

## **DREW CHARTER SCHOOL**

### **Admission and Enrollment Policy for Kindergarten through 12th Grade**

Drew Charter School's enrollment policy reflects its mission to be (1) a neighborhood school, serving as the linchpin of the neighborhood revitalization in East Lake, (2) a mixed-income school, and (3) a family school. Consistent with these principles, its charter agreement, and applicable law, starting with applications for the 2017-2018 school year, Drew Charter School will implement its enrollment policies in two phases: Years 1-4 and Year 5. "Priorities" (A-E in Years 1-4 and A-D in Year 5) will determine the order of admission for new students.

**For Years 1-4 (the 2017-18 through 2020-21 school years) the priorities are as follows.**

#### Priority A:

(1) Students whose parent(s) or guardian(s) are a member of the governing board, or a full-time teacher, professional, or other employee of Drew Charter School (including the Cox Pre-Kindergarten Program), regardless of where they reside; and then

(2) For the 2017-2018 school year only, students enrolled in a Partner Pre-Kindergarten Program during the 2016-2017 school year who reside in the City of Atlanta. "Partner Pre-Kindergarten Program" includes only the Pre-Kindergarten program at East Lake Sheltering Arms Early Education and Family Center and the Cox Pre-Kindergarten Program at Drew Charter School; and

(3) For the 2018-2019 through 2020-2021 school years, students enrolled in a Partner Pre-Kindergarten Program who reside in The Villages of East Lake, East Lake, or Kirkwood.

Priority B: Students who reside in The Villages of East Lake.

Priority C: Siblings of currently enrolled students who were enrolled in Drew Charter School or Cox Pre-Kindergarten during the 2016-2017 school year *and* who were born on or before September 1, 2016.

#### Priority D:

(1) Siblings of students who enrolled at Drew Charter School during the 2017-2018 school year or later who reside in East Lake or Kirkwood; and then

(2) All other students who reside in East Lake and Kirkwood.

#### Priority E:

(1) Siblings of students who enrolled at Drew Charter School during the 2017-2018 school year or later who reside in the City of Atlanta; and then

(2) All other students who reside in the City of Atlanta.

**In Year 5 (2021-2022) the priorities will be as follows:**

Priority A:

(1) Students whose parent(s) or guardian(s) are a member of the governing board, or a full-time teacher, professional, or other employee of Drew Charter School, regardless of where they reside; and then

(2) Students enrolled in a Partner Pre-Kindergarten Program who reside in The Villages of East Lake, East Lake, or Kirkwood. "Partner Pre-Kindergarten Program" includes only the Pre-Kindergarten program at East Lake Sheltering Arms Early Education and Family Center and the Cox Pre-Kindergarten Program at Drew Charter School; and then

Priority B:

Students who reside in The Villages of East Lake.

Priority C:

(1) Siblings of students who are currently enrolled at Drew Charter School in Pre-Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade who reside in East Lake or Kirkwood; and then

(2) All other students who reside in East Lake and Kirkwood.

Priority D:

(1) Siblings of students who are currently enrolled at Drew Charter School in Pre-Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade who reside in the City of Atlanta; and then

(2) All other students who reside in the City of Atlanta.

Drew Charter School will admit students in the order above until there are more applicants than spaces for any grade. When this occurs, a lottery will be held for that grade. For the first Priority group for which there are more applicants than spaces (for example, Priority D(2)), admission will be determined through the lottery. The Drew Charter School Board reserves the right to make other changes to its enrollment policies to reflect its mission, its charter, and applicable law.

To further its goal of socioeconomic integration, Drew Charter School will use a weighted lottery that will provide an additional weight for "economically disadvantaged" students, as defined by the Georgia Department of Education. The Drew Charter School Board will determine, on an annual basis, whether to utilize a weighted lottery, for which grades, and the particular weights, with the goal of increasing the statistical likelihood that Drew Charter School will achieve its goal of serving economically disadvantaged students at all grade levels.

The board will examine the current Free and Reduced Lunch rates at each grade level during the fall semester. Based on the current level, the board will recommend weighting for the next school year's lottery at each grade level and within the priority groups according to the following formula.

<b>FRL %</b>	<b>Weight Given to FRL Applicants</b>
<b>65% or more</b>	<b>No weight</b>
<b>64% - 60%</b>	<b>2:1</b>
<b>59% - 55%</b>	<b>3:1</b>
<b>54% - 50%</b>	<b>4:1</b>
<b>49% or less</b>	<b>5:1</b>

A student enrolled in Drew Charter school at the end of the academic school year shall automatically be enrolled in the school for the following academic school year provided that (i) the student continues to reside in the City of Atlanta (or the student's parent continues to be a teacher, staff member or board member of Drew Charter School) and (ii) the student has reenrolled by the date established annually by the Principal.

In the event that the Drew Charter School Board reasonably anticipates that it will not have sufficient lottery applicants from students who are economically disadvantaged from Priorities A, B or C in the subsequent lottery to result in a student body meeting its goals of serving economically disadvantaged students, then students who would otherwise be admitted and registered under Priority D shall be placed in the lottery by grade under Priority C (first siblings, then non-siblings) in numbers sufficient to make it statistically likely that Drew Charter School will reach its goals in connection with serving economically disadvantaged students with siblings of current Drew Charter School students sharing the sub-priority with other siblings and non-siblings sharing the sub-priority with non-siblings. This provision will only be applicable in year 5 of the charter.

A student offered admission to Drew Charter School must complete the admission process within the dates specified in the student's offer of admission. As part of this process, the students must provide satisfactory evidence of (1) the student's legal address of residency in the City of Atlanta (or evidence of the student's parent's current employment at Drew Charter School or current service on the Drew Charter School Board), (2) any Pre-Kindergarten Partner enrollment or sibling status that the student claims, and (3) any evidence of economically disadvantaged status the student claims. Upon successful completion of the admissions process, the student shall be enrolled at Drew Charter School. Failure to adhere to the requirements above shall result in termination of the offer of admission.

Drew Charter School will enroll students from the waitlist as seats become available during the school year in order to ensure enrollment levels are maintained according to the school's charter.