

Sturgis Charter Public School Enrollment Policy

Enrollment Process

The enrollment process at Sturgis Charter Public School is designed to help parents and students decide whether Sturgis is the right choice for the student. In making their choice, parents and students should consider the school's academic focus, maritime themes, and high expectations for student effort and responsibility. As an equal educational opportunity for all students, the school shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, creed, sex, ethnicity, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability, age, ancestry, athletic performance, special need, or proficiency in the English language, and academic achievement.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible to apply to Sturgis, the applicant must be a resident of Massachusetts at the time of the application. In order to be eligible for continued enrollment at Sturgis Charter Public School, a student must be a resident of Massachusetts. Sturgis Charter Public School only accepts applicants for grades 9 and 10 and does not consider applicants for grades 11 and 12. The age ceiling of applicants to Sturgis Charter Public School is nineteen. Successful completion of the grade prior to the grade of entrance is a condition for admission to the school. Sturgis Charter Public School will strive to maintain an enrollment of 90-110 students each in grade 9 and grade 10. The school will determine the number of places available for admission at each grade level.

How will student applicants be recruited?

Applicants will be recruited by means of:

- All enrollment periods will be a minimum of one month with the beginning and ending dates stated in the publicity;
- An enrollment period, informational meetings, open houses, and enrollment conferences will be held annually during December and January for enrollment places in grades 9 and 10 for the following school year. The school may have additional enrollment periods throughout the year for the current school year or the following school year;
- All dates and deadlines for enrollment periods, informational meetings, open houses, enrollment conferences, application deadlines, and lotteries will be communicated through print media and the school's website;
- Participation in various events throughout the year;
- Ongoing assessment of current strategies to reach diverse populations of students and their families.

Application

Sturgis Charter Public School's application process involves two steps that each applicant must complete. The two steps consist of completing a written application and attending one of several informational meetings, open houses, or personal conferences (involving the applicant, parent/guardians, and a representative of the school). A copy of the Enrollment Policy of Sturgis Charter Public School will be attached to each application.

Lottery Process

In compliance with MGL Chapter 71, Section 89 (m,n), Sturgis Charter School will hold a lottery if there are more eligible applicants than available places. From the ending date of each enrollment period, the school will give at least one week notice of the lottery. Students who have completed the enrollment process are placed in three pools at each grade level, listed below in order of priority:

- Siblings of students currently attending Sturgis Charter Public School;
- Residents of the following school districts—Barnstable, Bourne, Carver, Chatam, Dennis-Yarmouth, Falmouth, Harwich, Mashpee, Nauset, Plymouth, Sandwich, Provincetown, and Wareham;
- Non-residents of the school districts listed above.

Each year, the lottery process and results will be public and audited. The name of each student who has completed the application process will be placed on an index card or some like material. These cards will be placed in three secure containers for each appropriate lottery pool as noted above. If a lottery is required for any of the applicant pools, sequential numbers will be assigned to each name, until all names are drawn. An individual not connected to the school will draw the lottery. The sibling pool will be drawn first, followed by the resident pool, and then the non-resident pool. The assigned numbers will correspond with the availables being filled. Students who have been given an offer of admission or who have been placed on a waiting list will be informed of their status in writing within two weeks of the date of the lottery.

Waiting Lists

Once the available places have been filled, the remaining names will be placed on the appropriate waiting list for each pool in the order in which the names were drawn. All available places in grade 9 will be filled first, and then any available places in grade 10 will be filled. In the event of available places, those places will be filled from the appropriate waiting list with the sibling waiting list first, resident waiting list second, and the non-resident waiting list third. Waiting lists for grade 9 will roll over to grade 10 for those students who have not yet enrolled in the school. Students must accept their offer of admission within 30 days of being notified that an enrollment place in the school is available to them.

Note:

1. Applications submitted outside of announced enrollment periods will not be accepted.
2. Students who decline their offer of admission will be removed from admission and waiting lists and will need to resubmit an application during a subsequent enrollment period if they want to apply for admission at that time.
3. Students for whom enrollment in the school would cause the sending district to exceed the 9% tuition cap may not be offered admission.
4. Students for whom #3 above applies but who are siblings of students currently enrolled at the school may have their tuition paid by the state, subject to appropriation.

Approved: Sturgis Charter Public School Board of Trustees on November 30, 2004