



2017-2018 Brooks DeBartolo Collegiate High School Applicant Information
(as of August 1, 2017)

Dear Parents/Guardians of 2017-2018 Applicants:

Thank you for submitting a student application for the 2017-2018 academic school year. We know it is an important decision, and we are honored you are considering BDCHS as an option for your child's high school education. Below, you will find a list of frequently asked questions about the application and open lottery process.

Please be aware that the lottery for the 2017-2018 school year has already taken place, and a waiting list has already been established. All applications for the 2017-2018 school year will now be placed at the end of the waiting list. The information contained in the FAQs below reflects the process that was followed for the lottery that has already taken place. If you are interested in applying for the 2018-2019 school year, please view the "**2018-2019 Brooks DeBartolo Collegiate High School Applicant Information**" on our website, www.bdchs.org.

Siblings of currently enrolled BDCHS students, children of board members, children of employees, and children of active military duty members of any branch of the United States Armed Forces bypass the lottery in admissions as permitted by state statute.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How does the lottery work?

A randomizing software program will randomly sort all lottery eligible applicants in each grade level.

*(Note: Applications must be received by the application deadline, **January 13, 2017, 4 pm.**)*

There will be a lottery for grade levels 9, 10, 11, and 12 starting with 9th grade.

If there are 300 applicants for 9th grade and 125 (out of 150) openings because there are 25 siblings, the randomizing program will randomly sort all 300 student applicants and the first 125 will be offered a seat; the rest will make up the waiting list (in the order in which they were selected).

Updated Dec 2016: Based on new legislation, all Hillsborough County resident students will receive preference in the lottery over non-Hillsborough County resident students. All non-Hillsborough County resident students will be entered in a second lottery. Once (and if) the Hillsborough County resident student waiting list has been exhausted, then a non-Hillsborough County student will be offered a seat according to the order of the non-Hillsborough lottery results. This law change goes into effect for the 2017-2018 Lottery.

Note: This change in the law does not affect returning non-Hillsborough County resident students who are currently enrolled. Currently enrolled returning students do not need to reapply. The preferences previously stated for siblings of currently enrolled BDCHS students, children of board members, children of employees, and children of active military duty members of any branch of the United States Armed Forces are not impacted by the non-Hillsborough rule.

What if I have two children in the same grade level applying?

If one sibling falls into the top 125 and the other does not, the admissions department will make the adjustment to ensure sibling students are placed together according to the placement of the lowest numbered placement. This process takes place after the initial lottery run and also applies if one sibling falls below the top 125.

How is the number of openings determined?

Siblings of currently enrolled BDCHS students and children of BDCHS employees or board members do not participate in the lottery. Spots are held for these students.

In January of each year, parents are requested to notify BDCHS if their students in grades 9-11 will not return for the following year. This information allows BDCHS to determine the number of available seats for grades 10-12 that next academic year.

Most of the movement for the 9th and 10th grade waiting lists occurs during the summer months after the school year ends, right up to the first day of school.

The number of available seats for each grade level will be sent to all applicants by Thursday, January 26, 2017.

What happens if there are no openings in 10th, 11th, or 12th grade at the time of the lottery?

The names will be randomly sorted in order to create waiting lists for the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades.

Can I attend the lottery?

The lottery is held in public and will be held in the BDCHS gymnasium on Thursday, February 2, 2017 at 4 pm. You are not required to attend the lottery. Attending the lottery has absolutely no impact on whether your child is selected or placed on the waiting list.

How will I be notified?

The BDCHS Admissions staff will send you an e-mail to let you know if your child was selected or placed on the waiting list. You will be notified by email within four business days, after the lottery, if your child is selected for a seat offer. If your child was placed on the waiting list, your email notification will be sent two weeks after the lottery and include what number he/she is on that list.

It is important you check your junk/spam folder for e-mails regarding the lottery and/or waiting list.

What if I change my mind about having my child enter the lottery?

Please contact the Admissions Department at Admissions@bdchs.org to notify them of your decision.

I applied early in the application window. Does that make a difference?

The randomizing program results in a random selection of students. It does not matter when you applied as long as you met the application deadline.

The only time that would make a difference is if the number of applications does not exceed the number of openings, in which case it would be on a first-come, first-serve basis.

If my child is selected, what is the next step?

You will have **five** full working days in which to accept or decline the seat once it is offered. The number of days in which to accept or decline the seat may be changed from **five** days to **two** days once we get closer to the start of school.

IF THERE IS NO RESPONSE TO THE SEAT OFFER, THE SEAT IS FORFEITED AND THE NEXT CHILD ON THE WAITING LIST SHALL BE CONTACTED. Your child's name will be removed from the list. If you request for your child to be placed back on the list, his/her name will be added to the end of the waiting list.

All families who are sent a seat offer will receive a welcome email from Admissions which will include a link to the 2017-2018 School Year Student and Family Agreement via Survey Monkey. The completion of the Student and Family Agreement is required as the seat acceptance to attend BDCHS.

I have two children in the same grade (or two in different grades on the waiting list). What happens if, after the initial lottery run, one child is offered a seat and the other one is further down on the list and there is not an opening at that time for his/her sibling?

If you accept the seat for the one, the second will be moved to the top of the waiting list and will be offered the next available spot. We cannot create a space for the second child.

(NOTE: Your child's placement at the top of the waiting list depends on how many other siblings were also moved based on the order of the selection.)

Can my child attend BDCHS if he or she attends an out of county public school?

If your child is selected and your child attends an out of county school, he or she must have permission to attend a school outside the county. Please contact the data processor/registrar for information on this process. The data processor/registrar will guide you through the process. Your child cannot be enrolled at BDCHS unless he or she is released from his/her school district *and* has received approval from the School District of Hillsborough County.

The funding allocated to the child by the state of Florida travels with him/her from school district to school district and must be accounted for using this approval process.

What happens if my child is placed on the waiting list and we live in a different county?

If your child is placed on the waiting list, it is strongly recommended that you follow the same procedure as if your child was selected to attend BDCHS. Most of the movement on the waiting list occurs during the summer months. Out of county assignment requests are approved at monthly school board meetings so it is a good idea to get a head start just in case you are contacted for an opening.

Am I notified each time my child moves up on the waiting list?

You will receive periodic updates to movement on the waiting list from the BDCHS Admissions Department.

How am I notified if there is an opening?

Once a parent declines a seat or a seat offer expires, the BDCHS Admissions Department will send a seat offer by e-mail to notify the parent/guardian of the next child on the waiting list. The school counselor may contact you to review your child's course needs to ensure we have course availability. Once offered a seat, you will have five days to respond.

IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT YOU NOTIFY BDCHS IF YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS CHANGES.

Please contact Admissions@bdchs.org with changes.

My child was selected to attend BDCHS but was accepted to a magnet school. BDCHS is our first choice—what should I do?

Parents are required to contact the Hillsborough County Public Schools Choice Office in order to decline at the magnet or choice school (do not contact the school to which they were accepted directly). You may be asked to complete a form in order to officially decline the spot at the magnet program. If a parent does not formally communicate to the magnet office to decline the magnet spot, the child will automatically be assigned to the magnet program and will not be enrolled at BDCHS.

What if I decline the seat at BDCHS and then change my mind?

Unfortunately, if you decline, the next student is contacted and offered the seat. We will be more than happy to add your child's name to the end of the waiting list.