

ACA ADMISSIONS/LOTTERY

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I applied on the first day the application was available. Does that make a difference?

The lottery is a random selection of applicant names submitted during the thirty (30) days of Open Enrollment. It does not matter when you applied. The only time where it would matter is if the number of applications does not exceed the number of openings, in which case the students would be offered a space on a first come; first served basis (based on the time and date submitted). To this date, this has never happened.

I completed an application, but I've changed my mind and do not want my child to be entered in the lottery. What should I do?

**Please remove your child's information by using your Lotterease account before
Wednesday, February 28, 2018.**

You may also contact shawm@acacharter.com to request removal. Requests must be in writing.

How does it work?

Lotterease will randomly sort all applicant names in each grade level. We have no information about the student other than what you, the parent or guardian, entered into the online form.

No criteria are used to select students at ACA

Example: If there are 50 applicants for 5th grade and there are only 15 available slots, *Lotterease* will randomly sort all student names and the first 15 will be offered a seat (after adjustments for siblings are made). The remaining 35 students will make up the waiting list, in the order in which they were randomly selected.

How is the number of openings determined?

Siblings of currently enrolled students, as well as children of ACA employees do not participate in the lottery, per State Statute G.S.115C-238.29F(g)(5). These children are automatically assigned a spot at ACA. This number varies from year to year. For openings in 1st through 5th grades, the number of available seats is determined by current Kindergarten through 4th grade families who respond to an intent survey sent in January each year which asks if their child plans to return. This survey is sent prior to the lottery and, typically, parents notify us that their children will return with the exception of those who have received orders to move.

What happens if there are no openings in a particular grade at the time of the lottery? (We have not had this to happen at this time.)

The lottery will still be held; however, the student names are randomly sorted to create a waiting list.

Please note: The spring and summer months are extremely active for our waiting lists, so please do not be disappointed if there are no openings at the time of the lottery.

May I attend the lottery?

We are required by law to open our lottery to the public. Because we are using an electronic system, it is completed within minutes.

Your attendance at the lottery has no impact on the results. We do not know who your child is.

We will use a laptop to run the lottery, and the Lotterease screen will be projected so that anyone who wishes to attend can watch us select "Run" from the menu options. You may also view the results on your home computer, tablet or phone. Verified results, however, will not be released until 3-5 days after the lottery (March 5 or 6).

We will not project the results by grade until after all grade level lotteries have been run. Preliminary results will be projected the night of the Lottery; however, verified results will be available by March 6.

How will I be notified?

You can check the Lotterease website for verified results anytime after March 6, 2018.

1. Select the grade level/lottery your child will enter in 2018-19
2. Select Control F and type your child's last name in the box that appears in the upper right side of the screen (if using a Mac, use Command F)
3. Your child's name will be highlighted in the listing of names and you will be able to see if he or she was selected or wait listed.

If your child has been selected, you can confirm attendance or decline attendance while on this page by selecting Edit and making your choice.

-OR-

The other option is to wait for your official email notification which should be delivered to your inbox within 3 to 5 days after the lottery.

When you receive your official notice from Lotterease, please open the email and follow the instructions. Other Lotterease users have informed us each year they have a family or two that forfeit their child's seat because they were so excited their child was selected (subject line of the email), they never opened the email to read that they had to confirm attendance!

IF YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN SELECTED, YOU CAN CONFIRM ATTENDANCE OR DECLINE ATTENDANCE BY CLICKING THE LINK IN THE EMAIL FROM LOTTEREASE.

We strongly recommend that you enter Anderson_Creek_Academy@lotterease.com into your Contacts to prevent the email from being recognized as spam.

We also recommend that you check your junk/spam folders on a regular basis for future notifications from Lotterease, especially if your child was placed on the waiting list.

What if I have two children in the same grade level?

If one child falls into the selected group and the other does not, Lotterease will make the adjustment to ensure the placement of both students in the initial lottery run.

I have two children - one is in 3rd and the other is in 5th grade. What happens if my 3rd grader is selected and there are no openings in 5th grade?

Once you accept the seat for the 3rd grader, the 5th grader will be moved to the top of the waiting list and will be offered the next available slot.

****Please note:** Your child's placement at the top of the waiting list depends on how many other siblings were also moved based on the order of the selection. Example: Your 3rd grader is the 4th one selected that has a sibling in 5th grade; therefore, the other 3 siblings would be moved to the #1, #2, and #3 spots, and your 5th grader would be moved to the 4th spot.**

My child was selected. What is the next step?

The Lottery will be held on **Thursday, March 1, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.**

After the initial Lottery results are verified, emails will be sent to those selected requesting confirmation that you accept the space. You will have **eight (8) days** in which to "confirm" (accept) or "decline." These eight (8) days include weekends and holidays.

- **If you do nothing by the deadline, your child's name will be moved to the bottom of the waiting list.**
- If you confirm attendance please also click on the link in the email that directs you to the Enrollment Form.
- If you decline attendance, the first child on the waiting list will be contacted.

We respectfully request that you either confirm or decline as soon as possible. By allowing the 8-day deadline to pass, you are denying a child on the waiting list the opportunity to be notified promptly.

What if I decline and then change my mind?

Unfortunately, once you decline the offer, the next child on the waiting list is contacted. You can re-apply, but your child's name will be added to the end of the waiting list.

What if I want to confirm attendance but don't do it within the 8 day time frame?

You forfeit your child's spot and the next child on the list is contacted by Lotterease. There are no exceptions.

I do not live in Harnett County. Can I still apply? Can my child still attend ACA if selected?

Yes, as long as you are a North Carolina resident and provide transportation for your child. (All of our students are car riders.)

How am I notified if there is an opening?

Once a parent declines a seat, Lotterease will automatically generate an email to notify the next child on the waiting list. You will have an eight (8) day window in which to confirm or decline attendance.

You will receive a courtesy reminder email if 3 days have passed and you have not responded.

Please Note: If your child is selected and you are not interested in having your child attend ACA, please be courteous and decline right away, or reply to the courtesy email. Thank you so much for your cooperation in this matter.

ACA does not call to notify families or send notices through U.S. Mail.

My email address has changed and I need to revise it so that I receive email notices from you. What do I do?

You can update your email address and phone number by logging into your Lotterease account and making the change(s) yourself.

Will you call me to let me know each time my child's position changes on the waiting list?

You can check your child's status on a daily basis, if you wish, by logging into Lotterease and selecting the applicant list for the grade level lottery you entered. For Windows: Use the Control F function to locate your child's name; For Mac: Use Command F to locate your child's name.

Please contact Marianna Shaw, RN, BS, NCSN, Nurse/Registrar at shawm@acacharter.com with questions.