

# Endeavor Charter School Policies

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| Title: Lottery Admission Policy  |
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## 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 and currently active Board members (not to exceed 15% of the total enrollment) at the time of hire (for staff members) and automatically for the next school year following the start of a term (for Board members).
2. Second, ECS will admit the Siblings of currently enrolled students admitted to the school in a previous year. “Siblings” is defined to include any of the following who reside in the same household: half-siblings, step-siblings, and children residing in the same family foster home.
3. Third, 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.
4. Fourth, ECS will admit the Siblings of ECS graduates, so long as that graduate was enrolled in at least four grade levels offered by ECS.

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

## Application Period for New Student Enrollment

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During each period of enrollment, ECS will accept applications for new students. The application period will begin each year towards the beginning of January and end no less than thirty (30) days later. Applicants whose applications are received after the application period deadline will be placed on the bottom of the waitlist.

## Process for New Student Enrollment

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. In that event, a lottery will be held at the conclusion of each application period to fill any vacant seats for the upcoming school year. A randomly generated list, beginning with students who qualify for priority enrollment as defined above and followed by a general enrollment category, will be formed with all remaining applicants.

From the lottery date until July 1, the family of a child offered a seat at Endeavor Charter School must notify the school in writing of their decision to accept the seat within one week of receiving the offer.

From July 1 until the first day of the student school year, the family of a child offered a seat at Endeavor Charter School must notify the school in writing of their decision to accept the seat within two days (48 hours) of receiving the offer.

After the first day of the student school year, the family of a child offered a seat at Endeavor Charter School must notify the school in writing of their decision to accept the seat within one day (24 hours) of receiving the offer.

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 waitlist.

## Multiple Birth Siblings

In the event that multiple-birth siblings apply for admission to ECS and a lottery is needed, ECS will enter one child's name 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.

## Admission of Siblings Following An Expansion Year

In the event of an expansion that increases ECS's student population by 30% or more (an "Expansion Year"), ECS will admit siblings of currently enrolled students when both of the following conditions are met: (1) the currently enrolled student sibling was admitted to the school for matriculation at the beginning of an Expansion Year; and (2) the applicant sibling has been placed on the ECS lottery waitlist for three consecutive years (once for matriculation at the beginning of an Expansion Year, once for matriculation the year following an Expansion Year, and once for matriculation two years following an Expansion Year).

## Grade Placement Provision

ECS assesses all new students for grade placement. If ECS determines 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, and, if no seats are available, reserves the right to place the student at the bottom of the waitlist for the appropriate grade level.

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## **Compliance With Open Meetings Law**

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

## **Expiration of Waitlists**

The current year's general enrollment waiting list is valid until 12 noon of day 40 of the student school year for which the student applied, after which the general enrollment waitlist will expire, and no seats will be filled from the general public waitlist for the remainder of the school year.

The current year priority enrollment waiting list is valid until 12 noon on the last day of the school year for which the student applied.

## **First Day Attendance Policy for All Students**

As set forth in the ECS Attendance Policy, students not in attendance for any grade level by 12:00 pm on Day 1 of a school year 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 Governance Committee. 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.

Students offered admission from the waitlist after the school year has begun must attend school the first school day following their written acceptance.

A parent/guardian may appeal the withdrawal of a student from Endeavor Charter School due to failure to meet this attendance policy. A written appeal must be emailed to the ECS Board of Directors Governance Committee by 5:00 pm on the day after the notification of the withdrawal.