



Enrollment

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Frequently Asked Questions

What is a charter school?

Charter schools are independent public schools opened by educators, parents, or civic leaders. Charters are tuition free, public schools that have been granted autonomy from the governing school district. In exchange for that autonomy, charter schools are held accountable by their authorizing school district to perform at levels higher than neighboring schools. Charter schools are reviewed every five years by their authorizing district to evaluate their effectiveness and determine if their charter should be renewed or if the school should be closed.

Are charter schools private schools?

No. Charter schools are public schools. They are open to all students that want to enroll. Alliance College-Ready Public Schools does not discriminate against any student on the basis of disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes set forth in Section 422.55 of the Penal Code.

How are charter schools funded?

Charter schools are public schools and receive state and federal funding based on the number of students enrolled, just like traditional public schools. Once fully enrolled, Alliance schools function solely on public, per-pupil funding. Our fundraising focuses on opening new schools.

What is the advantage of attending an Alliance school?

Alliance schools offer a small, safe learning environment, and a rigorous, college-preparatory curriculum that prepares students for success in college. Furthermore, Alliance schools provide every student with access to technology

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and the latest educational software. All Alliance schools' API scores are higher than their neighborhood average. 94% of Alliance students graduate high school in four years, and 95% of those graduates go on to college.

How many Alliance schools are in the Los Angeles area?

Currently we have 7 middle schools and 15 high schools in Los Angeles, for a total of 22 schools. Fall 2014, we will open 2 new middle schools in East L.A. and Huntington Park, and 2 new high schools in Huntington Park and San Pedro.

How long is the Alliance school day?

The Alliance school day runs 45 minutes longer than that at a traditional LAUSD school. The Alliance school day begins at 7:45 AM and ends at 3:30 PM. On Wednesdays, Alliance students are released at 1:30 PM to allow time for teacher development sessions.

Are Alliance schools year-round?

No. Alliance schools offer a single track calendar of 190 days, 10 days more than traditional LAUSD schools. The Alliance school year begins in August and ends in June.

Does my child have to go to summer school?

Summer school is offered at every Alliance school as needed for students.

Does my child need to wear a uniform?

Yes. Alliance students wear polo shirts with their school logo and khaki pants or skirts. Uniform shirts can be purchased directly from your school.

Do Alliance schools provide transportation?

School bus transportation is not provided for charter schools. However, students can receive discounts on public transportation.

Are parents required to volunteer?

We are committed to working with parents as partners in providing a high-quality learning experience for all students. Parents sign a Parent/Student Contract of Accountability, and are expected to volunteer up to 40 hours per school year. Parents earn volunteer service credit by attending school events and conferences, parent education academies, school advisory council meetings, and providing additional support to their school.

Do Alliance schools serve students with special needs?

Yes. Alliance schools encourage all students to enroll, including those with special needs. To learn more about our special education programming, please contact Alejandra Velez, Director of Special Education and Student Support Services, at avelez@laalliance.org.

If my child needs help, are tutoring services provided?

Yes. Tutoring services and credit recovery courses are available for those students during advisory classes, after school, and on weekends.

What types of classes are offered at Alliance schools?

Alliance schools offer a rigorous, standards-based, college-preparatory curriculum. 100% of Alliance graduates have passed the A-G requirements necessary to apply to a University of California or Cal State University. Alliance schools also offer elective courses. Please contact your school directly to see

what elective and extra-curricular courses are available.

Do Alliance students participate in state tests?

Yes. All Alliance graduates are required to pass the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE). Previously, Alliance students took the California Standards Test (CST), which measures progress toward California's state-adopted academic content standards. Currently, Alliance schools are working to convert to Common Core State Standards. [Click here to view Alliance school performance data.](#)

How do I enroll my child at an Alliance charter school?

Visit our enrollment page to complete an online application or download a paper application. Paper applications can be returned to your selected school by mail or dropped off in person. If a school receives more applications than spaces available by their enrollment deadline, a random public lottery will be held.

Can I apply to more than one Alliance school?

Yes. However, you must complete a separate enrollment application form for each school.

When is the Alliance enrollment deadline?

Enrollment deadlines vary by school. Check our individual high school and middle school pages to see each school's enrollment deadline. All Alliance schools continue to accept applications after the enrollment deadline. If space is still available after the deadline, your student will be admitted. Otherwise, your student will be added to the waitlist in the order in which they apply.

How are students selected to attend an Alliance school?

Students are not "selected," all students are welcome at Alliance schools. Every student who applies to an Alliance school will be accepted if space is available. If a school receives more applications than spaces available by their enrollment deadline, a random public lottery will be held.

What is a random public lottery?

When a charter school receives more applications than there are seats available, the school is required to hold a public random lottery to provide an equal opportunity for students to enroll. Applications are collected up until the school's enrollment deadline, and then students are randomly drawn to determine who will be enrolled for the coming academic year. Once all available slots are filled, students are placed on a waiting list in the order their application is drawn. Students that apply after the enrollment deadline has passed will be added to the wait list in the order in which they apply.

How many students are accepted to Alliance schools each year?

Alliance middle schools enroll 150 new 6th grade students, and Alliance high schools enroll 150 new 9th grade students each school year. Additionally, Alliance schools accept applications for higher grades, and enroll new students when space is available.

Do siblings receive priority for enrollment?

Yes. Siblings of Alliance students have preference for enrollment, and are not required to participate in the random public lottery. However, extended family (ie: cousins) do not receive priority for enrollment; they must submit their

applications for the lottery.

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