

Student Rights

The school pledges to allow all students to:

- Feel safe in the school environment.
- Take full advantage of learning opportunities.
- Work in an environment free from disruptions and chaos.
- Express opinions, ideas, thoughts and concerns.
- Have a healthy environment that is smoke, alcohol and drug free.
- Use school resources and facilities for self-improvement.
- Expect courtesy, fairness and respect from all members of the community.
- Be informed of all expectations and responsibilities.
- Take part in a variety of school activities.

Equal Education Opportunity

Harmony Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in providing educational services, activities, and programs, including vocational and career technology programs. Harmony Public Schools also complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), as amended, which incorporates and expands upon the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and any other legally-protected classification or status protected by applicable law.

Additionally, as required by Title IX, Harmony Public Schools does not (and is required not to) discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs or activities. This non-discrimination requirement also applies to admission and employment with Harmony Public Schools. Questions about issues related to Title IX may be referred to Harmony Public Schools' designated Title IX Coordinator (as identified below, to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the Department of Education, or both.

Other federal laws prohibiting discrimination include Title VI, the Age Discrimination Act, the Boy Scouts Act, and Title II of the ADA.

Harmony Public Schools has designated the following administrator as the Title IX Coordinator to address inquiries or concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence,

domestic violence, stalking, or gender-based harassment: Charles Lambert, Director of Internal Investigations, 9321 W Sam Houston Pkwy S., Houston Texas 77099, (713) 343-3333, clambert@harmonytx.org. Mr. Lambert may also receive inquiries or concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, or any other protected characteristics.

Reports may be made by any person and at any time, including during non-business hours, by mail, phone, or email. During school business hours, reports may also be made in person. Upon receiving notice of an allegations of sex-based harassment, the Title IX Coordinator or designee will promptly investigate and respond in accordance with Harmony Public Schools' policy.

Harmony Public Schools has designated the following administrator as the ADA/Section 504 Coordinator to address inquiries or concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of disability: Ipek Torun, Director of 504 and Dyslexia , 9321 W Sam Houston Pkwy S., Houston Texas 77099, (713) 343-3333, itorun@harmonytx.org.

Admission Policies and Procedures for Harmony Public Charter Schools

Harmony Public Schools requires applicants to submit a complete application form in order to be considered for admission. Admission applications must be submitted during the open enrollment period designated by Harmony Public Schools. Admission and enrollment shall be open to persons who reside within the geographic boundaries served by Harmony Public Schools, and who are eligible for admission based on lawful criteria identified in the Harmony Public Schools' charter and in state law. And, as allowed by Chapter 12 of the Texas Education Code, Harmony Public Schools may admit a child of a school employee regardless of whether the child resides in the geographic area served by Harmony Public Schools. The total number of students enrolled in Harmony Public Schools shall not exceed the number of students approved in the charter or subsequent amendments. Total enrollment may further be limited by Harmony Public Schools based on occupancy limitations, code compliance, and staffing requirements as deemed necessary. For the first year of operation of a new campus which has the commissioner 'approval on the first day of that school year, the application period will start on November 1st (beginning date) and end on March 15th (ending date). For the first year of operation for a new

campus that has not yet been approved by TEA on the first day of that school year, the application period will start on January 10th (beginning date) and end on March 15th (ending date). For the following years, the beginning and ending dates of the application period shall be November 1st and February 10th of each year, respectively.

Lottery Procedures and Date when a Grade or Class is Oversubscribed

A “lottery” for purposes of the school’s admissions procedures is a random selection process that determines the order of enrollment of student applicants. An annual lottery is required for each campus if the number of applicants for that campus exceeds the number of available seats. The lottery shall take place within fifteen days after the closing date of the application period. The required lottery will be conducted via lottery selection software. To ensure that the required lottery winner list and the waiting list are selected randomly, the principal or designee of each campus will conduct the computerized lottery, supervised by a representative from the Cluster Office to which the school reports.

Admission Process of Returning Students

Returning students (students who currently attended the school) who remain qualified to attend the school, and who notify the school of their intent to return for the next school year by the fourth Friday of January, are exempt from the lottery and will remain enrolled. Parents shall submit a Proof of Residency with each year re-enrollment.

Siblings Policy and Children of the School’s Founders and Employees

As permitted by federal guidance on the Charter Schools Program, the following categories of applicants are exempt from the required lottery:

Children of the school’s founders, teachers, and staff (so long as the total number of students allowed does not exceed 3% of the total enrollment) are the initial category exempt from the required lottery requirements, and, space permitting, are automatically enrolled.

Subsequently, space permitting, siblings of returning students currently enrolled at a Harmony Public School campus who have qualified as returning

students constitute a second category of student applicants who are automatically enrolled;

Thereafter, space permitting, siblings of applicants selected through the required lottery who were also registered for that lottery constitute the third automatically enrolled category.

“Sibling” shall mean a biological or legally adopted brother or sister residing in the same household as the applicant. Cousins, nieces, nephews and unrelated children sharing an address with the applicant are not siblings. Sibling enrollment is dependent on available space and does not guarantee enrollment.

Priority of admission in the order of each above-listed category of lottery-exempt students shall also be determined by lottery.

Development of a Waiting List

The required lottery will be paused momentarily after the computerized lottery fills all available seats allowed by the enrollment cap. A lottery drawing will then continue, and the randomly-selected numbers will be used to create an annual waiting list. As space becomes available, applicants will be called from the waiting list, beginning with applicants with the lowest number assignment in the order of each category. Applicants selected by lottery will be “deemed admitted” and may proceed from provisional admission to enrollment.

Applications that are Submitted Outside the Designated Application Period

If a student applies to the school outside of the designated application period, the student will be placed on a waiting list in the order of the category and date in which the application is received.

Students with Disqualifying Disciplinary Histories

As authorized by the Harmony Public Schools’ charter and Texas Education Code § 12.111(a)(5)(A), students with a documented history of a criminal offense, a juvenile court adjudication, or other discipline problems under Texas Education Code Chapter 37, Subchapter A, will be excluded from admission and enrollment in Harmony Public Schools.