

Admissions Policy

South Texas Educational Technologies, Inc. admission policy complies with §100.1207 of the TAC.

South Texas Educational Technologies, Inc. has an application enrollment period beginning January 7th and a deadline of May 1st each academic year. In order to be admitted to the Charter school, the charter holder requires that an applicant complete and submit an application no later than May 1st of the academic year. After the application period ends, all of the participants who timely apply will be admitted, unless a class is oversubscribed and a lottery will take place. If a lottery is required, all of the applicant residing in South Texas Educational Technologies, Inc. geographic area who timely applies will be part of the lottery. Any applicant who does not get in after the lottery is conducted may be assigned to a waiting list. Applicants who apply after the application period has ended may also be added to the waiting list. The waiting list is first compromised of lottery losers in the order in which they were selected during the lottery. Late applications are added on the waiting list, with any lottery losers already on the list, in order in which they apply. However, returning students and their siblings are given priority in admissions.

South Texas Educational Technologies, Inc. will publish a notice of the opportunity to apply for admission to the charter school seven days before the deadline. This notice will state the application deadline and be published in newspaper of general circulation in the community in which the school is located.

South Texas Educational Technologies, Inc. accepts transfer enrollees. However, the total enrollment shall not exceed the maximum number of students approved in the open-enrollment charter. Students who reside outside the geographic boundaries stated in the open-enrollment charter shall not be admitted to the charter school until all eligible applicants who reside within the boundaries and have submitted a timely application have been enrolled. Then, if the open-enrollment charter so provides, the charter holder may admit transfer students to the charter school in accordance with the terms of the open-enrollment charter.

South Texas Educational Technologies, Inc. has a non-discrimination policy, which complies with §12.111 (6) of the Texas Education Code.

South Texas Educational Technologies, Inc. prohibits discrimination in its admission policy on the basis of sex, national origin, ethnicity, religion, disability, artistic ability, academic or athletic ability, or the district the child would otherwise attend accordance with the Texas Education code. However, the charter does reserve the right to exclude a student who has a documented history of a criminal offense(s), juvenile court adjudication, or discipline problems under Subchapter A, Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code.

Each student's parent is supplied with a school handbook at the time of enrollment. The handbook has all policies included governing the students behavior, and policies on student expulsion and suspension. Twice a year the school board meeting schedules are sent for publication in the local newspaper. The school board meeting notices are posted in the school district administration office and a copy is faxed to the local public library. Employees and student council members are encouraged to attend the school board meetings. Twice a year the parents are invited to attend the school's open house, to meet the faculty, staff, and board members. During employee orientation and weekly meeting the employees are asked to raise their concerns and comments. Employee handbooks also explain in-depth process to file grievances. The school board has an open door policy. South Texas Educational Technologies, Inc. is working with local school districts and has sound relationship with them. Since its inception, no complaints have been filed against the school.

Admission Guidelines

South Texas Educational Technologies, Inc. prohibits discrimination in its admission policy on the basis of sex, national origin, ethnicity, religion, disability, artistic ability, academic or athletic ability, or the district the child would otherwise attend accordance with the Texas Education code. However, the charter does reserve the right to exclude a student who has a documented history of a criminal offense(s), juvenile court adjudication, or discipline problems under Subchapter A, Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code. The student must be between the ages of 3-14 to be eligible to enroll in any STET, Inc. School, and or must be between the ages of 12-14 to enroll in the 8th grade.

§100.1207. Student Admission.

(a) Application deadline. For admission to a charter school, a charter holder shall:

(1) require the applicant to complete and submit an application not later than a reasonable deadline the charter holder establishes; and

(2) on receipt of more acceptable applications for admission under this section than available positions in the school:

(A) except as permitted by subsection (b) of this section, fill the available positions by lottery; or

(B) subject to subsection (c) of this section, fill the available positions in the order in which all timely applications were received.

(b) Lottery exemption. The charter holder may exempt students from the lottery required by subsection (a) of this section to the extent this is consistent with the definition of a "public charter school" under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, P.L. 107-110, §5210 (NCLB), as interpreted by the United States Department of Education (USDE).

(c) Newspaper publication. To the extent this is consistent with the definition of a "public charter school" under the NCLB, as interpreted by the USDE, a charter holder may fill applications for admission under subsection (a)(2)(B) of this section only if it published a notice of the opportunity to apply for admission to the charter school. A notice published under this subsection must:

(1) state the application deadline; and

(2) be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the community in which the school is located not later than the seventh day before the application deadline.

(d) Student admission and enrollment. Except as provided by this section, the governing body of the charter holder must adopt a student admission and enrollment policy that:

(1) prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; national origin; ethnicity; religion; disability; academic, artistic, or athletic ability; or the district the child would otherwise attend under state law; and

(2) specifies any type of non-discriminatory enrollment criteria to be used at each charter school operated by the charter holder. Such non-discriminatory enrollment criteria may make the student ineligible for enrollment based on a history of a criminal offense, a juvenile court adjudication, or discipline problems under Texas Education Code (TEC), Chapter 37, Subchapter A, documented as provided by local policy.

(e) Student admission and enrollment at charter schools specializing in performing arts. In accordance with the TEC, §12.111 and §12.1171, a charter school specializing in performing arts, as defined in this subsection, may adopt a student admission and enrollment policy that complies with this subsection in lieu of compliance with subsections (a)-(d) of this section.

(1) A charter school specializing in performing arts as used in this subsection means a school whose open-enrollment charter includes an educational program that, in addition to the required academic curriculum, has an emphasis in one or more of the performing arts, which include music, theatre, and dance. A program with an emphasis in the performing arts may include the following components:

(A) a core academic curriculum that is integrated with performing arts instruction;

(B) a wider array of performing arts courses than are typically offered at public schools;

(C) frequent opportunities for students to demonstrate their artistic talents;

(D) cooperative programs with other organizations or individuals in the performing arts community; or

(E) other innovative methods for offering performing arts learning opportunities.

(2) To the extent this is consistent with the definition of a "public charter school" under the NCLB, as interpreted by the USDE, the governing body of a charter holder that operates a charter school specializing in performing arts may adopt an admission policy that requires a student to demonstrate an interest or ability in the performing arts or to audition for admission to the school.

(3) The governing body of a charter holder that operates a charter school specializing in performing arts must adopt a student admission and enrollment policy that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, national origin, ethnicity, religion, disability, academic or athletic ability, or the district the child would otherwise attend under state law.

(4) The governing body of a charter holder that operates a charter school specializing in performing arts must adopt a student admission and enrollment policy that specifies any type of non-discriminatory enrollment criteria to be used at the charter school. Such non-discriminatory enrollment criteria may make the student ineligible for enrollment based on a history of a criminal offense, a juvenile court adjudication, or discipline problems under TEC, Chapter 37, Subchapter A, documented as provided by local policy.

(f) Maximum enrollment; transfers. Total enrollment shall not exceed the maximum number of students approved in the open-enrollment charter. Students who reside outside the geographic boundaries stated in the open-enrollment charter shall not be admitted to the charter school until all eligible applicants who reside within the boundaries and have submitted a timely application have been enrolled. Then, if the open-enrollment charter so provides, the charter holder may

admit transfer students to the charter school in accordance with the terms of the open-enrollment charter.

Source: The provisions of this §100.1207 adopted to be effective April 18, 2002, 27 TexReg 3140; amended to be effective April 6, 2005, 30 TexReg 1911; amended to be effective November 9, 2006, 31 TexReg 9031.
