



ENROLLMENT POLICY

SECTION 1. BEN FRANKLIN ACADEMY

MISSION

The mission of Ben Franklin Academy is to develop young adults with character like America's founding Renaissance man, Benjamin Franklin: well-read, scientifically curious, and civically engaged.

VISION

Our students will excel academically through a challenging, sequenced curriculum that emphasizes math, science, the arts, and literacy. We will be a data-driven institution, focusing on individual students. Our students, teachers, parents, staff, and leaders will be held accountable for the success of our school. Finally, we recognize that an education is incomplete without fostering social emotional development, character, sports, and nature.

PURPOSE

Ben Franklin Academy (BFA) is a tuition-free charter school with the exception of its preschool programs. BFA has developed the following enrollment policy in order to fairly fill oversubscribed classes.

SECTION 2.

METHOD OF ENROLLMENT

BFA participates in the annual Douglas County School District (DCSD) online Open Enrollment (OE) process to fill K-8 openings. Parents interested in K-8 enrollment at BFA need to complete DCSD OE for their child to be eligible for openings. (Previous year's OE lists do not "Roll Forward.")

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

BFA will not discriminate against any student as per BFA's Non-Discrimination Policy. As such, the school will not enroll students based on ability (academic, language, physical, or otherwise), gender, race, or socioeconomic status.

OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD

The OE period is dictated by DCSD’s timeline and BFA complies with this timeline. If circumstances drive a modification to this timeline, it will be approved by BFA’s Principal or designated representative. If OE is completed during the First Round, priority for enrollment will be given in the following order to the following groups of students, prior to the Lottery:

1. Currently enrolled students;
2. Siblings of currently enrolled K-8 students. Siblings that share the same birth date (i.e., twins or triplets) shall receive automatic enrollment;
3. Children in the household of Founding Families;
4. Children of full-time teachers; and
5. Preschool priority students identified through the Preschool Lottery described below.

PRESCHOOL PRIORITY

Currently enrolled preschool students shall be given priority to fill no more than fifty percent (50%) of the open kindergarten spots in a given year, only if they have completed the OE process with DCSD during the First Round (“First Round”). The number of open kindergarten spots is the total of all kindergarten spots less those given priority based on the first four (4) priority categories listed above who completed OE during First Round. If the number of children from the preschool exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the open kindergarten slots, then a separate Preschool Lottery (“Preschool Lottery”) shall be held to fill fifty percent (50%) of the open kindergarten slots. This Preschool Lottery shall follow the procedures detailed below.

Once OE for the First Round is complete, preschool students are given 1 lottery “ticket” per year in attendance (if attended another year they have to have 75% attendance of the year). The Preschool Lottery is performed by the preschool director and registrar. Preschool students are listed and given a random number based on a random number generator website. If the student was in attendance for more than one year their name will be listed to reflect the number of years (so 2 years will result in their name placed on the list twice). The selection begins with number 1 and continues until all openings from the 50% are filled.

If a preschool student accepts kindergarten enrollment and subsequently leaves the preschool prior to the end of the academic year, the preschool student shall lose his/her spot and the school may then extend an Invitation to Enroll to another child to fill this spot.

BEN FRANKLIN ACADEMY

If a preschool student who was open enrolled during First Round is not enrolled through the Preschool Lottery, the preschool student shall remain on the general, non-priority OE wait list.

OPEN ENROLLMENT ACCEPTANCE

All invitations to attend BFA are handled by the OE tool for the first round and via email from BFA's registrar for the second round. Once accepting their invitation, parents are required to fill out and submit an OE packet to BFA.

VACANCIES

When a vacancy is created prior to, during, or after the school year commences, the vacancy may or may not be filled, at the discretion of the Principal, in the event it is considered to be fiscally, logistically, or otherwise in conflict with the school's ability to meet its mission and goals. If the school chooses to fill the vacancy, priority will be given as specified in the Priority Enrollment section of this document. An Invitation to Enroll will be extended to a child as described above. A student who fills a vacancy shall be deemed a currently enrolled student, and that student's enrollment shall continue beyond the current academic year, in accordance with the school's policies and procedures.

DCSD OPEN ENROLLMENT POLICY

By providing the OE packet to the school, the child(ren) will forfeit enrollment in their neighborhood school, as defined by DCSD open enrollment policies. Please see the DCSD website for details regarding its open enrollment policies.

FOUNDING FAMILIES

A Founding Family includes children in the household of the following individuals (or families). No additional Founding Families will be approved.

BEN FRANKLIN ACADEMY

Alexandra Harden	Ali Sarouhan	Amiee Godbout
Amy Taylor	Andrea and Jesse Day	Angela Lujan
Anita Raghunath (Raab family)	Ann Citrin	Becky Mayka
Becky Mullen	Brooke Montz	Burgandy and Steve Hodge
Carrie and John Keen	Casey and Ken White	Cheri and Steve Neill
Diane Day	Donna and Mitch Fillmore	Dorothie (Dot) Huges Werth and Michael Werth
Erin and Bob Salehiamin	Genevieve Gibson and James McDermott	Gretchen Testerman
Hannah Peterson	Heather Holmes	Heather Salberg
Hristina Shoemaker	Ingrid Burke	Jason Sanders
Jason Sunahara	Jeannie DeFore	Jennifer Hicks
Jennifer Torres	Jessica Gimbel	Jessica Nekouei
Judy Wolf	Joel Sevinsky	Juliette Shuler
Kari and Ike Beers	Katherine Thomas	Katie and Tom Devlin
Kimberly and Doug Blum	Krista Schmidt	Laura McGee
Lisa Dietz	Lisa DiLorenze	Lisa and Dave Fischer
Lori Lambert	Marla Bursch	Matt and Trish Matherly
Melanie Carney	Melisa Liberman	Michelle Bynum
Missy Washeck	Nikolaos Gelatos	Paige Brock
Rebecca Jovanvich	Rochelle Evans	Roger and Lori Nagel
Roma and Abhijit Sur	Sabina Boekman	Sara Taylor
Sasha Woodard	Sebrina Ivey	Shelly Dana
Shenley Clark	Spence Black	Stacey Kimberly
Staci Ferguson	Stephanie Wight	Steve Derdowski
Susanne Smith	Susie McCoy	Tony and Lacy Williams
Ward Cerny	Zach and Jen Gutier	

Reviewed by the Board 10/20/2020