



Family User Policy Manual

School Year 2023-2024

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This document was created to provide parent-friendly information on the technical and operational systems for Apply Philly Charter and related topics pertaining to charter school application processes in Philadelphia.

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Apply Philly Charter Overview

Timeline

The application window for the 2024-2025 school year opens on September 22, 2023 and closes on January 22, 2024. All eligible applications submitted within this window will be entered into the lottery on February 7, 2024. All applicants will be notified and will be able to login to their accounts and view their results on February 9, 2024. Applicants will need to either accept or decline their initial offers by February 23, 2024. Beginning on February 26, 2024, applicants can begin to submit “post-deadline” applications that are not run through the lottery to secure a position on schools’ waitlists.

- **Application Launch:** September 22, 2023
- **Application Deadline:** January 22, 2024
- **Common Lottery Date:** February 7, 2024
- **Common Notification Date:** February 9, 2024
- **Common Acceptance Date:** February 23, 2024
- **Application Pause:** January 23, 2024-February 25, 2024

Who can Complete an Apply Philly Charter Application?

The Apply Philly Charter application is available to any Philadelphia resident who is entering grades K-12. Some schools admit out-of-district Pennsylvania residents if there are remaining open seats after their waitlist has been exhausted.

Kindergarten Eligibility

Schools participating in the Apply Philly Charter application follow the School District of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania’s legal Kindergarten cutoff date. All students who turn 5 by September 1, 2024 are eligible to apply to Kindergarten for the 2024-25 school year. Generally, charter schools do not offer pre-Kindergarten with the exception of Russell Byers and Inquiry Charter Schools. These two campuses accept applications for grade “K4” for students who will be 4 by September 1, 2024.

Renaissance Schools and Apply Philly Charter

A Renaissance Charter School is a formerly district neighborhood school that is operated as a public charter school and can only enroll students from the neighborhood, also known as a catchment zone. Most Renaissance schools enroll students from the catchment zone on a first-come, first-served basis and will only enroll a small number of students from outside the neighborhood if there is additional space and if their charter permits them to do so. If an applicant lives within a Renaissance Charter School’s catchment, they can submit an application to that school at any time. For questions about a Renaissance school’s admission policy, please

contact the school directly. For more information about Renaissance schools see the [Philadelphia Charter Schools Office website](#).

How does the Lottery Work?

Every school that runs a lottery does so electronically on the Apply Philly Charter system. Apply Philly Charter is powered by Salesforce and applicant data is stored in a secure cloud server hosted by Salesforce.com.

All eligible applications submitted during the application window (September 22, 2023-January 24, 2024) are assigned a random lottery number. When the lottery is run, applicants are sorted first in order of a school’s lottery structure, and second in order of their randomly assigned lottery number. A lottery structure is the order in which a school offers certain preferences to applicants. Preferences may involve sibling or staff member relations or certain geographic zones such as zip codes or catchment areas. Please review schools’ lottery structures and preferences in the appendix of this document.

Once all of the available seats have been filled, applications will be sorted on to a school’s waitlist in the same manner as the lottery. Applications submitted after the lottery will be sorted on to the waitlist first by preference and second by date submitted.

Waitlist Process

When a school has more applicants than seats available, it will maintain a waitlist. Applications that are submitted within the application window (September 22, 2023-January 22, 2024), but did not receive an offer, are sorted on to the waitlist first in order of preference and second by randomly assigned lottery number. Applications submitted after the lottery are sorted on to the waitlist first by preference and second by date submitted.

Applicants can view and monitor their waitlist positions by logging into their accounts and clicking on “View Application Results.” An applicant’s waitlisted status as well as position number will be displayed. Position number will update as schools begin to make offers off of their waitlists. For example, an applicant may be position number 10 after the lottery is run but may move up to position 1 by the time school begins. It is important for families to periodically login to their accounts and monitor their waitlist positions. Families have the option of removing themselves from a waitlist.

| Action | School Name | Grade | Status | App Type | Position |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|------------|--------------|----------|
| Remove from Waitlist | MaST Community Charter School II | K | Waitlisted | Pre-Deadline | 138 |
| View Next Steps | | | | | |

Waitlists do not carry over from one year to the next. If an applicant is on a waitlist for the current school year and they want to continue to try to secure a seat, they must re-apply for the following year.

Single Accept System

Applicants are permitted to apply to as many schools as they like and through the lottery could potentially receive multiple offers. Applicants are, however, only permitted to accept one seat offer at a time. Once a seat is accepted on Apply Philly Charter, any other existing or previously accepted offers will be automatically declined. Accepting a seat offer at one school does **not** remove an applicant from the waitlist at another school and they will still be eligible to receive a seat offer off of the waitlist.

Apply Philly Charter Family Portal and Application Process

Accessing the Application

The application can be accessed by visiting applyphillycharter.org. Applicants will be asked to create an account and select a password using their name and an email address. They will then fill out a family profile, add students to their account and select the schools they want their child to attend.

The application is available online in nine different languages. If a family does not have an email address, access to the internet, or does not speak one of the languages offered on [Apply Philly Charter](http://ApplyPhillyCharter.org), they can submit an application over the phone by calling the Apply Philly Charter Helpline at (800) 891-3999. The Helpline offers interpretation in dozens of languages.

Claiming Sibling or Staff Preferences

Most lottery schools on the application offer sibling or staff preferences. This means that if an applicant currently has a sibling attending the school or a family member working at the school, they can receive priority in the lottery. To “claim” this preference, applicants must check the “Has Sibling Attending” or “Student is Child of Staff/Board/Alum” option and enter the sibling or staff member’s name. This claim will be validated or invalidated by the school prior to the lottery.

Deep Roots Charter School

Has Sibling Attending Student is Child of Staff/Board/Alum

[Back](#) [Cancel](#) [Save & Next](#)

Some schools also offer geographic preferences to applicants living in certain zip codes or public school catchment areas. These preferences will be automatically generated in the system using the address provided on a students' application. Please note: upon enrollment a family will need to provide the school with proof of address (utility bill, lease, deed, etc.).

All participating lottery schools' preferences and priority structures are outlined in the Appendix. It is important for families to review each school's priority structure so that they can make an informed decision about where to apply.

Ineligible Applications

There is the potential that a school may mark an applicant's application as "ineligible." Examples of reasons that would deem an application as ineligible are: the application is a duplicate, the student already attends the school, the applicant lives outside of the catchment for a Renaissance school, or the applicant does not live in Philadelphia or Pennsylvania. If an application is marked as "ineligible" by a school before the lottery, it will not be entered into the lottery. When an applicant goes to view their results, they will see "Ineligible" in the "Status" column next to that specific school. Being marked "ineligible" at one school does not necessarily mean an applicant is marked ineligible at all schools they have applied to because each school has a different priority structure.

Editing Applications after Submission

Families can edit their application at any time before the January deadline. They can log-in to their account and click the "Edit" button in the student's tile on the homepage. If they are submitting an application for the current school year, they can edit their application at any point during the school year. If a family is making an edit, it is important to click all the way through the application and click "submit" again at the end to ensure all information is saved.

Viewing Results and Taking Action on Offers

Results for all schools will be posted in families' accounts on the Common Notification Date. Families will also receive an email and a text (if they have opted into text alerts). They can view their results by [logging into Apply Philly Charter](#) and navigating to "View Application Results." If a student receives a seat offer from a charter school, they must **accept** that seat in their Apply Philly Charter account by clicking "**accept**." Families also have the option to **decline**. It is

important to **decline** a seat if it is not wanted so that the school is able to offer it to the next student on the waitlist.

If a family does not have an email address, the Apply Philly Charter Helpline will reach out to inform them of their results and can take action in the system on their behalf.

Seats must be accepted by their expiration date or they are lost. After accepting a seat, applicants should then follow the instructions provided by the school to submit enrollment paperwork and finish securing their seat. If an applicant is offered a seat by a charter school at any other point (i.e. off of the waitlist), they must also accept that seat in Apply Philly Charter by the deadline communicated and visible in their account.

| | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Accept Decline | View Offer Next Steps | Young Scholars Charter School | 6 | Outstanding Offer (Expires 4/25/2023) | Post-Deadline |
|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------|

Monitoring Waitlist Position

If an applicant is waitlisted at one or more schools, their “Status” when viewing their application results will say “Waitlisted.” Their waitlist position will be indicated under the “Position” column.

Families should regularly monitor their accounts for updates to their waitlist placement. Schools will pull students off of their waitlist throughout the spring and summer as seats open up. If an applicant is offered a seat off of the waitlist, they will receive an email and their account will be updated with the offer. If a family has specific questions about a school’s waitlist, they should contact the school directly.

| School Year 2023-2024 | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------|------------|--------------|----------|--|
| Action | School Name | Grade | Status | App Type | Position | |
| Remove from Waitlist View Next Steps | MaST Community Charter School II | 6 | Waitlisted | Pre-Deadline | 113 | |
| Remove from Waitlist View Next Steps | MaST Community Charter School | 6 | Waitlisted | Pre-Deadline | 271 | |

Waitlist position is important to monitor as it will change as schools offer seats, other applicants remove themselves and more applicants are added to the list. For more information about the waitlist process, please review the “Waitlist Process” section above.

School Counselors Supporting Families

It is encouraged for school counselors to support and guide families through the charter school application process. It is imperative, however, that counselors avoid taking any of the following actions while supporting families:

- Create a parent account using their counselor email address.
- Create accounts or submit applications without parent knowledge or consent.
- Use the counselor or student email address as the primary contact on an account.

Although counselors have the best interest of the student in mind by creating accounts and applying for them, it is important not to cut the family out of the process or create a barrier to communication for them. The family must be involved in the process so that they receive the communications about seat offers, declines or waitlist status.

Best practices suggested for school counselors are as follows:

- Host information sessions on school options and application systems.
- Organize application events where parents are invited to apply to schools with the assistance and guidance of the counselor.
- Plan one-on-one meetings with families to assist them with school choices and application submission.
- Keep records of where students have applied so that you can support families in navigating timelines and deadlines.
- Send home literature about schools and application processes.
- Promote the application using Apply Philly Charter's ready-made social media graphics.
- Communicate to parents in advance of important dates in our application cycle timeline.

Appendix: Priority Structures, Renaissance Catchments and Preference Outlines

Participating Lottery Schools' Priority Structures

Pennsylvania Charter law permits schools to enroll based on preferences outlined in their individual charters. If a family qualifies for a certain preference, that child will be automatically sorted in the lottery to receive priority over other applicants who do not qualify. One example would be if an applicant's sibling already attends the school, that applicant will receive preference over other applicants who do not have a sibling at that school. Some schools offer geographic preferences for certain school catchment areas or zip codes and some even reserve seats for specific feeder schools. It is helpful for families to understand each school's preferences so they can make informed decisions about where their child has the best chance of receiving an offer.

Below is an outline of all of Apply Philly Charter’s lottery schools’ priority structures. Any family can use the [School District of Philadelphia School Finder](#) to determine which school catchment zone they reside in.

| Application School | Priority Group 1 | Priority Group 2 | Priority Group 3 | Priority Group 4 | Priority Group 5 | Priority Group 6 | Priority Group 7 |
|--|--|---|---|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Alliance for Progress Charter School | Sibling attending | Child of Staff Member | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | |
| ASPIRA Antonia Pantoja Community Charter School | Sibling attending | Lives in Philadelphia | | | | | |
| ASPIRA Eugenio Maria de Hostos Charter School | Sibling attending | Lives in Philadelphia | | | | | |
| Belmont Academy Charter School | Sibling attending | Parent is staff member (of Belmont Charter School or Inquiry Charter School) | Lives in catchment | Lives in Philadelphia : out-of-catchment | | | |
| Belmont Charter School | Sibling attending | Parent is staff member (of Belmont Charter School or Inquiry Charter School) | Lives in catchment | Lives in Philadelphia : out-of-catchment | | | |
| Belmont Charter High School | Sibling Attending & Sibling Accepted | Parent is a Founder or Staff Member (of Belmont Charter School or Inquiry Charter School) | Lives in Catchment | Lives in Philadelphia | | | |
| Deep Roots Charter School | Parent is staff member, board member, or founder | Sibling attending | Lives in Brown, Henry A Catchment Area, Hartranft, John F Catchment Area, Hunter, William H Catchment Area, McKinley, William Catchment Area, Richmond Catchment Area, Sheridan, Philip H Catchment Area, Webster, John H Catchment Area, Welsh, John Catchment | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | |

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|--|--|--|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School | Sibling attending; Parent is staff member or board member | Lindley Academy Charter School 8th graders applying to 9th grade | Lives in Stearne, Allen M Catchment Area, Franklin, Benjamin ES Catchment Area, Carnell, Laura H Catchment Area, or Marshall, John Catchment Area (K-8th graders); Lives in Fell, D Newlin Catchment Area (9th-12th graders) | Lives in Philadelphia | | | |
| Franklin Towne Charter High School | Sibling Attending | Franklin Towne Elementary 8th graders applying to 9th Grade | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-District PA Resident | | | |
| Global Leadership Academy Charter School | Sibling attending | Parent is staff member | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | |
| Green Woods Charter School | Sibling attending | Parent is staff member | Preference Zone (Either Catchment Area '22-'23 or Zip Code '23-'24) | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | |
| Independence Charter School (ICS) | Sibling attending | Sibling offered seat (only for twins/multiples in K) | Parent is staff member | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | |
| Independence Charter School - West (ICSW) | Sibling Attending or Sibling Accepted or Child of Staff Member | Lives in Bartram, Sayre & Overbrook High School Catchment Areas | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | |
| Inquiry Charter School | Sibling Attending and Sibling Accepted | Parent is a Founder or a Staff Member (of Belmont or Inquiry Charter School) | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-District PA Resident | | | |
| Keystone Academy Charter School | Sibling attending; Parent is staff member | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | | |
| KIPP DuBois Collegiate Academy | Parent is staff member or founder | Sibling attending; Sibling accepted offer | Lives in 19131 or 19139 | Lives in Philadelphia | | | |

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|---|---|---|---|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| KIPP North Philadelphia Academy | Parent is staff member or founder | Sibling attending; Sibling accepted offer | Lives in 19121 or 19132 | Lives in Philadelphia | | | |
| KIPP Philadelphia Elementary Academy | Parent is staff member or founder | Sibling attending; Sibling accepted offer | Parent is alumni | Lives in Philadelphia | | | |
| KIPP Philadelphia Octavius Catto Charter School | Child of Staff, Board Member or Founder | Sibling currently Attends KPOC | Zip code preference for any student living in the 19104, 19131, 19139, 19142, 19143, 19151, and 19153 | Lives in Philadelphia | | | |
| KIPP Philadelphia Preparatory Academy | Parent is staff member or founder | Sibling attending; Sibling accepted offer | Parent is alumni | Lives in Philadelphia | | | |
| KIPP West Philadelphia Elementary Academy | Parent is staff member or founder | Sibling attending; Sibling accepted offer | Lives in Philadelphia | | | | |
| KIPP West Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School | Parent is staff member or founder | Sibling attending; Sibling accepted offer | Lives in Philadelphia | | | | |
| Laboratory Charter School of Communication and Languages: Elementary School | Sibling attending; Parent is staff member | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | | |
| Laboratory Charter School of Communication and Languages: Middle School Building | Sibling attending; Parent is staff member | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | | |
| Mariana Bracetti Academy Charter School | Parent is Staff Member; Sibling Attending | Sibling Accepted | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | |
| Maritime Academy Charter: Elementary & Middle School Campus | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-District PA Resident | | | | | |

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|---|--|---|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Maritime Academy Charter High School | Maritime 8th graders applying to 9th grade | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-District PA Resident | | | | |
| MaST Community Charter School | Parent is staff member | Sibling Attending | Sibling Accepted | Lives in Philadelphia | | | |
| MaST Community Charter School II | Parent is staff member | Sibling Attending | Sibling Accepted | Lives in Philadelphia | | | |
| MaST Community Charter School III | Parent is staff member | Sibling attending | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | |
| Mastery Charter School: Hardy Williams Elementary | Sibling attending | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | | |
| Mastery Charter School: Hardy Williams High School | Sibling attending | Mastery Harrity 8th graders applying to 9th grade | Lives in Philadelphia | Sibling, Out-of-District | Out-of-District PA resident | | |
| Mastery Charter School: Lenfest Campus | Sibling attending | Smedley 6th graders applying to 7th grade | Lives in Philadelphia | Siblings outside of Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | |
| Mastery Charter School: Pickett Campus | Sibling attending | Wister or Kelly 5th graders applying to 6th grade | Lives in Kelly, John B Catchment Area or Mastery Charter School at Wister Catchment Area | Lives in Philadelphia | Siblings outside of Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | |
| Mastery Charter School: Shoemaker Campus | Sibling attending | Mann or Bluford 6th graders applying to 7th grade | Lives in Philadelphia | Siblings Outside of Philadelphia | Lives Out of District | | |
| Mastery Charter School: Thomas Elementary | Sibling attending | Lives between Pattison-Porter and Broad-Delaware | Lives in 19148 (outside of priority area) | Lives in 19145, 19146, or 19147 | Lives in Philadelphia | Siblings Outside of Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident |
| Mastery Charter School: Thomas High Campus | Sibling attending | Lives between Pattison-Porter and Broad-Delaware | Lives in 19148 (outside of priority area) | Lives in 19145, 19146, or 19147 | Lives in Philadelphia | Siblings outside of Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident |
| Mastery Prep Elementary Charter School | Sibling attending | Lives in Bethune, Mary McLeod Catchment Area, Duckrey, Tanner Catchment Area, | Lives in Philadelphia | Sibling not in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | |

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|---|--|--|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| | | Kenderton Catchment Area, Mastery Charter School at Cleveland Catchment Area, Mastery Douglass, Mastery Charter School at Clymer Catchment Area, or Steel, Edward Catchment Area | | | | | |
| Multicultural Academy Charter School | Sibling attending; Sibling of alumni; Sibling offered seat | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | | |
| New Foundations Charter School: High School Campus | Parent is staff member or board member | Sibling attending | Lives in 19111, 19114, 19135, 19136, 19149, or 19152 | Lives in Philadelphia | Lives Out-Of-District | | |
| New Foundations Charter School: K-8 Campus | Parent is staff member or board member | Sibling attending or Twin who Have Accepted | Lives in 19111, 19114, 19135, 19136, 19149, or 19152 | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | |
| Northwood Academy Charter School | Parent is staff member, board member, or founder | Sibling attending | Lives in Carnell, Laura H Catchment Area or Phila Charter for Arts at HR Edmunds Catchment Area (kindergarteners only) | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | |
| Pan American Academy Charter School | Parent is founding board member; Sibling attending | Lives in 19133 or 19134 | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | |
| People for People Charter School | Sibling attending | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | | |
| Philadelphia E&T Charter High School | Parent is staff member, board member, or founder | Sibling attending | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | |
| Philadelphia Hebrew Public Charter School | Parent is staff member, board member, or founder | Sibling attending (in-district) | Sibling offered seat (in-district) | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | |
| Philadelphia Montessori Charter School | Parent is staff member | Twin/multiple accepted offer | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | |

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|--|--|---|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Richard Allen Preparatory Charter School | Sibling attending | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | | |
| Russell Byers Charter School | Sibling attending | Parent is staff member, board member, or founder | Lives in Philadelphia | | | | |
| Southwest Leadership Academy Charter School | Sibling Attending | Lives in Catharine, Joseph Catchment Area, Morton, Thomas G Catchment Area or Patterson, John M Catchment Area | Lives in Philadelphia | Lives in PA | | | |
| Tacony Academy Charter Elementary School | Sibling attending; Parent is staff member | Lives in Allen, Ethan Catchment Area, Disston, Hamilton Catchment Area, Spruance, Gilbert Catchment Area, Rhawnhurst Catchment Area, Farrell, Louis H Catchment Area, Solis-Cohen, Solomon Catchment Area, Moore, J Hampton Catchment Area, or Crossan, Kennedy | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | |
| Tacony Academy Charter High School | Sibling attending; Parent is staff member | Tacony Academy Charter Elementary School, Lindley Academy Charter School or Memphis Street Academy Charter School 8th graders applying to 9th grade | Lives in Allen, Ethan Catchment Area, Disston, Hamilton Catchment Area, Spruance, Gilbert Catchment Area, Rhawnhurst Catchment Area, Farrell, Louis H Catchment Area, Solis-Cohen, Solomon Catchment Area, Moore, J Hampton Catchment Area, or Crossan, Kennedy | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | |

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|--|---|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| Universal Institute Charter School | Sibling attending | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | | |
| West Oak Lane Charter School | Sibling attending; Children of alumni; Sibling offered seat | Lives in Philadelphia | | | | | |
| West Philadelphia Achievement Charter Elementary School | Sibling attending; Sibling accepted offer | Parent is staff member | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | |
| Wissahickon Charter School: Awbury Campus | Sibling attending; Parent is staff member or founder | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | | |
| Wissahickon Charter School: Fernhill Campus | Sibling attending; Parent is staff member or founder | Lives in Philadelphia | Out-of-district PA resident | | | | |
| Young Scholars Charter School | Sibling attending; Sibling offered seat | Lives in Philadelphia | | | | | |

Renaissance Schools' Catchment Zones Outline

Renaissance schools function as neighborhood schools. They do not run lotteries and they enroll students from their defined catchment on a rolling basis. Any student that does not reside in their catchment can be admitted if the Renaissance School has space after enrolling all in-catchment students and if they are permitted to enroll from outside their catchment.

Any family in Philadelphia can use the [School District of Philadelphia School Finder](#) to determine which school catchment zone they reside in.

| School | Catchment Area |
|---|---|
| Global Leadership Academy Southwest at Huey | Global Leadership Academy Charter School at Huey Catchment Area |
| Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney | American Paradigm Charter School at Birney Catchment Area |
| Mastery Charter Gratz Prep Middle School | Mastery Charter School at Clymer Catchment Area |
| Mastery Charter School: Clymer Elementary | Mastery Charter School at Clymer Catchment Area |
| Mastery Charter School: Frederick Douglass | Mastery Charter School at Frederick Douglass Catchment Area |

| | |
|---|---|
| Mastery Charter School: Grover Cleveland Campus | Mastery Charter School at Cleveland Catchment Area |
| Mastery Charter School: Harrity Elementary | Mastery Charter School at Harrity Catchment Area |
| Mastery Charter School: John Wister Elementary | Mastery Charter School at Wister Catchment Area |
| Mastery Charter School: Mann Elementary | Mastery Charter School at Mann Catchment Area |
| Mastery Charter School: Pastorius-Richardson Elementary | Mastery Charter School at Pastorius Catchment Area |
| Mastery Charter School: Simon Gratz High School | Bethune, Mary Mc Leod Catchment Area; Duckrey, Tanner Catchment Area; Kenderton Catchment Area; Mastery Charter School at Cleveland Catchment Area; Mastery Charter School at Clymer Catchment Area; Steel, Edward Catchment Area |
| Mastery Charter School: Smedley Elementary | Mastery Charter School at Smedley Catchment Area |
| Memphis Street Academy Charter School | Richmond Catchment Area; Sheridan, Philip H Catchment Area; Webster, John H Catchment Area; Willard, Frances Catchment Area |
| The Philadelphia Charter School for Arts and Sciences | Phila Charter for Arts at HR Edmunds Catchment Area |
| Universal Alcorn Elementary School | Universal Institute Charter School at Alcorn Catchment Area |
| Universal Alcorn Middle Years Academy | Universal Institute Charter School at Alcorn Catchment Area |
| Universal Audenried Charter School | Arthur, Chester A Catchment Area; Girard, Stephen Catchment Area; Universal Institute Charter School at Alcorn Catchment Area |
| Universal Creighton Charter School | Universal Institute Charter School at Creighton Catchment Area |
| Universal Vare Charter School | Girard, Stephen Catchment Area |

Preferences by Catchment, Zip Code, and Feeder Group

Below are outlines of which schools applicants are offered preference at according to their zip code, School District of Philadelphia Catchment Area or current feeder group. The [School District of Philadelphia School Finder](#) assists families in identifying their neighborhood catchment area.

Please note that membership in one of the groups below does not guarantee an applicant a seat offer at these schools. It places them in a preferences group within a school's lottery structure. To see the order in which a particular school offers preferences in their lotteries, please refer to the Priority Structure Outline above.

Catchment Preferences

| Catchment | School | |
|--|---|------------------------------------|
| Allen, Ethan | Tacony Academy Charter Elementary School | Tacony Academy Charter High School |
| Bartram | Independence Charter School - West (ICSW) | |
| Bethune, Mary Mc Leod | Mastery Prep Elementary Charter School | |
| Brown, Henry A | Deep Roots Charter School | |
| Carnell, Laura H | First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School | Northwood Academy Charter School |
| Catharine, Joseph | Southwest Leadership Academy Charter School | |
| Casarez, Gloria | Deep Roots Charter School | |
| Cook-Wissahickon | Green Woods Charter School | |
| Crossan, Kennedy | Tacony Academy Charter Elementary School | Tacony Academy Charter High School |
| Disston, Hamilton | Tacony Academy Charter Elementary School | Tacony Academy Charter High School |
| Dobson | Green Woods Charter School | |
| Duckrey, Tanner | Mastery Prep Elementary Charter School | |
| Farrell, Louis H | Tacony Academy Charter Elementary School | Tacony Academy Charter High School |
| Fell, D Newlin (9th-12th graders) | First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School | |
| Franklin, Benjamin ES | First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School | |
| Hartranft, John F | Deep Roots Charter School | |
| Hunter, William H | Deep Roots Charter School | |
| Kelly, John B | Mastery Charter School: Pickett Campus | |
| Kenderton | Mastery Prep Elementary Charter School | |
| Marshall, John (K-8th graders) | First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School | |
| Mastery Charter School at Cleveland | Mastery Prep Elementary Charter School | |
| Mastery Charter School at Clymer | Mastery Prep Elementary Charter School | |
| Mastery Charter School at Wister | Mastery Charter School: Pickett Campus | |
| Mastery Douglass | Mastery Prep Elementary Charter School | |
| McKinley, William | Deep Roots Charter School | |
| Mifflin | Green Woods Charter School | |
| Moore, J Hampton | Tacony Academy Charter Elementary School | Tacony Academy Charter High School |
| Morton, Thomas G | Southwest Leadership Academy Charter School | |
| Overbrook High School | Independence Charter School - West (ICSW) | |
| Patterson, John M | Southwest Leadership Academy Charter School | |
| Phila Charter for Arts at HR Edmunds (Kindergarten only) | Northwood Academy Charter School | |
| Rhawnhurst | Tacony Academy Charter Elementary School | Tacony Academy Charter High School |
| Richmond | Deep Roots Charter School | |
| Sayre | Independence Charter School - West (ICSW) | |
| Shawmont | Green Woods Charter School | |
| Solis-Cohen, Solomon | Tacony Academy Charter Elementary School | Tacony Academy Charter High School |
| Spruance, Gilbert | Tacony Academy Charter Elementary School | Tacony Academy Charter High School |
| Stearne, Allen M | First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School | |

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|-----------------------|--|--|
| Steel, Edward | Mastery Prep Elementary Charter School | |
| Webster, John H | Deep Roots Charter School | |
| Welsh, John Catchment | Deep Roots Charter School | |

Zip Code Preferences

| Zip | School | |
|-------|--|--|
| 19104 | KIPP Philadelphia Octavius Catto Charter School | |
| 19111 | New Foundations Charter School: High School Campus | New Foundations Charter School: K-8 Campus |
| 19114 | New Foundations Charter School: High School Campus | New Foundations Charter School: K-8 Campus |
| 19120 | MaST Community Charter School III | |
| 19120 | MaST Community Charter School III | |
| 19121 | KIPP North Philadelphia Academy | |
| 19124 | MaST Community Charter School III | |
| 19124 | MaST Community Charter School III | |
| 19131 | KIPP Philadelphia Octavius Catto Charter School | KIPP DuBois Collegiate Academy |
| 19132 | KIPP North Philadelphia Academy | |
| 19133 | Pan American Academy Charter School | |
| 19134 | Pan American Academy Charter School | |
| 19135 | New Foundations Charter School: High School Campus | New Foundations Charter School: K-8 Campus |
| 19136 | New Foundations Charter School: High School Campus | New Foundations Charter School: K-8 Campus |
| 19139 | KIPP Philadelphia Octavius Catto Charter School | KIPP DuBois Collegiate Academy |
| 19140 | MaST Community Charter School III | |
| 19140 | MaST Community Charter School III | |
| 19141 | MaST Community Charter School III | |
| 19141 | MaST Community Charter School III | |
| 19142 | KIPP Philadelphia Octavius Catto Charter School | |
| 19143 | KIPP Philadelphia Octavius Catto Charter School | |
| 19145 | Mastery Charter School: Thomas Elementary | Mastery Charter School: Thomas High Campus |
| 19146 | Mastery Charter School: Thomas Elementary | Mastery Charter School: Thomas High Campus |
| 19147 | Mastery Charter School: Thomas Elementary | Mastery Charter School: Thomas High Campus |

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| 19148 | Mastery Charter School: Thomas Elementary | Mastery Charter School: Thomas High Campus |
| 19148: between Pattison-Porter and Broad-Delaware | Mastery Charter School: Thomas Elementary (priority) | Mastery Charter School: Thomas High Campus (priority) |
| 19149 | New Foundations Charter School: High School Campus | New Foundations Charter School: K-8 Campus |
| 19151 | KIPP Philadelphia Octavius Catto Charter School | |
| 19152 | New Foundations Charter School: High School Campus | New Foundations Charter School: K-8 Campus |
| 19153 | KIPP Philadelphia Octavius Catto Charter School | |

Feeder Preferences

| Feeder Group | School |
|---|--|
| Current Douglass or Pastorius 8th graders applying to 9th grade | Mastery Charter School: Simon Gratz High School |
| Franklin Towne Elementary 8th graders applying to 9th grade | Franklin Towne Charter High School |
| Lindley Academy Charter School 8th graders applying to 9th grade | First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School |
| Mann or Bluford 6th graders applying to 7th grade | Mastery Charter School: Shoemaker Campus |
| Maritime Academy Charter 8th graders applying to 9th grade | Maritime Academy Charter: High School Campus |
| Mastery Harrity 8th graders applying to 9th grade | Mastery Charter School: Hardy Williams High School |
| Smedley 6th graders applying to 7th grade | Mastery Charter School: Lenfest Campus |
| Tacony Academy Charter Elementary School, Lindley Academy Charter School or Memphis Street Academy Charter School 8th graders applying to 9th grade | Tacony Academy Charter High School |
| Wister or John B Kelly 5th graders applying to 6th grade | Mastery Charter School: Pickett Campus |

Definitions

Catchment

Boundaries established by the School District of Philadelphia as a means of assigning students to schools according to their residence location. To determine the school catchment zone of a particular address, refer to the [School District of Philadelphia School Finder Tool](#).

Current Year

This is the period that applications are accepted for the current year or the school year that is happening in real time. Families can submit “current-year” applications to be placed on the waitlist in order of first, preferences and second, by date submitted. The current year period runs from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Lottery

A random selection process by which applicants are admitted to the Charter School. A lottery takes place in the event a charter school receives more applications than the number of seats available in a certain grade. A lottery is held to determine who is selected and who will be placed on a waiting list for the next school year.

Lottery School

A charter school that enrolls students citywide and may employ preferences such as sibling, staff or geographic areas if their charter allows it. If a lottery school receives more applications than seats available, they use a lottery to determine who is selected and who will be placed on a waiting list for the next school year.

Lottery Structure

Also referred to as priority structure, this is the hierarchy of preferences which determines the order in which a school offers applicants enrollment either through the annual lottery or waitlist placement.

Post-Deadline

This is the period of application acceptance that opens after the lottery for the next school year. Families can submit “post-deadline” applications to be placed on the waitlist in order of first, preferences and second, by date submitted. The post-deadline period runs from February 26, 2024-June 30, 2024.

Pre-Deadline

This is the period between the launch of the application and the deadline to be entered into the lottery. All eligible “pre-deadline” applications are run through a school’s lottery. The pre-deadline period runs from September 22, 2023-January 22, 2024.

Preference

An enrollment advantage offered to certain applicants based on siblings, staff associations or geographic location of their residence.

Priority Structure

Also referred to as lottery structure, this is the hierarchy of preferences a school uses to determine which applicants receive an advantage in their lottery. These preferences are determined by a school’s charter agreement and outlined in their board-approved enrollment and admissions policy.

Renaissance School

A charter school that functions as a neighborhood school meaning they serve one particular district catchment area. Anyone that lives in the catchment zone is entitled to a seat as long as the school has space. These schools accept applications on a rolling basis throughout the school year. To determine the school catchment zone of a particular address, refer to the [School District of Philadelphia School Finder Tool](#).

Waitlist

A list of students maintained by the charter school that are applicants in excess of available spaces in specific grade levels. When a space opens, the school offers the space to students on the waitlist in order beginning at position 1. The waitlist order is determined by the lottery and, if applicable, takes preferences into account. During the post-lottery period, waitlists are ordered on a first-come, first-served basis. However, an applicant with a preference at a school will take priority over an applicant without a preference at that school, regardless of when they applied. An applicants' waitlist number(s) will vary by school.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between applying and enrolling?

The application and lottery process will occur on the Apply Philly Charter system, while enrollment and registration is handled by the individual schools directly.

Applying is the process of submitting an application through Apply Philly Charter that will then either be run through a lottery if the application is submitted during the pre-deadline application period or given a designation of waitlisted, ineligible or outstanding offer if the application is submitted during the post-deadline period.

Registration and enrollment occurs only once you have accepted a seat offer from a school. Schools will require certain paperwork such as proof of address or previous years' transcripts.

Does accepting an offer guarantee my seat?

No. Once you have accepted your seat in Apply Philly Charter, families must then work with the school to enroll and register. Schools will require certain documentation, paperwork and have their own deadlines. If an applicant does not abide by registration requirements and deadlines, there is a possibility that they could lose their seat.

Can I update my contact information on my application?

Yes. Applicants can make edits to their family profile at any time. They can also make edits to their application at any time until the application deadline. Important dates and deadlines can be found at applyphillycharter.org, on participating schools' websites and throughout this manual. When editing an application, it is important to remember to click all the way through the application and re-submit if any changes are made.

How do I access my account if my email has changed or if I forget my email?

For any technical assistance, applicants can call the Apply Philly Charter Helpline at 1-800-891-3999 or email the Apply Philly Charter infobox at apc@applyphillycharter.org. Applicants can make requests to update contact information, change email addresses or reactivate accounts. The Helpline can also assist with filling out and submitting applications over the phone.

Where do I have geographic priority?

Some schools have charter agreements that legally outline priorities to applicants living in certain zip codes or district school catchment areas. This means that if you live in one of these areas, you will receive preference in the lottery or on the waitlist over other citywide applicants. Reviewing the Lottery Preference and Priority Outline in the Appendix will help you determine which schools offer you geographic priority.

Renaissance schools are charters that function as neighborhood schools meaning they serve one particular district catchment area. If you live in their catchment, you are entitled to a seat at the Renaissance school. These schools accept applications on a rolling basis throughout the

school year. To determine the school catchment zone of a particular address, refer to the [School District of Philadelphia School Finder Tool](#)

How do I increase my chances of receiving a seat offer for my child?

Being as informed as possible helps families increase their chances of receiving a seat offer. Make sure that you know which schools offer you geographic priority. If you have more than one child, or a family member that works at a specific school, many charter schools offer sibling and staff member preferences. Some schools are a part of charter “networks” and may feed into one another. Inquiring with the school whether your child is guaranteed a seat at their Middle or High School can help you make an informed decision as well.

Reviewing timelines and deadlines is also important. Submitting your application within the application window or “pre-deadline” period will ensure that your child is run through the lottery and gets a fair shot at a seat offer. While the application remains open during the “post-deadline” period, chances of receiving a seat offer go down as waitlist numbers increase.

Does it matter when I submit my application during the application window?

No. Upon pre-deadline application submission, each applicant is automatically assigned a random lottery number. When the lottery is run, it will take into account, first, the priority group an applicant falls into, and, second, the applicant’s random lottery number. Seats will first be offered to applicants who fall into the first priority group in order of lowest random lottery number to highest. The lottery will then offer seats to applicants in the second, third, etc. priority groups in order of random lottery number, until the number of available seats has been exhausted. Applicants who were not offered a seat through the lottery will be waitlisted in order of, first, their priority group, and, second, their random lottery number.

It does, however, matter when you submit your post-deadline applications. For applications that are submitted after the lottery, they will be sorted on to the waitlist first by the priority group an applicant falls into, and, second by date submitted.

I missed the deadline, can I still apply?

Yes. The application will pause briefly for lottery schools after the initial offers from the lotteries are sent to families. It will then reopen to accept “post-deadline” applications. “Post-Deadline” or “Current Year” applications are not run through the lottery but are sorted on to a waitlist first, by priority group and second, by date submitted.

I received a seat offer but it expired. Can I still accept my seat?

If an applicant wants to accept an expired seat offer, it is at the discretion of the school whether the offer can be reinstated. This is because the school may have already offered the seat to the next applicant on the waitlist. An applicant should reach out directly to the school to express their desire to accept the expired offer. If the school wants to reinstate the offer, they will contact the Apply Philly Charter Team who will send the applicant the offer again through the system. It is important for families to accept an offer that has been reinstated immediately as it will expire in 24 hours.

If I applied for the current year, does my waitlist position carry over to next year?

No. If you applied for the current year, your waitlist position will only last through July 1 after the school year ends. If you would like to secure a spot on the waitlist or a seat offer for the future year, you will need to submit either a pre-deadline application during the application window or a post-deadline application after the lottery has been completed.

Do charter schools provide transportation?

The School District of Philadelphia provides transportation for students who live 1.5 miles or more away from their schools. According to SDP's eligibility guidelines, "Yellow Bus Transportation is typically provided for students in **grades 1 through 6** who live 1.5 miles or more from the assigned school. Students in grades 7 through 12 who live 1.5 miles or farther from school are eligible for free Student TransPasses." Please note that Kindergarten students are not bussed and families are responsible for providing their transportation.

For more information on securing transportation, visit the School District of Philadelphia's [Office of Transportation](#) site or inquire directly with the school.

What are the important dates and deadlines? When will I know the results?

The application window to be entered into the lottery for the 2024-2025 school year opens at 12:00 AM on September 22, 2023 and closes on January 22, 2024 at 11:59 PM. Schools will run their lotteries on February 7, 2024 and families will be notified via email and text message (if they have opted in to text alerts) that application results are now posted in their accounts on February 9, 2024. Applicants will have 14 days or until February 23, 2024 to take action (accept or decline) on seat offers. The application will pause between January 23, 2024 and February 25, 2024. It will then reopen for the submission of post-deadline applications on February 26, 2024. Post-deadline applications will receive a designation by the school (seat offer, waitlisted or ineligible) within two weeks of submission.

How does the Lottery work?

All eligible applications submitted during the application window (September 22, 2023-January 24, 2024) are assigned a random lottery number. When the lottery is run, applicants are sorted first in order of a school's priority structure, and second in order of their randomly assigned lottery number. Once all of the available seats have been exhausted, applications will be sorted on to a school's waitlist in the same manner.

Applications submitted after the lottery will be sorted on to the waitlist first by preference and second by date submitted.

Are there waitlists?

Yes. If your application is not selected in the lottery or if you submit a post-deadline or current year application to a school that has already filled their seats, you will be placed on a waitlist. The waitlist is sorted during the lottery first, in order of priority structure and second by random lottery number that is assigned to you in the system when you submit your application. If you submit an application after the lottery, it will be sorted on to the waitlist first, in order of the preferences and second, by date submitted. Families have the option of removing themselves from the waitlist.

When schools have seats open up, they will make offers off of their waitlists in order beginning at position 1.

If I accept an offer from a new school, will I give up my seat at the school where I have already accepted a seat?

Yes. Apply Philly Charter operates a "single-accept" system meaning an applicant can only accept and hold one seat at a time. It is possible that you may receive multiple offers from the lottery or even during the post-deadline period. Once you accept an offer, the system will auto-decline any other offers you have received or seats you have accepted. Accepting a new seat will not impact your position on any waitlist or your seat in any school outside of the charter sector (public, private or catholic school).

Is it possible my student won't receive an offer?

Yes. Schools have a limited number of seats and the system receives upwards of 120,000 applications each year. After the 2023-2024 lottery, there were about 18,000 students placed on school waitlists. These waitlists grow as families begin to submit post-deadline applications. Aspiring to be an informed applicant and submitting your application during the pre-deadline period will help you gain the best picture of how you can increase your chances of receiving a seat offer.

What if I did not receive an offer?

You can submit a post-deadline application to be placed on more waitlists. You can also attend your district, neighborhood school where you will be guaranteed a seat. To locate your catchment or neighborhood school, refer to the [School District of Philadelphia School Finder Tool](#). To explore even more school options such as private and parochial schools, please visit greatphillyschools.org.

What if I accepted an offer but changed my mind?

You can always reach out to a school where you have accepted an offer and inform them that you no longer want the seat. They will then offer the seat to the next applicant on their waitlist. It is preferable that you notify the school so that the seat can be offered to another student.

How many schools can I select on the application?

You can apply to as many schools as you choose offering the grade level of the applicant.

Do I have a better chance of receiving an offer if I apply to more schools?

Not necessarily. Some schools offer specific priorities to applicants in certain geographic locations or specific grade levels from schools within their network. If your child does not fall into one of those groups it is sometimes very unlikely that you will receive a seat offer. It is important that a family research a school's priority groups before applying so that they can make informed decisions when submitting an application about where they have the best chance of receiving a seat offer.

Can I fill out a paper application?

No. All applications must be submitted through the online Apply Philly Charter platform. If you do not have access to a computer or the internet, you can call the Apply Philly Charter Helpline at 1-800-891-3999. Someone can help fill out an application for you and answer any questions you may have. They also offer interpretation services.

What materials do I need to apply?

You will need an email address and your contact information. If you do not have an email address, you can call the Apply Philly Charter Helpline at 1-800-891-3999. Someone can help fill out an application for you and answer any questions you may have. They also offer interpretation services.

After accepting a seat offer, you must follow the instructions provided by the school and submit all enrollment paperwork to the school directly by the deadline set by the school. Just accepting a seat offer on Apply Philly Charter will not guarantee your placement in that school. In order to enroll in a charter school, you must submit the following: (1) proof of your student's age; (2) your student's immunization records; (3) proof of residency; (4) a parent registration statement and (5) a home language survey. Schools may also request documents such as a copy of a parent/guardian photo ID as well as other health and academic records. For examples of documents and more information on what schools are allowed and not allowed to collect, please visit the [Charter Schools Office](#) website.

My child is already enrolled in a charter school. Do I need to reapply to keep their seat for next school year?

If your child is remaining at the same charter school campus for the following school year, they do not need to submit an application to keep their seat. In some cases, however, if your student is at a point of transition (such as moving from 8th grade to 9th grade) and is remaining within the same charter school network, you may need to submit an application. Please make sure you reach out to the school specifically to inquire or refer to the Appendix to review the Lottery Structures Outline.

I live outside of Philadelphia. Can I still apply using Apply Philly Charter?

All Pennsylvania residents ages five through twenty-one are eligible to attend Philadelphia charter schools. Schools must, however, give preference to students who live in Philadelphia over students who live elsewhere in Pennsylvania. Some schools are not permitted to admit students who live outside of Philadelphia. Some schools must give preference even to students who live in certain parts of Philadelphia. If you have questions about a school's preferences, please contact the school directly or refer to our Lottery Preferences and Priorities Outline in the Appendix. Applicants outside the state of Pennsylvania will be marked ineligible.

Can I use Apply Philly Charter to apply to a School District of Philadelphia school?

No. The School District of Philadelphia has their own application system with their own deadlines. Please visit the Office of Student Enrollment and Placement's [School Selection page](#) for more information.

Do I need to fill out individual applications for all my children?

Yes. Each individual student needs their own application. Families can add multiple children to the family profile in their account.

Can I apply to Pre-K programs through Apply Philly Charter?

No. Apply Philly Charter serves schools offering grades K-12 with the exception of Russell Byers and Inquiry Charter Schools. If you would like more information about Pre-K programs in Philadelphia, please visit greatphillyschools.org/category/preschool-daycare/.

Which schools participate in Apply Philly Charter?

Please visit applyphillycharter.org/schools/ for a list of participating charter schools.

Why do I not see some charter schools on the application?

Apply Philly Charter is a voluntary service for charter schools in Philadelphia. Some schools choose not to participate. If there is a school that you do not see on [Apply Philly Charter's list of participating schools](#), please visit their website for information on application and enrollment.

Some participating schools choose to opt out of the current year application due to long waitlist numbers. [Click here](#) for a list of schools that have opted out of the 2023-2024 current year application.

What if I need to enroll in school right now? Can Apply Philly Charter help me?

Yes. Schools collect applications year-round. You can submit a “current year application” for enrollment in a school during this school year. Please be aware that some schools have very long waitlists and even have the option to remove themselves from the current year application if they believe their waitlist is too long. Current year applications are sorted on to the waitlist in order of first, preferences and second by date submitted.

Renaissance schools operate as neighborhood, or catchment schools meaning anyone living within their defined zone is guaranteed a seat as long as there is space. You are also always guaranteed a seat at your public neighborhood school if you do not secure a seat at a charter school. You can use the [School District of Philadelphia School Finder Tool](#) to locate your neighborhood school.

Do siblings automatically get an offer at the same school?

Most charter schools offer a “sibling attending,” “sibling accepted” or “sibling offered” preference. “Sibling attending” means that siblings of currently enrolled students receive a preference. “Sibling accepted” means that once one sibling has accepted an offer, the other verified sibling will receive a preference. “Sibling offered” means that siblings that are applying at the same time will receive a preference if one sibling receives an offer. All seat offers, however, are based on available space and where siblings fall within the group of applicants who are also offered the sibling preference.

What is a preference and how will it impact my application?

A preference is an application advantage offered to certain applicants based on siblings, staff associations or geographic location of their residence. It impacts applications because if a preference applies to you, you can have an advantage when a school runs their lottery or the system sorts their waitlist than other applicants. For example, if a school you apply to offers a preference to applicants in your zip code, your application will be given priority over other applicants who do not live in your zip code.

Do you have materials in other languages?

Yes. The Apply Philly Charter site is available in nine different languages. The Apply Philly Charter Helpline offers interpretation services in dozens of languages.

I don't speak English. Who can help me with my application?

The Apply Philly Charter Helpline offers interpretation services in dozens of languages. The Helpline can be reached at 1-800-891-3999.

How are ESOL students or students with special needs accommodated in the application process?

Apply Philly Charter does not collect any information about ESOL or Special Education status at the point of application. All applicants receive equal access to the lottery. If your child is offered a seat, the school will request this information during their enrollment process. It is still important to research each school and what they offer in terms of services before you apply to help with your decision should you be offered a seat.

Can I apply for a seat mid-year?

Schools accept applications for the current school year on Apply Philly Charter. Current year applications will not be run through the lottery and will be sorted on to waitlists according to first, preference, and second, date submitted. Please note that if you are placed on the waitlist for

the current school year, it does not transfer to the future school year. You will need to apply again with a pre-deadline or post-deadline application if you do not secure a seat during the current year.

When you login to the Family Portal, it is important to note which type of application you are filling out and submitting. If you would like to apply for a seat mid-year, select “Apply for the Current Year.”

Some schools opt out of accepting Current Year applications due to the length of their waitlists. You may not see a particular school you are looking for on the list of options when you are selecting schools on your current year application for this reason. [Click here](#) for a list of schools that have opted out of the 2023-2024 current year application.

| John Doe Date Of Birth: 1/4/2008 | |
|---|---|
| Application for September 2023 | |
| Status | Not Started |
| Action | Deadline Passed |
| Post-Deadline Application for September 2023 | |
| Status | Incomplete |
| Action | Edit September 2023 Post-Deadline Application |
| Application for Current School Year | |
| Status | Not Started |
| Action | Apply for Current Year |

What if my child’s charter school closes?

Apply Philly Charter does not play a role in the decision-making process of charter school closure. If a participating school is open, enrolling students and accepting applications, Apply Philly Charter will continue to manage their application and lottery processes. In the event that the decision is made to close a school, Apply Philly Charter will continue to honor their MOU with the participating school until the time comes that they cease to accept applications and enroll new students.