

## UNH Child Study and Development Center Frequently Asked Questions about the CSDC Admissions Lottery

### **What is the Admissions Lottery?**

The CSDC lottery is a computer software program developed specifically for our center to create a prioritized Waiting List for available spaces in each of our programs. The software randomly and fairly selects and creates a list from all eligible applications submitted on time.

### **How does an application get included in the lottery?**

All eligible applications received by the close of business on March 1 of each year (or next business day) are entered in the lottery.

### **Does each classroom have its own Waiting List?**

Yes. The Lottery program automatically sorts children into the appropriate classroom by age and program and creates a waiting list order for each room.

### **Will I know my child's "order" on the list?**

No, because a number of complex factors determine whether a child is next in order to be enrolled we do not provide specific numbers for where a child is on the waiting list. If a child isn't offered a space during the first round of offers in March, the family is told whether their child is in the top, middle or bottom third of the waiting list if the list has more than 15 names remaining. If further spaces open up at any time during the year, we draw from the waiting list in order to make an offer.

### **Does the Waiting List order stay the same from year to year?**

No, all remaining and new applications are re-entered each March to create a new Waiting List for the following year. The lottery software automatically places each child in the appropriate group based on age. This practice gives families new to the area a fairer chance to enroll their child in CSDC. The only exception is for the sibling preference. The order of this preference is determined by the first year in which the child is entered in a lottery. Any sibling remaining on the same classroom list for a second year will have preference over children with sibling preference who "age-up" from a younger classroom.

### **Are there any exceptions to the Lottery Process?**

Yes. Children currently attending CSDC programs always have preference over the lottery and there are some instances in which a child who previously attended the center may have priority for returning to the center. Families with a child in a CSDC program have priority over new families for a *sibling* space if both children will be attending CSDC programs concurrently. There is no alumnae preference in CSDC full-day programs (see the Nursery policy for further details). CSDC staff and tenure track Family Studies faculty have one position each reserved in the full-day infant room or other programs as available. Eligible UNH families have preference over new community families for full-day and kindergarten admissions. The Director may consider the staffing needs for the center in admission decisions. In order to build a more diverse and inclusive center for research and training purposes, the Director may also consider gender, special needs, family diversity and income, and ethnicity in making admissions decisions from the Waiting List. The Director makes all admission offers and because of confidentiality is unable to discuss specific decisions. Other preferences are detailed in the Admissions Policies for each program.

### **What happens to an Application received after the Lottery Deadline?**

These applications are added to the bottom of that year's Waiting List created by the Lottery.

### **What happens if I decline an offer of enrolment?**

If a family declines once, the name is moved to the bottom of the Waiting List. If a family declines a second time, the name is removed from the list.