



# Lottery Policy

## Application Period for the Lottery

Lake Norman Charter will begin accepting applications for the following school year no later than the second Friday in November of each current school year. Such application period for the lottery will end on January 31st of the current school year. Subsequently, the lottery will be held no later than the third week in February of the current school year and will be publicized on the school's website and in the local news media. Any applications submitted prior to the official start date of the application period are not valid and will not be placed in the lottery. Any application received after the January 31st deadline will be placed at the bottom of the waitlist in the order in which it was received.

## Application

If any information on a lottery application is falsified, even if the false information is found during any school year after the student has started classes at LNC, the applicant's name will be taken out of the LNC lottery, or removed from the waitlist, or the student will be denied acceptance and will not be permitted to attend or continue to attend LNC at the time the information is found to be inaccurate. Examples of inaccurate or false information, include, but are not limited to, a student's current grade level and date of birth. If a student applies for a grade level on his application, but it is found that he no longer qualifies for that grade at the time that he is offered a spot (i.e. he is retained by his current school, he is subsequently promoted by his current school to a grade other than that for which he applied, etc.), he will be removed from the waitlist of that grade level and put at the bottom of the waitlist of the correct grade level.

## Enrollment Preferences

Per State statute § 115C-218.45, Lake Norman Charter gives preference to:

**Siblings:** A sibling is defined as any of the following who reside in the same household: a half-sibling, step-sibling, and a child residing in a family foster home. If a family has legal guardianship of a child, for the purposes of the lottery, that child will also be considered a sibling if another member of that same family already attends LNC. Legacy sibling preference will be given to a student whose sibling has graduated from Lake Norman Charter and attended at least four years at LNC prior to graduation. If a family fails to enter an eligible sibling child into the lottery during the application period set forth above, the family forfeits sibling preference for the upcoming school year and the sibling child will be placed at the bottom of the applicable waitlist in the order in which his application was received. At the time of enrollment, families must provide documentation to prove the eligible sibling status (i.e. marriage certificate, birth certificate, etc.).

**Staff members:** If an individual is hired in a full-time capacity, their child/children or grandchild/grandchildren will be enrolled at the start of the next school year in the appropriate grade if there are available openings in that grade. If there is not an opening at that grade, their child will be placed at the top of the waitlist in the order of application until a spot becomes available or until the 20th day of school.

**Board members:** Once a Board member has served a minimum of one year, their child/children or grandchild/grandchildren will be enrolled at the start of the next school year in the appropriate grade if there are available openings in that grade. Staff members' children will take precedence for order of enrollment if there are limited openings within a desired grade. If there is not an opening at that grade, their child will be placed at the top of the waitlist in the order of application until a spot becomes available or until the 20th day of school. Pursuant to North Carolina GS115C-218.45, priority enrollment given to children of staff and board members will not be allowed to be more than 15% of the total student body.

**Acceptance** An applicant's family will be contacted using the contact information provided on the lottery application when an open spot becomes available for the applicable grade level. From the time of contact, the family will have five business days to contact LNC and commit to the opening and an additional five business days to complete and return the paperwork to LNC. Failure to respond or complete required paperwork by the deadline will result in the applicant being moved to the bottom of the current waitlist. This time frame may be extended by LNC, in LNC's sole discretion, if the family of the applicant contacts LNC within ten business days of initial contact and provides information regarding extenuating circumstances (i.e. out of town at the time of contact, death of a family member, etc.).

**Enrollment** Lake Norman Charter will enroll students from their waitlists when there is availability through the 20th day of school ("Enrollment Period"). After the Enrollment Period expires, all waitlists are terminated and void. A child who is not selected to attend LNC through the lottery process must reapply during the applicable application period if he is interested in enrollment for the following school year. If a student has been enrolled at LNC in the last two years, but left LNC to attend a competitive admission residential program or academic study abroad, he/she may be, in LNC's sole discretion, placed after the Enrollment Period expires if there is availability within the applicable grade.