How Do I Apply to a Charter?

Each FCS Charter is responsible for its own application processes which is held January 1 – 31. All applications received after January 31 will be added to the waitlist for that particular location. The online application process is a pre-enrollment process and it ask parents for general information (i.e. students name, grade/current enrollment status, birthdate, sibling status, parent information) completing the pre-enrollment form this does not imply that your student has been accepted and enrolled. You will be contacted to confirm your acceptance and at that time you will be required to physically go to the school and enroll your child.

A charter is required to conduct open houses to inform the public of their programming and performance as well as accept applications.

If there are more applications than seats available, the charter school must conduct a lottery to select students as well as construct a wait list using a random process. The school district requires these lotteries be videotaped to ensure transparency. Charter schools are public schools and may not refuse admission to students unless such is required by circumstances pertaining to certain special needs requirements and only then after consulting with an IEP team.

Please contact the charter in which you are interested to learn more about their specific application processes and deadlines. Contact information is found on the FCS website under the “Schools” tab and under “Charter School Information 2015-16”.

Enrollment and Lottery Procedures
Priority for enrollment will be given in the following order in accordance with the approved charter petition:
1. CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS.
2. SIBLINGS: Siblings of students currently enrolled on the date of the lottery.
3. FACULTY, STAFF AND BOARD MEMBER CHILDREN: Children of full time faculty and full time instructional staff and current Governing Board Members.
4. OTHERS: All other eligible students. Students who reside outside of attendance zone will not be enrolled at the school

Lottery
- When the school receives registrants exceeding available openings in the specific grade level, a public lottery shall be held.
- The lottery process shall be published in advance and articulated prior to commencement of the lottery.
- The lottery shall be observed and certified by a third party individual.
- The lottery will be drawn in the following manner: Kindergarten, 1st grade, and so on until all spots are filled. The school will assign a random number to each application. Applications are sorted based on this randomly assigned number and assigned a sequential number. The lowest random number gets number one, the next lowest number two, and so forth. School assignments are based upon space availability

Currently enrolled students will fill all seats first. Once all currently enrolled students have been placed, siblings of currently enrolled students will be selected next to fill any allotments. In the event there are
no vacant allotments, siblings of students will be placed on a waitlist in order of their selection in a lottery. If siblings of students or students of teachers / staff / board members do not fill the open allotments, then other open allotments will be filled by conducting a lottery of all non-priority applications that were timely received. All applicants not placed in the class will be put on a waitlist in the order they were selected in the lottery. Parents and/or guardians will be notified in writing that their child was chosen as a Candidate for Enrollment during the lottery no later than February 25, 2015. All enrollment documents are due by March 6, 2015. The wait list callout will start on March 16, 2015.

Wait List
Lottery positions and wait list positions will not be secured from year to year. Those offered the opportunity to enroll from the waitlist will have three days to complete the enrollment process before the opening will be offered to the next student on the wait list. Siblings of new students will be given sibling priority upon enrollment of placed sibling. Siblings will be placed on the wait list in an order that matches where the placed sibling was drawn in the lottery. It is the responsibility of the wait listed parent or guardian to provide updated contact information including a phone number and address, and an email if possible. Waitlist parents must also provide an emergency contact person in the event they cannot be reached regarding an opening. Failure to keep updated information throughout the school year resulting in an inability to notify the parent of an opening waives the student’s placement on the wait list. A school designee shall contact the next person on the wait list if a slot becomes available. Contact may be made by phone, and if available, by email. Every effort will be made to reach the individual in person; However, if this is not possible, a message will be left on the phone and/or email. The parents will be given 72 Hours to contact the School and make a decision to accept the opening. If contact or a decision is not made within this time frame, the next student on the wait list is extended the offer.

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

A Overview of Program

Set to open August 2015, the Junior Achievement Magnet Business Academy (JA-MBA) is designed for high-achieving students providing them with business and entrepreneurial education that will place them on the path to success. JA-MBA is a partnership between Fulton County Schools and Junior Achievement that provides all Fulton County incoming freshmen the opportunity to participate in hands-on, full immersion learning that incorporates value critical thinking and leadership concepts into all aspects of learning. JA-MBA will be hosted at the campus of Banneker High School.

Course Description

Students enrolled at JA-MBA will engage in a rigorous course of study designed to prepare them for higher education and the workforce. Through interdisciplinary case studies and business challenges, students will explore industry specific careers while developing an understanding of essential business concepts. The curriculum is formulated around hands-on experiences through internships, field trips, job shadows, and executive guest lecturers. Students will also experience firsthand the real world of business through exclusive mentorships and networking with business and community leaders.
Benefits of JA-MBA

Students enrolled at JA-MBA will receive benefits such as:

- Two pathways will be completed – Business Management & Administration and Entrepreneurship – with the option of completing a third pathway in either Marketing or Financial Services.
- Work-based learning experiences and internships with exclusive Atlanta corporations
- Access to AP courses.
- A selective student body at the state of the art campus at Banneker High School with access to extra-curricular activities such as sports, fine arts programs, and student clubs.
- On-site mentoring with leaders in the Atlanta business community.

Student Eligibility

- JA-MBA is open to all rising ninth grade students who reside in the Fulton County Schools District.
- Potential students must meet certain admission standards such as GPA (minimum 2.5 up to 4.0) and show evidence of leadership, entrepreneurial skills, self-motivation, and good behavior.
- Admission exceptions may be made based on evidence of leadership, entrepreneurial skills, self-motivation, and compliance with the JA MBA Code of Conduct and Standards.
- There will only be 150 ninth grade slots available.
  o 100 slots will be targeted for students from the Banneker attendance zone.
  o 50 slots will be for students from across the district.

Application Process

JA-MBA Application

- Applications are available on October 30 and due March 1, 2015.
- Classes will begin in August 2015 and will follow the FCS 2015-2016 calendar year.