



YA 010 Admissions and Lottery Policy

(1) **Definitions:**

- a. Admission: The process of a student applying for enrollment. Admission is subject to capacity (see Paragraph 3.c.). A student must be admitted before the student may enroll.
- b. Admitted student: A student who submitted a timely application for enrollment (i.e., during the open enrollment period) and who is offered a seat.
- c. Enrollment: The process of a student accepting a seat, which was offered.
- d. Enrolled student: A student who accepted a seat, which was offered, by timely submitting enrollment paperwork.
- e. Sibling: One of two or more individuals who have one or both parents in common through marriage, blood, or adoption; and all children who are living in the same household including foster children.

(2) **Enrollment Eligibility:** Enrollment at Yinghua Academy is open to any child who resides in a Minnesota school district. Yinghua Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, gender, status with regard to public assistance, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, nor any other protected class. The school district also makes reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities, special needs, and limited English proficiency.

(3) **Knowledge of Chinese Language:** Chinese language proficiency is not a legal requirement to enroll at Yinghua Academy. To ensure success in our program, Yinghua Academy highly recommends that children enrolling after the first 5 weeks of first grade and above have knowledge of the Chinese language at a level approximating that of their classmates. A child enrolling after the first 5 weeks of first grade and his/her parents/guardians are encouraged to complete an informal interview with the Academic Director, or other person designated by the Academic Director, to establish the child's level of Chinese proficiency.

(4) **Each school year, the Board:**

- a. Establishes by October 1st the open enrollment period applicable to the following school year's admissions.
- b. Publishes by October 1st:

- i. Yinghua Academy's enrollment application applicable to the following school year, and
 - ii. This Admissions and Lottery Policy.
- c. Establishes and publishes by February 1st the Available Capacity by Grade form applicable to the following school year. The available capacity by grade will be established as a set number for each grade; however, the school will grant automatic admission/over-admission to currently enrolled students, siblings of currently enrolled students, and children of staff employed at the school.

(5) **Notice to Parents of Currently Enrolled Students And Staff Employed at the School:** Prior to the beginning of the open enrollment period, the school provides notice of the open enrollment period to parents of currently enrolled students and staff so that siblings of currently enrolled students and children of staff may submit a timely application.

(6) **Application Processing:** One application must be submitted for each student (including siblings from multiple births, i.e., twins, triplets, etc.). Each enrollment application received is date-stamped for record keeping. There is no application or waiting list carry-over from year to year. Applicants must submit a new application during each open enrollment period (once a year).

(7) **Admission for Applications Received During Open Enrollment:** All applications received during the open enrollment period are automatically admitted (i.e., offered a seat) unless more applications are received than the available capacity established by the Board for the applicable grade(s). In this situation, siblings of currently enrolled students and children of staff employed at the school are admitted and all other submitted applications for such grade(s) are placed in the lottery.

(a.) **Siblings of Enrolled Students:** Siblings, who submit an application before the expiration of the open enrollment period, of currently enrolled students are automatically admitted even if their admission and subsequent enrollment exceeds the available capacity established by the Board for the applicable grade(s).

(b.) **Children of Staff Employed at Yinghua Academy:** Children of staff employed at the school, who submit an application before the expiration of the open enrollment period, are automatically admitted even if their admission and subsequent enrollment exceeds the available capacity established by the Board for the applicable grade(s).

(c.) **General Lottery:** If the number of applications received during the open enrollment period exceeds available capacity established by the Board for any grade (and after siblings of enrolled students who submitted timely applications are already admitted, and after all children of staff employed at the school who submitted a timely application are already admitted), the school conducts a general lottery. All applications for each such grade(s) (excluding applications from siblings of already enrolled students and excluding applications from children of staff employed at the school) received before the expiration of the open enrollment period are included in the general lottery. Students are admitted to the school in the order in which they are drawn in the lottery, as long as there is available capacity as determined by the Board for the applicable grade(s). If all available capacity in any grade is filled, the lottery continues and establishes the general waiting list for each such grade in the order drawn, until

all applications are drawn. If a student is admitted through the general lottery and that student has one or more siblings in other grades also subject to a lottery, those siblings are automatically admitted once the student becomes an enrolled student.

(8) **Admission for Applications Received Outside of Open Enrollment:**

a. **Lateral Entry:** A student who submits an application outside of the open enrollment period is automatically admitted as long as there is available capacity in the applicable grade as established by the Board pursuant to Paragraph 3.c., in the order received. If, or once, there is no available capacity in any grade, applications are added to the applicable waiting list for each such grade, in the order received. Applications by siblings of current students and children of staff employed at the school are admitted. The parents/guardians of a student seeking admission pursuant to this provision will be strongly encouraged to meet with the school's Academic Director before admission to discuss enrollment expectations (see Paragraph 2 above), transportation needs, the child's start date, and siblings who may be on the waiting list or want to be added to it.

b. **Lateral Entry / Lottery Enrollment Notification Process:** Parent/guardian notification of an enrollment opening (for a student on the lottery wait list or a lateral entry) will be by letter. Procedures and timing for response to the offer of enrollment will be provided in the letter. Students who decline will be removed from the waiting list. A failure to respond to the offer of enrollment within the time period stated in the offer letter constitutes a decline and the student will be removed from the waiting list. It is the responsibility of parents/guardians of students on wait lists to keep Yinghua Academy informed of current contact information. Once the decision has been made to enroll, the parents/guardians must provide the current report card or transcript from the student's previous school, and inform staff if the student is receiving services on a 504 plan or receiving special education services.

9) The School conducts all lotteries through a method of random selection.

See also: *Lottery Procedures for Admission at Yinghua Academy*