



POLICY #: 234
SECTION: Pupils
TITLE: Admissions Policy
ADOPTED: January 25, 2011
REVISED: -

Purpose

The Board of Trustees of the 21st Cyber Charter School (“21CCCS”) recognizes that all resident children in Pennsylvania qualify for admission to 21CCCS as follows:

- As a cyber charter school, 21CCCS shall not discriminate in its admission policies or practices on the basis of intellectual ability, or athletic ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, status as a person with a disability, proficiency in the English language or any other basis that would be illegal if used by a school district.
- As a cyber charter school, 21CCCS may limit admission to a particular grade level, a targeted population group composed of at-risk students, or areas of concentration of the school such as mathematics, science or the arts.
- As a cyber charter school, 21CCCS may establish reasonable criteria to evaluate prospective students, which shall be outlined in 21CCCS’s Charter.
- If more students apply to 21CCCS than the number of attendance slots available in the school, then students must be selected on a random basis from a pool of qualified applicants meeting the established eligibility criteria and submitting an application by the deadline established by 21CCCS. However, 21CCCS may give preference in enrollment to a child of a parent who has actively participated in the development of the cyber charter school and to siblings of students presently enrolled in 21CCCS.
- Children from across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania may enroll on a space-available basis, and the student’s district of residence shall permit the student to attend 21CCCS.

The Board of Trustees authorizes 21CCCS as follows:

- 21CCCS will utilize an open enrollment plan to encourage all parents to consider enrolling their children. Any child who is qualified under the laws of Pennsylvania for admission to a public school is qualified for admission to 21CCCS.
- Applications for student slots must be submitted by a deadline that will be established and made known by 21CCCS.
- If more students submit applications than can be accommodated by the school’s capacity—class, grade, etc., a lottery will be held to enroll students on a specified date that will be made known to all applicants and their families.

- All students whose enrollment forms were filed by the enrollment deadline will be separated by grade. A lottery will only be held for a particular grade level if more applications are received than can be accommodated for that grade level. Priority for available spaces shall be:
 1. Students whose parents actively participated in the development of 21CCCS.
 2. Students who have at least one sibling currently enrolled in 21CCCS.
 3. Students who do not fall into paragraphs 1 or 2.

- Within one week after the lottery has been held, a mailing will be sent to all applicants regardless of their status. This status letter will indicate either that the student has been enrolled or that the student has been placed on the waiting list and the student's place on the waiting list.

- The lottery will be conducted at a public board meeting and will be presided over by the President of the Board of Trustees or another member of the Board of Trustees designated for that purpose.

- A waiting list will be maintained in the order drawn by lot, if needed, for the admission of students at a grade level should space become available during the school year. Students whose applications are received after the deadline will be placed on the waiting list in the order that their applications are received.

- Students are allowed to withdraw from 21CCCS at any time, upon written notice by the child's parent or guardian and upon evidence of arrangements at another school. The district of residence will be notified by 21CCCS when a student withdraws.

- No tests will be administered to students in order to determine eligibility for admission.

- Students who have been expelled from another school because their behavior reflected concerns for their personal safety, or for the safety of others, will be reviewed individually and enrollment decisions will be made in full compliance with Pennsylvania law and with the State Board of Education regulations.

TO THE EXTENT THAT ANYTHING IN THIS POLICY COULD BE CONSTRUED TO CONFLICT WITH APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS, THE APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS CONTROL. THIS POLICY IS NOT INTENDED TO CONFLICT WITH CHARTER REQUIREMENTS.

References

24 P.S. § 17-1723-A