North Valley Academy

Lottery Policy

I. Public Charter School

North Valley Academy Charter School (NVA) is a public charter school and as such will comply with all applicable laws regarding admission to a public charter school in New Mexico. The School shall not discriminate among applicants on the basis of disability, gender, gender identity, ethnic or national origin, religion, sexual orientation, or academic standing.

II. Lottery

A. With the exception of enrollment preferences required by law and outlined herein, NVA shall accept students for enrollment pursuant to the Charter Schools Act. Expressed interest in enrollment will be accepted on an ongoing basis. As it is received, the registrar or designee will record all expressions of interest. In the event more expressions of interest are received than there are available openings in the School, admission shall be on the basis of lottery. Lotteries will be held for available spaces only.

B. Prior to each lottery the School will:
   1. Notify the public of the lottery date, place, and time, through a variety of media to include but not limited to print, web based, and text. The information will also include how to enter the lottery.
   2. Explain all procedures to members of the public attending the lottery.

C. Pursuant to the New Mexico Charter Schools Act enrollment preference shall be given to:
   1. Students who have been admitted to the charter school through an appropriate admission process and remain in attendance through subsequent grades;
   2. Siblings[1] of students already admitted to or attending the same charter school;

[1] "Siblings" means:
(1) students living in the same residence at least fifty percent of the time in a permanent or semi-permanent situation, such as long-term foster care placements; or
(2) students related to each other by blood, marriage or cohabitation. §22-8B-2(N) NMSA 1978.

and

3. Children of employees employed by the School.

D. Opportunities to enroll or enter the lottery will be advertised on the School's website and through venues such as local publications.

E. All students who are successfully drawn in lotteries will be notified via a letter sent US mail, email, or delivered in person. Families of students must express in writing their intent to enroll in NVA within 3 business days of receiving this notification.

F. Families then have fourteen (14) calendar days from the date of acceptance to complete all required registration documentation. Failure to complete registration within fourteen (14) days will result in forfeiture of the student's seat, and the student will be moved from the seated list to the declined list. Families who wish to be reconsidered for enrollment must notify the school and will be placed at the bottom of the waitlist.

III. Public Health Emergency–Necessitated Lotteries

Every effort will be made by the School to accomplish full re-entry for the upcoming school year and to provide all students drawn in the lottery with their indicated preferred educational model. However, due to the potential duration and extent of a public health emergency or pandemic, and any accompanying legal or public health restrictions, it may not be known how many students will be permitted on campus.

Therefore, the School will first draw from the lottery those students who will be offered in-person instruction, which may include a hybrid model. From the remaining names in the lottery, the School will draw those students who will be offered remote learning. Any student selected for participation in an in-person or hybrid model may change their placement to remote learning at any time. Any student who is selected for remote learning but wishes to participate in in-person instruction may request placement on the School's in-person learning waitlist.

IV. Waitlist

After student openings are filled in every educational model, all others will be placed on the relevant waitlist. If a student expresses interest in enrolling after the lottery has been drawn the student's name will be added to the bottom of the relevant waitlist.

Adopted by the North Valley Academy Charter School Governing Council on March 19, 2026.