



# YAV PEM SUAB ACADEMY

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) ABOUT THE LOTTERY SYSTEM

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### What is a charter school lottery?

A charter school lottery is a lottery used to fill spaces in a city's charter schools. Charter schools are schools that receive public money but are not subject to some of the rules, regulations, and statutes that apply to other traditional public schools.

### How does the lottery system work?

Charter schools are open to all children who want to attend, regardless of where they live in California. If the school receives more children than it has spots available, it is required by law to hold a blind lottery to determine which scholars will have the opportunity to attend. Many charter schools have wait lists and may admit more children as spots become available.

### How can my child participate in the lottery?

To participate in the lottery, parents must complete an *enrollment lottery form* at the school for each child they wish to enroll. Since YPSA is authorized by Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD), scholars who reside in SCUSD will be entered in the lottery twice. **A current utility bill will be used as proof of residence. In the absence of a utility bill/proof of residence, the scholar will be considered a “non-resident” scholar and will only have one entry into the lottery.**

### When will the lottery be?

A public random drawing will be conducted on the first Tuesday of May to determine eligibility for the upcoming school year.

### Would my child and I be required to attend?

No. Parents and children are not required to attend. If your child's name gets drawn from the lottery and receives a spot, you will receive a call from the school. Parents will have **48 hours** after the call to accept or reject the offer of admission.

### What happens if my child does not get a spot from the lottery?

Children who do not get a seat as a result of the lottery will be placed on a waiting list in the order of their drawing.

**Public Random Lottery is on the first Tuesday of May from 5:30pm – 6:30pm!**



**Don't Miss**



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### **What is the Lottery Process?**

A public random drawing (General Lottery) will be conducted on the first Tuesday of May for the next school year. To participate in the general lottery, parents must complete a *school enrollment/lottery form* at the school for each scholar they wish to enroll. A current utility bill will be used to verify the residence of scholars. Scholars who reside in SCUSD will be entered in the general lottery twice. This weighted lottery satisfies state law requiring preference be given to scholars who reside in the district in which the charter school is located; separate lotteries for resident and nonresident scholars are not allowed. By mutual agreement, however, the boards of UCSC and SCUSD may increase the weight factor for in-district scholars.

Drawings will be conducted separately for each grade level. Each lottery form will be numbered in sequence as it is drawn until all forms are gone. A list will be created and posted for each grade level showing who was drawn first, second, etc. Parents of scholars on the list will be telephoned beginning with the first drawn. Scholars with two entries will be listed both times on the list but will be called once. Parents who received a telephone call will have 48 hours to respond. If there is no response within 48 hours, the available spot will be made available to a subsequent scholar. Scholars who do not get a seat in the lottery will be placed on a waiting list in the order of their drawing. If a scholar does not attend the first day of school, he/she will be dropped and the seat will be offered to the next person on the waiting list, unless the absence is related to health as verified by a physician.

### **Are there exceptions to this process?**

Yes,

- Scholars already attending the charter school will be automatically enrolled for the next year. They do not need to participate in next year's general lottery.
- Children of faculty teaching at the school and children of founders are exempt from the general lottery and will be enrolled before the general lottery. If the pupils in this category exceed 10% of the next year's anticipated school enrollment, a special lottery will be conducted following the procedures described above, but for members of this category only and will take place before any other special lottery, and before the general lottery conducted on the same day. The percentage of pupils enrolled from this category shall not exceed 10% of the total annual school enrollment. Children of employees other than faculty many are not part of this category per non-regulatory federal guidance.
- Siblings of existing pupils are exempt from the general lottery. If there is not enough space for all the scholars in this category, a special lottery will be conducted to determine who will be enrolled. The special lottery will be conducted following the procedures described above, but for members of this category only, and will take place before the general lottery on the same day.



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### What is the timeframe for the lottery and enrollment?

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| <b>February –<br/>March</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New Family/Parent Orientation to the School</li><li>• Lottery Enrollment cycle open until end of March</li><li>• Interested families fill out and turn in School Lottery Application.</li></ul>   |
| <b>April</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Office finalizes, organizes, and gets ready for the general lottery.</li></ul>  |
| <b>May</b>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• General lottery to be held on the first Tuesday from 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM.</li><li>• If your child gets a spot, and you're present, you will know the evening of the lottery.</li><li>• If your child does not get a spot, he or she will be placed on a "Wait list".</li><li>• All families who participate in the lottery will be notified via phone and have 48 hours to respond.</li></ul> |

### What happens after my child occupies a spot from the lottery?

YPSA Office Staff will contact parents to pick up a registration packet. All other required items (Birth Certificate, Immunization records, Photo identification, and proof of address) must be turned in at the same time. Missing items will delay your child's enrollment.

Incoming kindergarten scholars will be called by one of the kindergarten teachers to come in for a prescreening assessment. This allows for the school to place the scholar most appropriately into the best learning environment.

All other grade level scholars will need to make sure that they come to school on Day 1 of the new school year to avoid being dropped. If for any reason your child cannot make the first day of school, be sure to contact the school. Otherwise, your child will be automatically dropped.

### What happens if my child is placed on the "Wait list?"

Enrollment data is updated periodically. If a spot becomes vacant, office staff will call the next scholar on the waiting list until all available spots are occupied.