



OSHKI
OGIMAAG

Oshki Ogimaag Charter School

Adopted: 01/17/2018

Revised: 09/17/2025

POLICY No. _____

ENROLLMENT AND LOTTERY POLICY

I. PURPOSE

Oshki Ogimaag Charter School (OOCs) is a public, tuition-free charter school committed to equitable, inclusive, and culturally grounded education. This policy ensures full compliance with Minnesota Statutes §124E.11, §120A.20 Subd. 4, the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, and all other applicable laws and authorizer expectations.

II. OPEN ENROLLMENT AND NONDISCRIMINATION

Oshki Ogimaag Community School is a tuition-free public charter school open to any eligible pupil who resides in Minnesota.

1. OOCs does not limit admission based on intellectual ability, achievement or aptitude, or athletic ability. Admission guidelines are consistent with §124E.11.
2. OOCs or any agent of the school must not distribute any services or goods, payments, or other incentives of value to students, parents, or guardians as an inducement, term, or condition of enrolling a student at OOCs.

3. Minnesota resident pupils are given preference over non-residents. Non-resident pupils must re-apply for enrollment annually in accordance with §124E.11(c).

III. APPLICATION, CAPACITY AND SEATS

1. Year-round applications are accepted at any time.
2. For lottery purposes, OOCs establishes an application window of January 1–March 31. Applications received in this window are timely for the lottery if needed; later applications remain valid and are admitted if space exists or placed at the end of the waitlist in order received.
3. Maximum total enrollment is 40 students across grades K–5. Before the application window closes, the Board (or designee) sets and publishes capacity by grade/class/program within the 40-seat cap. If timely applications do not exceed capacity, all timely applicants are admitted. If they do exceed capacity, students are accepted by lot.

IV. AGE ELIGIBILITY

1. Kindergarten: child is 5 on/before Sept. 1 of the school year sought.
2. Grade 1: child is 6 on/before Sept. 1, or has completed kindergarten.
3. OOCs does not offer early admission.

V. ENROLLMENT PREFERENCES (APPLIED BEFORE GENERAL LOTTERY)

OOCs applies the following in this order, consistent with statute:

1. Siblings of enrolled students and foster children of the same parent/guardians.

2. Children (including foster children) of staff whose employment is stipulated in advance to total equal to or greater than 480 hours in the school calendar year.
3. Minnesota residents (general pool), subject to 4 below.
4. Optional geographic preference (Grand Portage Reservation): If/while OOCSs majority of students served are members of underserved populations, OOCS may limit admission to residents of the specific geographic area in which the school is located (the Grand Portage Reservation), as permitted by §124E.11(a)(3). Any use of this option will be published, supported by annual Board findings, and coordinated with the authorizer (Osprey Wilds).
5. Pupils who do not reside in Minnesota are required to annually apply for enrollment in accordance with §124E.11(c).

Note: OOCS does not operate a preschool/pre-K program; therefore, the optional preschool-to-K preference in statute is not used. (That option exists only for schools with a qualifying free pre-K program and is outside OOCS's K–5 scope).

VI. LOTTERY, WAITLIST, NOTICE AND ACCEPTANCE

1. Lottery trigger: When timely applications exceed capacity for any grade/class/program.
2. Timing: If a lottery is triggered, the lottery is held in April; OOCS posts the specific date/tiannually to their website.
3. Method: Conducted using a neutral, random process, open to the public, observed by at least two OOCS Board members; OOCS keeps records adequate for audit.
4. By-grade/program lotteries may be run as needed.

5. Waitlist: Applicants not admitted via lottery are waitlisted in draw order. Late applications (after March 31) are added to the end of the list in order received. The waitlist expires on the last instructional day of the school year.
6. Notification: Families are notified of admission/waitlist status within five (5) business days of the lottery.
7. Acceptance: Offers must be accepted within five (5) business days of notification or the seat is offered to the next waitlisted student.

VII. CONTINUING ENROLLMENT AND DISMISSAL

Once a student who resides in Minnesota is enrolled in OOCS in kindergarten through grade 5, the student is considered enrolled in the school until the student formally withdraws, the school receives a request for the transfer of educational records from another school, the school receives a written election by the parent or legal guardian of the student withdrawing the student, or the student is expelled under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act in sections [121A.40](#) to [121A.56](#).

VIII. PUBLICATION AND TRANSPARENCY

OOCS publishes this policy and the lottery policy/process on its website and includes the application window, lottery date, and capacity information in admissions materials each year.

IX. NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Oshki Ogimaag Charter School does not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, national origin, color, creed, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, status with regard to public assistance, or academic or athletic ability.

The school complies with all federal and state non-discrimination laws, including:

- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act

- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- Minnesota Human Rights Act

X. COMPLIANCE WITH THE PUPIL FAIR DISMISSAL ACT (Minn. Stat. §121A.40 – §121A.56)

Oshki Ogimaag Charter School complies fully with the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act. No student shall be excluded, expelled, or dismissed without due process as outlined in state law.

- Students will not be un-enrolled or dismissed due to academic underperformance or behavioral challenges.
- All dismissals are subject to formal procedures and documentation, including notice, hearing rights, and opportunities for alternative education services when applicable.
- No student will be disenrolled or counseled out of the school except through lawful processes.

In alignment with Minn. Stat. §124E.11(g), students may not be dismissed without a formal hearing and findings under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, even if they are not meeting academic expectations or presenting behavioral difficulties