

Inspire Connections Academy Enrollment and Lottery Policy

Purpose

Inspire Connections Academy ("Inspire") is committed to maximizing open enrollment within its annually set enrollment limits, while carefully considering student/teacher ratio to ensure students are provided with quality instruction and support. Each year the school will conduct an open application period as described below.

Nondiscrimination Assurances

Inspire does not discriminate against any person on the basis of ethnic group identification, race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, socioeconomic status, physical or mental disability, athletic performance, language proficiency in English or another language, prior academic achievement, or age in the admission to, participation in, or receipt of any educational services or activities.

Open Application Period

Each year, Inspire will have an open application period for the following school year which will take place in the spring. The dates of the open application period will be announced publicly on the school's website and as otherwise required by the Idaho State Board of Education rules. During this period, applicants who are interested in enrolling must complete the online registration form which will be made available on the school's website under "Enrollment". No applicants will be enrolled during the open application period. At the conclusion of the open application period, the school will determine the total number of eligible applicants by grade level, as well as determine which applicants are eligible for the enrollment preferences as set forth in this policy.

Lottery Procedure

Upon accounting for returning students, if there are more completed applications than available spaces at the end of the application period, an equitable selection process in the form of a computer-generated random lottery will be conducted in accordance with this policy. The lottery will be held within seven (7) days of the enrollment deadline and will be conducted in a public setting by a neutral third party using a computer-generated randomization. Notification to the public will be given at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the lottery.

Prior to the lottery being conducted, eligible siblings and applicants who are eligible for all other preferences will be identified. Each prospective student who submitted a timely online registration, including siblings, will be entered individually into the lottery.

The lottery will be conducted one grade level at a time with the order for each grade level being randomized prior to the lottery being conducted, to determine the order in which seats will be filled. Students in the first drawn grade level are selected at random, until all grade levels are completed in the order in which they were randomized.

At the completion of each grade level selection, all sibling and other preferences shall be applied as set forth in this policy.

Randomization of Lottery

To ensure a random lottery without the possibility of human bias and error, Inspire will utilize a computer-generated randomization. The program will randomly select the order in which grade levels will be drawn, and then randomly select each student's name from the pool of enrollment applicants for a specific grade level until the number of available spaces are filled, or the pool of enrollment applications is exhausted.

Enrollment Preferences

Inspire will prioritize the enrollment of certain students in accordance with Idaho law and State Board of Education Rules. Enrollment preferences will be given to:

- 1) Children of founding board members not to exceed 10% of the total number of students enrolled,
- 2) Siblings of currently enrolled students, and
- 3) Siblings of students selected in the lottery

Within each grade level, selected students will be sorted by preference category as noted above, and then by chronological order of the selection number of each student.

Student Selection Process

The parents/legal guardians of selected students will receive a communication via email within five (5) business days after the lottery and must confirm student attendance by completing all enrollment requirements within ten (10) business days after the date the email was sent. A parent/legal guardian who has not confirmed attendance within the time given will forfeit their student's space to the next eligible student on the waitlist.

When all available spaces in a grade level have been filled, students not selected in the lottery will be placed on the appropriate waitlist in the order in which they were selected. The parents/legal guardians of students who are not selected will receive an email notification within five (5) business days after the lottery that their students are on the waitlist. These students will be given an opportunity to enroll as space becomes available in their respective grade level. The parents/legal guardians will be subsequently notified when an opening in the student's grade level becomes available. The parent/legal guardian must then confirm student attendance by completing all enrollment requirements within ten (10) business days.

after the date of notification of an available space or will forfeit their student's space to the next eligible student on the waitlist.

Waitlists

A waitlist of prospective students will be compiled annually after the lottery. The waitlist will first prioritize all students for whom a space was not available at the time of the lottery, taking into account siblings and other applicable preferences prioritized by the order in which they were selected.

Additionally, Inspire will continue to accept applications after the open application period. If the school is not over-subscribed by the end of the open application period, no lottery will be held and Inspire will continue to accept applications and admit eligible students in the order in which enrollment applications are received and based on availability in their respective grade level. If the school is over-subscribed, these students will be prioritized on the waitlist behind those who participated but were not selected in the lottery, in order of the automatically recorded time/date stamp recorded when they complete the enrollment application.

Prospective students will be offered an opportunity to enroll based on the availability of space in their grade level and their position on the waitlist, including any applicable preference.