

3.00 ADMISSION POLICY

Northeast Academy for Aerospace and Advanced Technologies (NEAAAT) is a tuition-free public charter school. Any child who is qualified under the laws of North Carolina for admission to a public school is qualified for admission to a charter school. To qualify to attend a North Carolina public school, a student must be a resident of North Carolina on the first day of school. County boundaries and school attendance areas do not affect charter school enrollment. Admission to a charter school shall not be determined according to the school attendance area in which a student resides, and admission to a charter school shall not be determined according to the local school administrative unit in which a student resides.

NEAAAT 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.

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.

During each period of enrollment, NEAAAT will accept applications for new students. Once enrolled, students are not required to reapply for admission in subsequent enrollment periods. In order to properly plan, the school will routinely inquire of parents in early spring through letters of intent to ascertain if students will return to NEAAAT the following year. Applications for new students are available in the NEAAAT office and on the NEAAAT website. If needed, the application may be mailed or emailed to the parent of a prospective student.

Enrollment Application Time Period

Applications for the upcoming school year are available on the school's website and can be mailed or electronically sent upon request, beginning January 1 of the preceding school year. If an admission lottery is necessary, it will be conducted during the first week of May of the preceding school year.

Lottery procedures will comply with the NC Open Meetings Laws provided in G.S. 143-218.10(a). The school will publicize the date, time, and location of the meeting and allow anyone to observe.

Applications from children or grandchildren of faculty, staff, and members of the board need not be submitted during the application window, and may be reviewed and granted at any time.

Lottery Process

During each period of enrollment, the charter school will 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 the number of applications exceeds the number of available spaces, a lottery will be held to fill vacant seats for the next school year. After seats are filled, the drawing will continue to determine the order of a waiting list. 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.

The lottery is conducted during the first full week of May. The date and location are made public so that anyone may observe. The lottery is conducted by the CEO or his/her designee and certified by an outside, unbiased volunteer. Upon filling all the available positions, the lottery continues through the entire pool of applicants to establish a waiting list.

Following the lottery, parents are notified by email and postal mail of their acceptance by lot. Parents have 14 calendar days to reply as to whether they accept or decline the position. Should a parent decline a spot or fail to respond, the open position will be offered to the next chronological applicant on the waiting list. When an open position is offered to the next applicant, they will have 14 calendar days in which to accept or decline.

If a position becomes available in the program, class, or grade level during the first 20 days of school, then the school will offer enrollment in that program, class, or grade level to the next applicant on the waitlist. Openings that may occur after the first 20 days of the school year may not be filled.

If multiple birth siblings apply for admission to a charter school and a lottery is needed under G.S. 115C-218.45, the charter school will enter one surname into the lottery to represent all of the multiple birth siblings. If that surname of the multiple birth siblings is selected, then all of the multiple birth siblings will be admitted.

Enrollment Preferences

The School may give enrollment preferences in certain instances as stated in G.S. 115C-218.45. Enrollment priority preferences will be given in this order:

1. Limited to no more than 15% of the school's total enrollment, unless granted a waiver by the State Board of Education, the following:
 - a. Children or grandchildren of persons employed full time by the charter school.
 - b. Children or grandchildren of the charter school's board of directors.
2. Students who were enrolled within the two previous school years but left the school (i) to participate in an academic study abroad program or competitive admission residential program or (ii) because of the vocational opportunities of the student's parent;
3. Siblings of currently enrolled students who were enrolled at NEAAAT in the previous year. For the purposes of this section, the term "siblings" includes any of the following who reside in the same household: half siblings, step siblings, and children residing in a family foster home.
4. Siblings of students who have completed the highest grade level offered by that school and who were enrolled in at least four grade levels offered by the charter school or, if less than four grades are offered, in the maximum number of grades offered by the charter school.

Waitlist Priority

The School may give enrollment priority in certain instances as stated in G.S. 115C-218.45. Waitlist priority will be given in this order:

1. Siblings who apply to the charter school for admission beginning in the same school year, such as when a sibling was not initially admitted due to grade level capacity.

Legal Reference(s): G.S. 115C-218.45, Session Law 2023-107

Adopted: March 12, 2015

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