

## **Admissions Policy**

Admission to the school shall be by formal written application. Students who do not reside in North Carolina are not eligible for admission. Preferences will be given for children and grandchildren of full-time employees (from the time of the lottery until the first day of the school year and limited to no more than 15% of the school's total enrollment), siblings of current students, and siblings of students who attended four years and graduated previously ("siblings" includes any of the following who reside in the same household: half siblings, stepsiblings, and children residing in a family foster home). Applications will be available online. As per Charter Law, OPS shall not discriminate against any student on the basis of ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability. OPS may refuse admission to any student who has been expelled or suspended from a public school under G.S. 115C-391 until the period of suspension or expulsion has expired.

It is possible that more students will apply than there are available openings. If this situation occurs, the school will admit students through a blind lottery. Each application will be numbered in the order it is received and the numbers will then be pooled per grade level. At a public meeting, the numbers will be randomly pulled until all spaces in each grade level are filled. The remaining students will be placed on a waiting list in the order of their application number's removal.

Oxford Preparatory School defines "children of full-time employees" as any birth or adoptive child or any child for whom the employee maintains sole guardianship and custody pursuant to a court order. Guardianship must be obtained prior to admission and continue for the full school year. Those requesting preference based on guardianship must provide an affidavit that the employee provides the primary financial support of the child and that the child resides full-time with the employee. If multiple birth siblings apply for admission and a lottery is needed under G.S. 115C-238.29F(g)(6), OPS shall enter one surname into the lottery to represent all of the multiple birth siblings. If that surname of the multiple birth siblings is selected, then all of the multiple birth siblings shall be admitted.

Each year, a new application must be submitted for all students who are not currently enrolled at Oxford Preparatory School. This includes siblings of currently enrolled OPS students and any student who is on the wait list from the previous year's lottery. If multiple siblings have applied and one sibling receives notice from the school administration that they have received a place for the next school year, the other siblings remain in the order on the wait list at which they have been drawn for that school year. However the following year, if the sibling submits a new application they will be considered a sibling preference and the position will be determined by the current year's available seats in each grade.

Amended 3/14/24