

# 2021-2022 Great Hearts Online Enrollment Policies and Procedures

Great Hearts Online-Arizona Great Hearts Online-Texas

# **GreatHearts**® Online

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### **General enrollment overview**

Enrollment of a student is different from admission of a student. When a school admits a student, it offers the student a seat at the school; the student can decide to accept the seat and attend the school or not. When a school enrolls a student, the student is indicating his or her intention to attend the school and be included in the school's student count. Although a public charter school may offer admission to students simply upon submission of an application, before a student may be enrolled in and attend school, schools must obtain certain documentation from each student's parent or guardian.

Great Hearts Online, as a public charter in Arizona and Texas, are subject to open enrollment laws. Great Hearts Online offers an Open Enrollment period that allows new applications for the next year to be submitted during a limited time. Typically, academies receive more applications for enrollment than seats available for each grade. If this is the case for any grade level at an academy, a lottery will be held for the open enrollment applications.

Any students who submit their applications after the completion of the Open Enrollment period will be ordered on a firstcome first-served prioritized basis as a Post Open Enrollment application. Students who do not receive a will be placed on a waitlist and may be offered enrollment throughout the year if a seat becomes available.

### **Texas Resident Exception to Admission**

As authorized by its open-enrollment charter and Texas Education Code § 12.111(a)(5)(A), Great Hearts Texas reserves the right to deny admission to students with a documented history of a criminal offense, a juvenile court adjudication, or other discipline problems listed under Texas Education Code Chapter 37, Subchapter A.

### **Overview Enrollment Periods and Process**

*Open Enrollment Period:* applications submitted during the open enrollment period that are eligible for the randomized lottery drawing

*Post Open Enrollment Period:* applications submitted after the open-enrollment period, not eligible for lottery and processed on first-come, first-served basis

*Re-enrollment Period:* current students attending Great Hearts Online who plan on returning in the next academic school year for the next grade level at the same academy.

### **Enrollment Timeline**

Listed in this section is a general timeline for each enrollment period and process to apply for enrollment for the next school year. Specific dates will be added to the main GHA website by July 31<sup>st</sup> before the new school year begins.

### **Open Enrollment Policy and Period**

Any application submitted during the open enrollment period is eligible for the lottery drawing. When academies receive more applications than there are seats available, a lottery is held to help order a waitlist and keep the offers given for grade positions fair. The lottery assigns a random number to each application and then the applications are ordered on the waitlist based on the lottery number, application type and any possible priority status. Each academy and grade level complete an independent lottery. The family will receive an email confirming the open enrollment application was received with the student information of academy, application grade, and student name and DOB.

### **Post Open Enrollment Policy and Period**

Any applications submitted after the open enrollment period through the 2021-2022 school year. These applications are not eligible for the lottery and processed on a first-come, first-served basis on the waitlist (submitted date). The family will receive



an email confirming the post open enrollment application with the student information of academy, application grade, and student name and DOB.

### **Re-enrollment Policy and Period**

Any guardian/parent of a current student attending a Great Hearts academy who plans to return for the next school year at the same academy must fill out re-enrollment paperwork to confirm the student's intent to return. During the re-enrollment period, once a parent/guardian withdraws from the enrollment system, a withdrawal email is sent from the parent/guardian, or a withdrawal form is turned into the front office of the academy, the academy can offer that position to another student on the waitlist for that grade and academy. The family will receive an email confirming the re-enrollment completion or withdrawal after the online re-enrollment registration is e-signed and submitted by the parent and accepted by the academy; it will include the name of academy, re-enrollment grade, student name and DOB.

### **Online Texas Geographic Boundaries for Enrollment**

According to the Great Hearts Texas' charter, we are only authorized to accept students who reside with a qualifying parent or guardian within the geographic boundaries within the Texas boundaries.

#### San Antonio

Alamo Heights, Bandera, Blanco, Boerne, Charlotte, Comal, Comfort, D'Hanis, Devine, East Central, Edgewood, Floresville, Fort Sam Houston, Harlandale, Hondo, Jourdanton, Judson, Kerrville, Knippa, La Vernia, Lackland, Lytle, Marion, Medina, Medina Valley, Natalia, New Braunfels, North East, Northside, Pearsall, Pleasanton, Poteet, Poth, Randolph Field, Sabinal, San Antonio, Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City, Seguin, Somerset, South San Antonio, Southside, Southwest, Stockdale, Uvalde.

#### Dallas/Ft. Worth

Aledo, Arlington, Azle, Birdville, Burleson, Carroll, Carrollton-Farmers Branch, Castleberry, Cedar Hill, Coppell, Crowley, Dallas, Desoto, Duncanville, Everman, Fort Worth, Frisco, Garland, Godley, Grand Prairie, Grapevine-Colleyville, Highland Park, Hurst-Euless-Bedford, Irving, Keller, Kennendale, Lake Worth Lancaster, Lewisville, Mansfield, Mesquite, Northwest, Plano, Richardson, Sunnyvale, and White Settlement.

Section 25.001 of the Texas Education Code outlines certain conditions that permit students who do not reside within the approved geographic boundaries listed above to attend Great Hearts. Below are a two of the most common cases for students not residing within the approved boundaries:

- 1. A student is eligible for enrollment if the parent/guardian of the applicant resides within the approved boundaries.
- 2. A student is eligible for enrollment if the grandparent of the applicant resides within the approved boundaries and provides a substantial amount of after-school care to the child as determined by the Board of Directors.

If your student does not live within the approved geographic boundaries and you believe you may qualify through a condition listed in TEC 25.001, please contact the school office where you intend to apply.

### **Enrollment Priority Statuses and Waitlist Order**

#### Priority Status and Waitlist Order Explanation

Each academy waitlist is ordered based on priority status (if applicable) and then application type. There are four priority statuses: (Employee Child, Sibling, School Governing Board Child, and Transfer) and two application types (Open Enrollment and Post Open Enrollment).



When a position becomes available, it is offered to the first applicant on the waitlist. The offer is sent via the Parent Portal by both email and text (if parent opts in) and possible phone call from the academy Office Manager or Registrar.

When academies receive more applications than there are seats available during the Open Enrollment period, a lottery is held to prioritize and keep the offers given for grade positions fair. The lottery assigns a random number to each application and then the applications are numbered on the waitlist based on the lottery number, application type and priority status.

### Great Hearts Online Arizona 2021-2022 Priority Status Order

Priority status is given to applications in the order listed below. After applying priority status, applications are ordered by application type- Open Enrollment and Post Open Enrollment.

- 1. GH Faculty / Administrator or Retiree child or grandchild (full-time, benefits-eligible)
- 2. Applicants with siblings attending, or alumni siblings of, the Online academy
- 3. School Governing Board member child or grandchild
- 4. Transfer student from one GH academy to another

### Great Hearts Online Texas 2021-2022 Priority Status Order

Priority status is given to applications in the order listed below. After applying priority status, applications are ordered by application type- Open Enrollment and Post Open Enrollment.

- 1. GH Faculty / Administrator child (full-time, benefits-eligible)
- 2. Applicants with siblings attending, or alumni siblings of, the Online academy
- 3. Transfer student from one GH academy to another
- 4. School Governing Board member child or grandchild

#### Arizona Online 2021-2022 Waitlist Order

Applications are ordered by type within each below status- Open Enrollment and Post-open Enrollment.

- 1. GH Faculty / Administrator or Retiree child or grandchild (full-time, benefits-eligible)
- 2. Applicants with siblings attending, or alumni siblings of, the same Online academy
- 3. School Governing Board member child or grandchild
- 4. Transfer student from one GH academy to another
- 5. Non-priority Open Enrollment applicants (by original lottery number)
- 6. Non-priority Post Open Enrollment applicants (by submission date of application)

#### Texas Online 2021-2022 Waitlist Order

Applications are ordered by type within each below status- Open Enrollment and Post-open Enrollment.

- 1. GH Faculty / Administrator child (full-time, benefits-eligible)
- 2. Applicants with siblings attending, or alumni siblings of, the same Online academy
- 3. Transfer student from one GH academy to another
- 4. School Governing Board member child or grandchild
- 5. Non-priority Open Enrollment applicants (by original lottery number)
- 6. Non-priority Post Open Enrollment applicants (by submission date of application)

**Please note**: Any false statement on an application, including falsely indicating priority eligibility, may result in revocation of enrollment or offer of enrollment. Also, priority status does not guarantee an offer of enrollment for any grade or academy.

#### Predicting Waitlist Outcomes:

It is not possible for Great Hearts to determine a child's chances of being offered an enrollment seat. Once classes are full, any spots that open are the result of an admitted student deciding not to enroll or by an enrolled student's withdrawal. Although we do typically see several spots open before the start of school, Great Hearts has no way of knowing in which grades spots will open or how many spots will become available.



Applicants may move up or down on the waiting list. For example, consider an applicant to the 1<sup>st</sup> grade who is offered an enrollment seat and who has a sibling who is placed on the waitlist for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in spot #50. The sibling applying for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will be given a "sibling priority," and will therefore move to the top of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade waitlist (or near the top; there may be other siblings ahead of them).

### Great Hearts Faculty / Administrator or Retiree Child Priority (EC)

Children or Grandchildren of full-time benefits-eligible Arizona Great Hearts Lead Office, Academy Faculty, Administrators or Retirees. Children of full-time benefits-eligible Texas Great Hearts Lead Office, Academy Faculty, or Administrators.

- 1. The employee must have a signed offering sheet with Great Hearts Academies before the enrollment priority will be applied to employee child application/s.
- The employee must be currently employed and benefits eligible with working at least ¾ time,
  a. The retiree must have been with Great Hearts Academies for at least 10 years.
- 3. The employee/retiree must be the parent /legal guardian or grandparent of applicant.
- 4. The eligible applicant will receive priority status at any academy within the Great Hearts network, including Texas.
- 5. The employee is responsible for notifying the academy/s to which they apply of their submitted application and of their priority status eligibility.
- 6. If employment is terminated by employee or employer before applicant is offered enrollment or attends one day of school at a Great Hearts academy, priority status will be rescinded.
- 7. If employee priority status results in an offer of enrollment and employment is terminated by employee or employer before employment contract is signed, offer of enrollment will be rescinded.
- 8. Once marked as an "employee" application, these priority applications are ordered by original lottery number.
  - a. If the student/applicant does not apply during Open Enrollment to be in the lottery, the application will be a post-open application and be organized after the prioritized open enrollment applications by time/date stamp.
- 9. Priority status does not guarantee placement.

### Sibling Priority Policy (SI)

Sibling priority only applies when the incoming applicant has a sibling that is officially enrolled, currently attending, or has graduated from, the same academy or designated feeder / recipient academy to which the applicant is applying.

- 1. A "sibling" is defined as an immediate family member of the applicant, or a blended family member of the applicant through marriage or guardianship including foster children and those awaiting adoption. Birth certificate, marriage certificate, court documentation or Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) paperwork is necessary to approve the sibling priority.
  - a. Does not apply to extended family of sibling unless legal documentation of guardianship is provided.
- 2. The sibling must be currently enrolled at, or alumni of, the same academy or designated feeder/recipient\* academy to which the applicant is applying.
- 3. The applicant can only receive priority status for the same academy or designated feeder/recipient\* academy at which their sibling is currently enrolled or from which they have graduated.
- 4. If the sibling withdraws from the academy before applicant is offered enrollment, priority status will be rescinded.
- 5. If the sibling withdraws from the academy before attending at least one day of attendance for the year they are registered, the priority status and any offer/registration of the applicant will be rescinded.
- 6. Once marked as a "sibling" application, these priority applications are ordered by original lottery number.
  - a. If the student/applicant does not apply during Open Enrollment to be in the lottery, the application will be a post-open application and be organized after the prioritized open enrollment applications by time/date stamp.



7. Priority status does not guarantee placement.

### School Governing Board Priority Policy (BC)

School Governing Board priority is for a child/grandchild of an official member of the Network School Governing Board, the AZ School Governing Board or the TX School Governing Board. *Advisory Board members are not eligible for the Board Priority.* 

- 1. The governing board member must be the parent, legal guardian, or legal grandparent of applicant.
- 2. The governing board member must be an active participant and serve on the academy site board for a minimum of 6 months before the student can receive the "board child" priority.
- 3. The governing board member must be an official, board-approved member.
- 4. The eligible applicant will receive priority status at any academy within the Great Hearts network.
- 5. The governing board member is responsible for notifying the academy/s to which they apply of their submitted application and of their priority status eligibility.
- 6. If the governing member's service on the board ends before the applicant is offered enrollment at a Great Hearts academy, priority status will be rescinded.
- 7. Once marked as a "board" application, these priority applications are ordered by original lottery number.
  - a. If the student/applicant does not apply during Open Enrollment to be in the lottery, the application will be a post-open application and be organized after the prioritized open enrollment applications by time/date stamp.
- 8. Priority status does not guarantee placement.

### Transfer Priority Policy (TS)

Transfer priority is for students who are currently attending a Great Hearts academy and would like to transfer to another Great Hearts academy.

- 1. Students eligible for transfer are required to start attending their current academy in semester one or by the beginning of the second semester and must successfully complete the academic year at that academy to be eligible to transfer to their new academy of choice for the next school year.
  - a. In the case of siblings, all transfer requests submitted must be for the same academy as transfer requests submitted for all other siblings.
  - b. Must not be in the process of being expelled from their current academy.
- 2. Students requesting a transfer must also:
  - a. Complete an application for the next school year to their desired transfer academy.
  - b. Complete and submit a Transfer Request form to the front office of their desired transfer academy for each individual school year.
  - 3. If a student is being retained at their current academy, their transfer application and any other enrollment applications will be changed to the retained grade level.
  - 4. Once the desired academy approves the transfer, the application will be marked for transfer priority status for the upcoming school year.
    - i. Once marked as a "transfer" application, these priority applications are ordered by original lottery number.
    - b. If the student/applicant does not apply during Open Enrollment to be in the lottery, the application will be a post-open application and be organized after the prioritized open enrollment applications by time/date stamp.
  - 5. Priority status does not guarantee placement at the desired academy, but rather it places the transfer application in a prioritized position on the waitlist for the desired academy / grade.



- 6. If the student filled out a transfer form and application for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year and stated they are withdrawing for 2021-2022 at their current academy via re-enrollment, Transfer priority will only be valid until the completion of the 2020-2021 school year.
  - a. Transfer priority and forms are only given to currently enrolled students. After the completion of the 2020-2021 school year, the student is no longer enrolled, and the transfer priority is not valid.
- 7. Arizona students are not eligible for a transfer priority in Texas.

### **Enrollment Application Submission Policies**

### Incorrect submission grade

Parents/guardians of the student must submit an enrollment application through the enrollment Parent Portal to be eligible for an offer from an individual academy. The parent/guardian must apply for the correct grade for the enrollment year to which they are applying since each grade level for each academy's waitlist is independent from other waitlists. Great Hearts cannot change the application grade for a student after the original application has been submitted due to Arizona Charter laws. If the parent/guardian applies for the wrong grade, the parent must cancel the original enrollment application and apply again for the correct grade and be given a new submission date and waitlist number.

### Editing/Adding an Academy

Separately, if a parent/guardian wants to edit or add an additional academy to the original application, the new academy's application will be submitted with the current date and added to the waitlist. Editing an application or adding an academy will not affect the wait list position of previously submitted academies.

### **Duplicate applications**

*Great Hearts Online (Texas or Arizona) does not allow duplicate applications for an individual student at the same academy for the same/multiple grades since it is against policy of fair and equitable enrollments practices to have more than one application per student.* If the front office finds a duplicate application, the application is canceled, and the parent will be notified via email if necessary. Academies must be mindful of original application dates and edits when canceling applications.

### **Offer/Registration Policies**

### Initial Offer of Enrollment

Every family will receive an email and/or a phone call from the academy to which they applied when an offer is extended to their child. Please contact the main office of the specific academy if you have any questions concerning the initial offer of enrollment.

If a family declines or does not respond to an offer of enrollment by the deadline date determined by that specific academy, they are removed from the waitlist and must reapply if they wish to be considered again for enrollment in the current or future school years.

### Great Hearts Online Arizona Resident- Registration Packet

Completion of an online application or acceptance of an offer of enrollment *does not* constitute official registration. Offered applicants will receive access to a registration packet via the enrollment Parent Portal to finalize their registration at the academy. Parents must complete the registration packet and turn the documents into the front office by the academy's packet deadline to be registered in the academy. Failure to submit that registration packet by the academy's deadline will result in the offer being rescinded.



Here is a list of documentation that the parent/guardian can start gathering to have it all ready when you receive your packet.

- 1. All Arizona schools must obtain age and identity documentation from students when they enroll. Specifically, within 30 days of enrollment, the person enrolling the student must provide the school with ONE of the following:
  - A certified copy of the pupil's birth certificate;
  - Other reliable proof of the pupil's identity and age, including the pupil's baptismal certificate, an application for a social security number or original school registration records and an affidavit explaining the inability to provide a copy of the birth certificate; or
  - A letter from the authorized representative of an agency having custody of the pupil pursuant to a juvenile court proceeding, certifying that the pupil has been placed in the custody of the agency as prescribed by law. A.R.S. §15-828(A)(1)-(3).

#### *Any* of the documents listed above are acceptable to verify a student's age or identity.

- 2. As with all public schools in Arizona, charter schools are required to obtain and maintain verifiable documentation of a student's Arizona state residency upon enrollment (no P.O. Boxes) A.R.S. § 15-802(B). Residency documents are different from citizenship or immigration documents. Great Hearts does not request or require documentation regarding a student's citizenship or immigration status in connection with enrollment or at any other time.
  - 1. Proof of Arizona residency (**one** item from the list below):
    - a. Valid Arizona driver's license, Arizona identification card
    - b. Valid Arizona motor vehicle registration
    - c. Valid Arizona Address Confidentiality Program authorization card
    - d. Property deed/Mortgage documents
    - e. Property tax bill
    - f. Rental agreement or lease (including Section 8 agreement or off-base military housing)
    - g. Utility bill (water, electric, gas, cable, phone)
    - h. Bank or credit card statement
    - i. W-2 wage statement
    - j. Payroll stub
    - k. Certificate of tribal enrollment (506 Form) or other identification issued by a recognized Indian tribe located in Arizona
    - 1. Other documentation from a state, tribal, or federal agency (Social Security Administration, Veterans' Administration, Arizona Department of Economic Security, etc.)
    - m. Temporary on-base billeting facility (for military families)
- 3. Immunization Records

Immunization records are required unless there is a valid exemption pursuant A.R.S 15-872.

### **Great Hearts Online Texas Resident- Registration Packet**

Submission of an admissions application or acceptance of an offer of enrollment from Great Hearts Texas does not constitute official registration. Applicants admitted will receive a registration packet via the enrollment Parent Portal and must complete the registration packet by the accepting academy's deadline to finalize registration. Failure to submit a registration packet by the accepting academy's deadline will result in the offer of enrollment being rescinded.

Following is a list of some of the documents that will need to be submitted with a registration packet. This is not a comprehensive list, but it can be useful to begin gathering these documents now to have them ready if you receive an enrollment offer.



- 1. All Texas schools must obtain age and identity documentation from students when they enroll. Specifically, within 30 days of enrollment, the person enrolling the student must provide the school with ONE of the following:
  - The child's birth certificate or another document suitable as proof of the child's identity; and
  - A complete copy of the child's records from the school the child most recently attended if the child has been previously enrolled in a school in Texas or another state. Texas Education Code § 25.002.

#### Any of the documents listed above are acceptable to verify a student's age or identity.

- 2. As with all public schools in Texas, charter schools are required to obtain and maintain verifiable documentation of a student's Texas state residency upon enrollment. Texas Education Code § 25.001(b). Residency documents are different from citizenship or immigration documents. Great Hearts does not request or require documentation regarding a student's citizenship or immigration status in connection with enrollment or at any other time.
  - a. Proof of Texas residency and residency within the geographic boundaries in which Great Hearts Texas operates may be demonstrated by (**two items from the list below**):
    - a. Valid TEXAS Driver's License
    - b. Mortgage statement\*
    - c. Rental agreement or lease (including Section 8 agreement)
    - d. Utility bill (water, electric, gas)\*
    - e. Valid motor vehicle registration
    - f. Valid voter registration card
    - g. Current tax return
    - h. Bank or credit card statement\*
    - i. W-2 or 1099 tax form for the current year
    - j. Payroll stub\*
    - k. Automobile insurance policy or statement\*
    - l. Cable bill\*
    - m. Internet bill\*

\*dated within 90 days of the student's registration appointment date.

#### 3. Immunization Records

a. Within 30 days of enrollment, the person enrolling a student must provide a record showing that the child has the immunizations required under Texas Education Code § 38.001, or proof showing the child is not required to be immunized or that the child is entitled to provisional admission. Texas Education Code § 25.002(a)(3).

4. Social Security Number

a. Upon registering, campuses will request a child's social security number for the purpose of using it as a student identification number. Providing the social security number is voluntary and if a parent chooses not to provide the child's social security number, then they will be asked to fill out a separate form to request a state assigned ID.

#### **Enrollment Start Date**

Upon acceptance of an offer, the student will be scheduled to start on the first date of school or academies will set the anticipated start date if student receives offer after the school year begins. Academies cannot indefinitely hold a position without a clear anticipated start date (within a reasonable number of days of the accepted offer) for the student or the accepted offer can be rescinded. Should a student not have positive attendance within 10 days of the anticipated start date, the offer may be rescinded, or the student may be withdrawn from the academy.

## **GreatHearts**® Online

### Great Hearts Online Arizona Dual Enrollment

Per A.R.S 15-808, current Archway Trivium West students in Arizona given an offer of enrollment for Great Hearts Online cannot be dual enrolled in both academies due to being under the same Local Education Agency (LEA). If the student wants to move to Great Hearts Online, the student will need to withdraw their position of enrollment from Archway Trivium West for 2021-22 to officially register at Great Hearts Online. If the student is interested in returning to Archway Trivium West later or enrolling at another Great Hearts brick and mortar academy, the student will need to apply to that academy's waitlist for a possible offer of enrollment.

### **Admissions Standards**

Great Hearts Academies have no admissions standards, as Great Hearts is a publicly funded network of charter academies. However, students in the Prep academies may be required to attend summer school in order to meet graduation requirements.

### **Great Hearts Online Arizona Resident Kindergarten Enrollment Policy**

Great Hearts Academies follows state guidelines which stipulate that a child must turn 5 years old before September 1<sup>st</sup> in Arizona for the year in which they are enrolled for Kindergarten. The Online academy adheres to the state guidelines regarding the minimum age for Kindergarten and does not offer early Kindergarten admittance or enrollment or any early entrance testing for students not 5 years old by the deadline date. Great Hearts does not allow exceptions to this policy, except in the rare case where an academy will face a Kindergarten enrollment shortage.

Great Hearts Online Kindergarten offering is a ½ day program, which is funded in full by the State of Arizona and meets all state requirements. Great Hearts Online also offers a tuition-based, extended-day Kindergarten program, which allows us to provide a full day of instruction to Kindergarten students. Tuition for the extended-day program is at a cost. The tuition will begin for new families in August 2021-May 2022.

### **Great Hearts Online Texas Resident Kindergarten Enrollment Policy**

Great Hearts Academies follows state guidelines which stipulate that a child must turn 5 years old on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> in Texas for the year in which they are enrolled for Kindergarten. The Online academy adheres to the state guidelines regarding the minimum age for Kindergarten and does not offer early Kindergarten admittance or enrollment or any early entrance testing for students not 5 years old by the deadline date. Great Hearts does not allow exceptions to this policy, except in the rare case where an academy will face a Kindergarten enrollment shortage.

Great Hearts Online Kindergarten offering is a full day program, which is funded in full by the State of Texas and meets all state requirements.

### Great Hearts Online Arizona Early-Kindergarten Funding for Second Year Enrollees

Under Arizona law (A.R.S 15-821 (C)), a child is eligible for enrollment to kindergarten at a Great Hearts academy if the child is five years of age before September 1st of the current application school year. If a child who has not reached five years old before September 1<sup>st</sup> in a school year is admitted to kindergarten and is then readmitted to kindergarten in the next school year, a school district or charter school is not eligible to receive basic state aid on behalf of that child during the child's second year of kindergarten.



As a result, early-entrance kindergarten students (turning 5 years old between Sept 1<sup>st</sup>-Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>) who have successfully completed and passed their Kindergarten program in an Arizona public school in the previous school year *cannot* apply to Great Hearts Academies Kindergarten program but must apply to the 1<sup>st</sup> grade at the academy they are interested in attending.

If a student receives an offer of enrollment for Kindergarten at an academy and it has been determined that the student already successfully passed and completed Kindergarten as an early-entrance kindergarten student in the previous year, the student will be withdrawn from Kindergarten and the parent will need to apply again to be on the 1<sup>st</sup> grade waitlist for a possible offer.

### Great Hearts Online Arizona Resident- Early-First Grade Enrollment Policy

Under Arizona law (A.R.S 15-821 (C)), a child is eligible for enrollment to 1<sup>st</sup> grade if the child is six years old before September 1st of the current application school year. Great Hearts Academies may enroll children who have not reached the required age if it is determined to be in the best interest of the children.

To determine whether entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade is in the student's best interest, Great Hearts Academies have implemented the following procedure to comply with Arizona law (A.R.S. § 15-821(C)).

- 1. They turn 6 years old before January 1st of the 2021-2022 school year for which they are applying.
- 2. Parent/guardian must show the student's successful completion of a Kindergarten program.
- 3. Such determination shall be based upon one or more consultations with the parent, parents, guardian or guardians, the children, the teacher and the academy Headmaster.

### **Enrollment for Possible Expelled Students/Expelled Students**

**A.R.S. §15-184 (I)** allows a charter academy to refuse to admit any pupil who has been expelled from another educational institution or who is in the process of being expelled from another educational institution.

As authorized by section **12.111(a)(5)(A)** of the Texas Education Code, the Great Hearts Texas charter allows an academy to refuse to admit any applicant who has been expelled from another educational institution, or who has a documented history of a criminal offense, a juvenile court adjudication, or other discipline problems listed under Texas Education Code Chapter 37, Subchapter A.

### **McKinney-Vento Act and students**

The McKinney-Vento Act is to ensure that homeless children and youth have access to a free, appropriate public education, comparable to that provided to the children of any Arizona or Texas resident and consistent with Arizona and Texas' mandatory school attendance laws.

Great Hearts Academies supports and provides services under the McKinney-Vento Act. Great Hearts Academies will work with existing families to provide the required and necessary transportation to and from the academy if attending a physical Great Hearts Academy location.



### **Non-Discrimination Policy**

Great Hearts Online does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or immigration in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

### • AZ 504 Coordinator:

Thomas Doebler, ESS Director Great Hearts Academies 4801 E. Washington St. STE 250 Phoenix, AZ 85034 602.438.7045 EXT 345

#### AZ Title IX Coordinator: Lauri Myracle, HR Director Great Hearts Academies 4801 E. Washington St. STE 250 Phoenix, AZ 85034 602.438.7045 EXT 414

#### TX 504 Coordinator

Diane Jones 824 Broadway St, San Antonio, TX, 78215 210-888-9475 diane.jones@greatheartstx.org

### **TX Title IX Coordinator**

Dr. Dan Scoggin 824 Broadway St, San Antonio, TX, 78215 210-888-9475 dscoggin@greatheartsamerica.org

### GREAT HEARTS ONLINE-TEXAS PENDING FINAL BOARD APPROVAL IN MAY (DATE TBD)