

ELEMENT H: ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Governing Law: Admission requirements, if applicable. Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(H).

There are no admission requirements to attend PCS with the exception of California residency and the maximum age limits required. (Title 5 California Code of Regulations Section 11960(c)). After an offer of admission is made, the enrollment process will include diagnostic testing and examination of a student's performance history to ensure appropriate placement in classes and targeted assistance as needed.

Pacific Collegiate School shall admit all pupils who wish to attend the school, subject only to capacity, and any pupil attending Pacific Collegiate School may continue to attend Pacific Collegiate School in the following year. PCS will be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, and all other operations, and will not charge tuition nor discriminate against any student on the basis of any characteristic described in Education Code Section 220. Admission, except in the case of a public random drawing, shall not be determined by the place of residence of the pupil or his or her parent or legal guardian within the state.

Public Random Drawing

Applications will be accepted during a publicly advertised open enrollment period each year for enrollment in the following school year. Following the open enrollment period each year, applications shall be counted to determine whether any grade level has received more applications than availability. If the number of new pupils who wish to attend Pacific Collegiate School exceeds Pacific Collegiate School's openings for any grade, admission shall be determined by a public random drawing (or "lottery"), with the exception of existing students, who are guaranteed admission in the following school year. The lottery is typically held in the spring following the open enrollment period. Preference in the public random drawing shall be given to the following students in the following order:

1. First-generation college-bound applicants. Five seats (or 10% of spaces remaining for *after* implementation of preferences 2 and 3, whichever number is larger) are reserved for first-generation college-bound applicants in grade 7. A "first-generation college-bound applicant" is defined as one whose parents' or chief guardians' highest level of education is less than an Associate's Degree. An eligible applicant for this preference who is not assigned one of the five seats may then receive preference in the lottery in accordance with other preferences listed below.

Over the 2015-2020 charter term, PCS will increase the number of available seats reserved for first-generation college bound applicants 1% per year, from 10% in the 2015 lottery to 15% in the 2020 lottery.

2. Children of current faculty or staff of Pacific Collegiate School.

3. Siblings of current pupils of Pacific Collegiate School.
4. Children of current or past members of the PCS Board of Directors who served or committed to serve a full term on the Board of Directors, and who has met other prerequisites as may be defined by the Board of Directors pursuant to adopted policy.
5. Residents of the Santa Cruz City Secondary Schools District. In-district applicants are awarded a weighted advantage in the lottery process such that their chances of being selected are greater than those of out-of-district applicants.

Prior to conducting the public random drawing, Pacific Collegiate School annually determines the number of available spaces in each grade level by taking the number of open spaces and subtracting the number of existing Pacific Collegiate School students who will be automatically enrolled in the following school year. After that number is determined and after the open enrollment period has closed, Pacific Collegiate School conducts the public random drawing to determine those students who are offered admission to the school according to their draw in the lottery as listed in the above admission preference categories.

Wait List

At the conclusion of the public random drawing, all students who were not admitted due to capacity shall be given the option to put their name on a wait list according to their draw in the lottery. This wait list will allow students the option of enrollment in the case of an opening during the current school year. In no circumstance will a wait list carry over to the following school year.