

Lottery Process

How to Apply for Admissions at IDEA for the 2025-2026 School Year



IDEA Public Schools is an open enrollment charter school. Because there are a limited number of seats available at each school and often more interested students than openings, IDEA collects applications and offers admissions to students randomly selected through a blind lottery.

Important Dates

- Application Opens: September 1, 2024
- Deadline to Apply to be Included in Lottery: 11:59:59 p.m. on February 14, 2025
- Lottery Day: February 15, 2025

How to Apply

Step 1: Click [here](#) to **Create an Account** in STREAM using either an email address or a mobile phone number, including entering the verification code

Step 2: Once logged into your STREAM account, click “**Apply to IDEA Public Schools**” and follow the prompts

- Select your state from the dropdown
- Section 1
 - Complete the Guardian Information, then click Submit
- Section 2
 - Enter Student’s Information, then click Save
 - If you would like to submit an application for more than one student, click the “Add a Student” button, enter the new student’s information and click Save
- Section 3
 - Once all students have been added, select the school or schools where you would like your scholar to attend by click on the school(s) name from the list on the right
 - Verify that each student’s grade and school(s) are correct below the map
- Section 4
 - Respond to the Opt-In Statement
 - Read the Applicant’s Statement and the Transfer Statement
- Click the “**Submit Applications**” button and confirm submission

Lottery Priorities

As required by Florida law, students from [persistently low-performing \(PLP\) public schools](#) and [opportunity zones](#) will be given enrollment preference, as well as siblings of currently enrolled students.

Lottery priorities are listed below:

1. Siblings of current IDEA students and children of IDEA employees/board members
2. Students who attend or are zoned for a Persistently Low Performing (PLP) school or who reside within an Opportunity Zone. Not sure if you live in an Opportunity Zone, check your status with your home address [here](#).
 1. Within 5 miles of the campus
 2. Within 8 miles of the campus
 3. Beyond 8 miles of the campus
3. All other applicants

Admissions

On the day of Lottery, families with an offer from an IDEA campus will receive a notification of their status via the preferred method of communication indicated on their application (email and/or text). All families will also be able to see their offer status by logging into STREAM after the lottery has finished running in their region. An initial round of offers will be sent on Lottery day, but offers will continue being sent if seats become available. Families will also receive a follow up call from their campus within a few days of receiving an offer.

If a student is not admitted immediately during the Lottery, they are automatically placed on the waitlist. Enrollment is offered to the next student on the waitlist as soon as we have notice of withdrawal. Applications submitted after the Lottery are granted seats or added to the wait list in order of the date and time of their application.