

Admissions Policy Overview

Breakthrough Academy (BACS) is an open-enrollment, tuition-free public charter school and is committed to our mission of training minds and inspiring hearts. Admission to the school shall be open to any student who resides in the State of New Hampshire. Methods of admission shall not be designed, intended, or used to discriminate or violate individual rights in any manner prohibited by law.

To support the success of the school and its students, BACS will help educate prospective families about what to expect at a competency-based/agriculture chartered public school.

BACS will hold multiple pre-enrollment information sessions and prepare materials to help prospective families learn more about BACS.

BACS will follow the basic method of admissions that defines charter schools nationwide:

- Admission shall be blind.
- Should the number of applicants exceed capacity, students will be chosen by a lottery system with a waitlist developed from the lottery overflow.

Applications will collect basic contact information about the family and students and will be made available online or in print. To be eligible for the lottery, the application must be complete. BACS will confirm completeness and will make multiple, reasonable contacts to follow up on incomplete applications.

Admission Process Overview

- Prospective parents/guardians are required to attend at least one informational meeting at which BACS's educational approach and expectations of students and their families will be explained
- BACS will share information online and/or in hard copy for prospective families about the school, its philosophy, and expectations of attending students, their families. The admissions policy governing the process will be available online.
- Should applicants exceed the number of spaces available, a blind lottery will be held. Those not accepted in the lottery will be placed on a waiting list in the order determined by the lottery.
- All accepted students will receive written notification. Those who have been wait-listed will be notified.
- Accepted students and their families will be required to sign a commitment to attend form and return it to BACS to secure enrollment.

Breakthrough Academy Chartered Public School

- BACS will offer new parent events to support the transition for new students and their families and will include information about the Parent Council and other opportunities for parent involvement with the school to build community.

Enrollment Provisions

- BACS will offer automatic re-enrollment to its students at the end of each year. Families will be asked to indicate intent to re-enroll by the stated date.
- BACS will admit students from the waitlist should space become available after the lottery.
- Siblings of children already enrolled at BACS will receive preference.
- The BACS Board of Trustees reserves the right to give preference in enrollment to children of school faculty, administration, and members of the board of trustees.

Application Related Dates and Public Notification

An application deadline will be set and publicly posted by the start of each academic year for admission to BACS in the following academic year. This information will be made public on the school's website and through email. Students must be 5 years of age on or before September 30th to enter Kindergarten.

Application Form

The application will be available online and will include what is necessary to meet BACS Charter and NH State requirements.

Lottery

If more applicants have successfully completed the Application Process than there are available spaces in any grade, a lottery will be conducted in accordance with BACS's charter. Each applicant will count as one entry in the lottery.

The lottery will be conducted by grade, starting with kindergarten and proceeding forward grade by grade. The lottery will be conducted at BACS with adults who do not have an official position with the school and who have no child applying to attend.

The following exceptions will apply on a space-available basis, in the following order:

1. Children of current BACS employees (up to 15 spaces on a first-come, first-served basis)
2. Siblings of current BACS students who are New Hampshire residents

3. Children of current BACS Board of Trustees members (up to five spaces on a first-come, first-served basis)

If needed, sibling-only lotteries will be conducted for open seats, followed by the general lottery.

Waitlist

Applicants who are not admitted through the lottery will be placed on a wait list in the order their names are drawn, by grade. Should an opening otherwise occur, placement will be offered based on waiting list order. Once the school year has begun, applicants requesting to transfer to BACS will be invited to complete an application form and, once successfully completed, will be placed at the bottom of the wait list by grade.

Benchmark Assessments

After enrollment, BACS may administer benchmark assessments for new students to help determine the level at which instruction begins and to measure student progress. All benchmark testing will be conducted after the applicant is enrolled. The purpose of the testing is to help the teacher, student, and parent understand any potential gaps in knowledge and standards and to provide families with free resources and content areas for the student to work on if they choose to do so. During the school year, BACS expects to administer multiple internal student assessments to measure student progress.

Reopening Admissions

At the discretion of BACS Admissions and conforming to all elements of this policy, Admissions may be reopened prior to the beginning of the academic school year, if it is anticipated that openings will become available in any grade level for which a wait list does not exist.

In the fall, the BACS Board will vote to close admissions for the academic year.

Adopted by the BACS Board on: 1-15-2026