



DISCOVERY CHARTER SCHOOL
800 CANONIE DRIVE | PORTER, IN 46304
219-983-9800 | DISCOVERYCHARTER.ORG

Discovery Charter School Lottery and Waitlist Procedures

Current School Year Admissions

Applications will be placed on the existing waiting list for the applicable grade level in the order received. Discovery Charter School will admit students on a space available basis. Applicants will be notified of their position on the waiting list and spaces will be filled in numerical order from the list.

Applicants with siblings enrolled at Discovery and children of current, full-time staff or board members are offered a space for the current school year subject to availability or priority waitlist position if the grade is full. New applicants to the school, who do not have siblings currently enrolled and are not children of current full-time staff or board members, will be offered a space if available or placed on the waitlist according to the timestamp of application.

Beginning April 1st, applications for grades 1-8 for the following school year open. Discovery prioritizes the filling of classes in the current academic year. Families who choose not to take an offered position in the current academic year will be moved to the appropriate spot on the waiting list for the next academic year.

From Waitlist

I. When a space becomes available, the family will be contacted via e-mail first and then by phone.

II. In the event that a student placed on a waitlist has an UNENROLLED sibling, the sibling will REMAIN on the corresponding waitlist according to the date the application was received until either applicant is enrolled. Once one of the applicants is enrolled, sibling preference will then apply for the other applicant.

III. Families will have two deadlines to meet: an acceptance of offer deadline and an enrollment completion deadline.



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IV. The enrollment completion deadline is not to exceed 5 business days after the offer acceptance deadline. Final determination of deadlines is at the discretion of Discovery administration.

V. If the aforementioned offer deadline is not met, and a phone message (rather than speaking to a live person) has been left regarding the available space, Discovery will make a follow-up phone call detailing a final notification. If no response is received by the time given in the final notification, the space will be released.

VI. If a family receives a space but does NOT ultimately meet the aforementioned deadlines, the space will be released, and the family will need to reapply for admission and will be placed on the waitlist in the order received. This process will continue until all classes are full.

VII. After the first Sunday in August, families contacted MUST (a) accept the offer of enrollment within 24 hours by phone or email; AND (b) complete the required electronic forms in PowerSchool (which will be the close of the 5th business day after the date of the offer). Failure to satisfy either of these requirements will result in revocation of the offer.

VIII. It is the responsibility of the family to make sure the school has their correct contact information. If there are any changes to their phone number or email through the enrollment process, they must notify the school office immediately.

Kindergarten Lottery

Each year a lottery is conducted for available kindergarten spaces not allocated to siblings of currently enrolled students. The lottery will be held the first Wednesday in March for the following school year. Applications will open the November prior. All kindergarten applications received are treated in the following two ways:

- I. Applicants with siblings CURRENTLY enrolled at Discovery and applicants that are children of current staff or board members, are automatically offered a space.



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- II. New applicants to the school, who do not have siblings currently enrolled and are not children of current staff or board members, will participate in a lottery for available space or waitlist position.
- III. Please note that in order to be eligible for the lottery, applications must be received by the deadline established for each year. Applications received after the specified deadline will be added to the bottom of the waitlist. Applications will open November 1 of the previous school year from when admission is desired.

Prior to the lottery, all students will be assigned a random identification number that will be used for the actual lottery. This number will be provided to the family prior to the lottery. This allows us to maintain the privacy of our families during the process.

The following steps are to be taken during the lottery process:

- I. The students who have siblings CURRENTLY in the school and those that are the children of current staff or board members, will automatically be assigned to a space. (ie. XXXX space #1)
- II. The lottery will take place in the form of the identification numbers being placed in a container that will allow for them to be mixed/shuffled and drawn.
- III. A non-affiliated school representative, with no students in the lotto, will draw at random.
- IV. The identification number will be read and assigned to a space (ie. XXXX space # 22)
- V. If a child selected has an UNENROLLED sibling in another grade level, the sibling will be placed on the next available waitlist spot behind waitlisted siblings of students currently enrolled. Note: This may affect overall waitlist status of other students.
- VI. In the event that a household has two students (twin or sibling) in the kindergarten lottery – if one student is selected, the other student will AUTOMATICALLY be given the next space on the lottery list. Note: If a twin is selected for the last available space, we will oversubscribe in one class to accommodate the other twin/sibling. This process will continue until all spaces are full.
- VII. Once the spaces are filled, the lottery process will continue, and students will be placed on the waitlist in the order selected. (ie. XXXX #1 on the waitlist)



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Post Kindergarten Lottery

- I. Following the lottery, all students selected in the lottery, and those waitlisted will be contacted via e-mail and phone within 1 business day. If a communication is not received within 24 hours of the lottery, it is the family's responsibility to contact the school.
- II. Families will have 5 business days to accept the offer by email or phone call to admissions.
- III. Accepting families are then notified with enrollment instructions and a corresponding completion deadline.
- IV. IF a family receives a space in the initial lottery, but does NOT meet the aforementioned deadlines, the space will be released, and the family will need to REAPPLY for admission and will be placed on the waitlist in the order received.
- V. Vacated spaces will be released to individuals on the waitlist.
- VI. This process will continue until all classes are full.
- VII. It is the responsibility of the family to make sure the school has their correct contact information. If there are any changes to their phone number or email through the enrollment process, they must notify the school office immediately.

Greg Guernsey

04/23/2024

Lisa Gonzalez

04/26/2024