Admissions Requirements

The Charter School shall require students who wish to attend the Charter School to complete an application form. Applications are available online or in hard copy form in both English and Spanish. Applications will be accepted during a publicly advertised open application period each year for enrollment in the following school year. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of available spaces, we hold a public random drawing in accordance with Education Code Section 47605 (d). Following the open enrollment period, applications shall be counted to determine whether any grade level has received more applications than availability. In the event that this happens, the Charter School will hold a public random drawing to determine admission for the impacted grade level, with the exception of existing students, who are guaranteed admission in the following school year. All applicants will be notified via letter and phone call, and the date and time are posted publicly on the school website. Families will be invited to attend the lottery, but are not required to do so in order to secure their spot.

Admission preferences in the case of a public random drawing shall be given to the following students in the following order:

1. All students currently enrolled in the Charter School
2. In-District siblings of students currently enrolled in the Charter school
3. Out of District siblings of students currently enrolled in the Charter school
4. Students from other DCP schools
5. Students residing within district boundaries
6. Students residing outside district boundaries

DCP schools are open to all students and we encourage all students to apply. Specifically, the school shall:

- Be open to any students wishing to attend the school, subject only to capacity.
- Be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, and all other operations, and will not charge tuition.
- Consider students for admission without regard for and will not discriminate on the basis of the characteristics listed in Education Code Section 220 (actual or perceived disability, gender, gender expression, gender identity, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes set forth in Section 422.55 of the Penal Code, including immigration status, or association with an individual who has any of the aforementioned characteristics).
- Be an open enrollment, tuition-free public school with no specific requirements for admission (e.g., minimum grade point average, test scores, discipline records, etc.) as
outlined in Education Code § 47605(d)(2)(A). No test, interview, or assessment shall be administered to students prior to acceptance and enrollment into the school.

- Comply with all laws establishing minimum and maximum age for public school attendance in charter schools.
- Not determine admission according to the place of residence of the pupil, or of his or her parent or guardian, within the state, except in the case of a public random drawing.
- Not require a parent/legal guardian/student to provide information regarding a student’s disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, legal or economic status, primary language or English Learner status, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes set forth in section 422.55 of the Penal Code, including immigration status, or any other information that would violate federal or state law, prior to admission, participation in any admissions or attendance lottery, or pre-enrollment event or process, or as a condition of admission or enrollment. The Charter School may request, at the time of, and as part of, conducting its lottery process, the provision of information necessary to apply specific admissions preferences set forth in this Charter.
- Not request or require submission of a student’s IEP, 504 Plan, or any other record or related information prior to admission, participation in any admissions or attendance lottery, or pre-enrollment event or process, or as a condition of admission or enrollment.
- Adhere to the provisions of the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and ensure that each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children and youths. The Charter School shall provide specific information, in its outreach materials, websites, at community meetings, open forums, and regional center meetings, that notifies parents that Charter School is open to enroll and provide services for all students, and provides a standard District contact number for access to additional information regarding enrollment.
- Comply with all applicable state law regarding homeless and foster youth, including but not limited to the provisions of AB 379 (2015) and Chapter 5.5 (commencing with Section 48850) of Part 27 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Education Code, as amended from time to time. The Charter School shall extend its uniform complaint procedure to complaints filed pursuant to the applicable provisions of AB 379.
- Comply with all laws establishing minimum and maximum age for public school attendance.
- Ensure that all application materials provide complete information regarding application procedures, key dates, and admissions preferences and requirements consistent with approved charter.
- Maintain complete and accurate records of its annual admissions and enrollment processes, including but not limited to documentation of implementation of lottery and waitlist criteria and procedures in accordance with the terms of the Charter. These records shall be made available to the District upon request.

The only explicit circumstance under which a student cannot be admitted is if he/she is currently under expulsion from another school.¹

After admission, students are required to submit an enrollment packet, which shall include the following:

¹ A student who is currently in suspended expulsion status may enroll at a DCP school.
In regard to immunizations, California law requires that parents/guardians of all children must submit completed immunization records, or exemption materials, prior to admittance of their children to school. School verification of immunizations is to be by written medical records from a physician or immunization clinic. All new and transfer students must present a current immunization record at the time of enrollment. There is no grace period. Pupils who fail to complete the series of required immunizations will be denied enrollment until the series has been completed. Exceptions are allowed under the conditions provided in SB 277 (2015). The immunization status of all students will be reviewed periodically. Those students who do not meet the State guidelines may be excluded from school until the requirements are met. Students who have been exposed to a communicable disease for which they have not been immunized may be excluded from school at the discretion of the Charter School.

DCP will comply with all state and federal laws governing admission of homeless and foster youth to charter schools.