

School Choice Lottery



Have a younger child starting school next year?

Enroll and use the lottery to choose the same school as your older child!

What is the sibling guarantee?

The CMS sibling guarantee is a guarantee built into the School Choice Lottery system that ensures placement of a younger sibling into the same magnet school or program as their older sibling.

Why do we have this guarantee?

CMS aims to keep families together! Many families find it more convenient to provide transportation and parental support to students who attend the same school, and the sibling guarantee makes it possible for a family to secure those seats early.

Who is impacted?

An older sibling can pull a younger sibling into a magnet program if the older will still be in the school when the younger sibling attends. Twins are also able to take advantage of the sibling guarantee!

Which schools have the sibling guarantee?

The CMS sibling guarantee applies to all CMS magnet schools *except the Early College and Middle College High Schools*. In instances where there is more than one program at a school, the sibling guarantee applies to the same campus, but does not require that the siblings enroll in the same program.

How does the sibling guarantee work?

There are 4 requirements:

1. The younger sibling must be enrolled in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools district. Those who are new to CMS must complete new student enrollment for the 2024-2025 year.
2. A lottery application must be submitted for the younger sibling during the School Choice Lottery.
3. The magnet program of choice must be selected as #1 on the younger sibling's lottery application.
4. Both siblings must have the same address on file with CMS.

When do families need to act?

New student enrollment for children who are new to or re-enrolling in CMS must be completed to receive a student ID and PIN to complete the lottery application. Refer to www.cmschoice.org/enrollment-lottery for enrollment and lottery dates and deadlines.

Where can you learn more?

Learn more and get started at www.cmschoice.org!

