	Free attendance to persons over age
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:38-5	Admission of students under age
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:38-5.1	No child to be excluded from school because of race, etc.
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:38-6	Time of admission of students; first school year
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:38-7.7	Legislative findings and declarations
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:38-8	Duty to receive students from other districts
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:38-25	Attendance required of children between six and 16; exceptions
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-20	Immunization at public expense
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:44-1	Establishment of nursery schools or departments; eligibility for admission
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:44-2	Establishment of kindergarten; eligibility for admission
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 26:1A-9.1	Exemption of students from mandatory immunization
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 26:4-6	Prohibiting attendance of teachers or students
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 6A:11-1 <u>et seq.</u>	Charter Schools
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:12-3.1	Choice district application procedures
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:14-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Special Education
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:16-2.2	Required health services
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:16-2.4	Required student health records
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:17-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Students at Risk of Not Receiving a Public Education
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:22-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Entitlement to Attend School Based on Domicile or Student Residency
<u>See particularly:</u>	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:22-3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:23A-19.2, -19.3	Method of determining the district of residence
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-8.2	School enrollment
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57	Communicable diseases
<u>See particularly:</u>	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-2	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:61-1.1	Attendance at school by students or adults infected by Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus (HIV)

P.L. 2005, c. 265 concerning students returning to public schools from county detention centers

Tepper v. Board of Education of the Township Hackensack, Bergen County, 1971 S.L.D. 549

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Pub. L. 107-110, 20 U.S.C.A. 6301 et seq.

Plyler v. Doe, 457 U.S. 202 (1982)

Plainfield Board of Education v. Cooperman, 105 NJ 587 (1987)

J.A. v. Board of Education of South Orange/Maplewood, 318 N.J. Super. 512 (App.Div.1999)

Possible Cross References:

*5118 Nonresidents

ADMISSION (continued)

5119	Transfers
*5120	Assessment of individual needs
*5141	Health
*5141.2	Illness
*5141.3	Health examinations and immunizations
6142.5	Travel and exchange programs
*6164.4	Child study team
*6171.4	Special education
6174	Summer school
6178	Early childhood education/preschool

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.