

Enrollment and Lottery Policy

Adopted: January 20, 2016

Revised: August 5, 2026



Purpose

Wallace Stegner Academy (the “School”) believes that it is important to conduct its lottery and the enrollment of students in a fair, consistent, and legal manner. This policy is intended to establish the guidelines for how these processes will be handled.

Policy

The School will follow applicable laws and Utah State Board of Education rules in connection with its lottery and the enrollment of students.

Applications

Students will apply for admission to the School electronically.

The applications of students that are not accepted will be purged prior to each new open enrollment period rather than carried over to the following year, so new applications must be submitted each year for students seeking admission to the School.

In order to determine how many spots will be available the following year, students who are enrolled in the School may be asked, prior to each open enrollment period, to indicate whether they intend to attend the School the following year. Currently enrolled students are not required to submit an application each year.

Lottery

In the event that more students apply during an enrollment period than there are available spots in any given grade, as determined by the Chief Executive Officer(s), students will be selected by a computer-generated random-draw lottery in accordance with state guidelines.

Open Enrollment

The School will begin accepting applications in approximately December of the prior year. The first lottery will be held in approximately January of each year. Additional lotteries will be held as needed until the desired enrollment numbers are reached. The open enrollment period will remain open and the School will continue to accept applications until all available spots have been filled. The School may, at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer(s), continue to enroll students from the lottery throughout the school year to fill spots that open when students withdraw.

The School will publicize on its website the dates of enrollment periods so that all interested parents will have an opportunity to submit an application for their student(s).

Preferential Enrollment

The School will offer preferential enrollment to certain categories of students as permitted under applicable law.

Preferential enrollment will first be given first to the children or grandchildren of any “founding members.” Founding members are those individuals who have actively participated in the development of the School, as determined by the Board of Directors. Founder status will not be conferred based on donations made to the School.

Preferential enrollment will next be given to the children or grandchildren of a member of the School’s Board of Directors.

Preferential enrollment will next be given next to siblings of an individual who previously or is presently enrolled in the School.

Preferential enrollment will be given next to children of an employee of the School.

No students will be given priority notice or guaranteed admission to the School. The School will not make enrollment decisions or give preference to any student on any basis prohibited by applicable state or federal law, including Utah Code § 53G-6-403(3)(a), federal civil rights laws, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (“IDEA”).

Past Disciplinary and Misconduct Issues

Any student seeking enrollment in the School who was previously suspended or expelled from another school for serious misconduct may not be admitted to the School until a thorough review of the student’s prior conduct is evaluated by the School’s administration and the School’s administration approves the student to be admitted. In addition, the School may not enroll a student from another school unless the student record from the previous school, including the discipline file (if applicable), is received or the School’s administration reviews the data gateway for any safe-school violation, reintegration, or threat assessment.

In accordance with Utah Code § 53G-8-205(3), the School may deny admission to students who were expelled from the School or any other school during the preceding twelve (12) months.

Consistent with Utah Administrative Code Rule R277-472-7, the School may deny admission to students who have disciplinary procedures pending at their previous school until previous allegations have been resolved. The School generally recognizes and honors disciplinary actions imposed on a student by another school. Accordingly,

the School may deny admission to a student who is currently under suspension or expulsion from another school.

In accordance with Utah Code § 53G-6-403(3)(b), the School may deny admission to students who (i) have committed serious infractions of the law or school policies, including policies of the School; (ii) have been guilty of chronic misbehavior which would, if it were to continue after the student was admitted to the School, endanger persons or property, cause serious disruptions in the School, or place unreasonable burdens on School staff; or (iii) have any school safety incidents or safe-school violations.

Parents of students seeking admission to the School must disclose in their application information about their student's past serious disciplinary actions and criminal convictions. If this information is not disclosed, if materially false or misleading information is provided in the application, or if information that would have been relevant to the School's enrollment decision is omitted, and the School discovers the omission or misrepresentation after the student has been enrolled in the School, the School may place the student's enrollment under review while the School investigates the matter. Following the investigation, the School may take appropriate action in accordance with this and other School policy, which may include but is not limited to continued enrollment, continued enrollment subject to conditions, or rescission of the student's enrollment if the School determines that the undisclosed information would have provided a lawful basis to deny admission at the time of the application. Parents of students whose enrollment has been rescinded consistent with this paragraph may appeal the decision in accordance with the School's Parent Grievance Policy.

During the investigation process mentioned above, the School may restrict a student's attendance at the School if deemed necessary by the School to protect student safety or facilitate the review.

Situations involving students receiving special education and related services under the IDEA shall be handled in a manner consistent with applicable laws and School policy.