



Hillcrest Elementary

1051 Hwy 60E
Lake Wales, FL 33853
Phone: 863-678-4216
Fax: 863-678-1086



The Lake Wales Charter School system provides educational opportunities for students residing within the Lake Wales High School Attendance Zone. This Zone contains five elementary feeder schools, four of which are charter schools under the governance of Lake Wales Charter Schools, Inc. Each elementary school has been assigned its own attendance zone within the larger Zone.

The elementary school zones are configured to assure that each school reflects the diversity of the community and comfortably meets court requirements for racial and ethnic diversity. After meeting this requirement, the Charter Board and the individual schools will address class size requirements.

ENROLLMENT CRITERIA

In-zone Students Hillcrest Elementary will maintain racial and economic diversity by serving the conversion charter attendance zones developed in conjunction with the sponsor according to state statutes.

Out-of-Zone Students Hillcrest Elementary will accept "Out-of-Zone" students who desire to attend that school when space is available. All Out-of-Zone students must apply during, or after, the open enrollment period in order to be considered for the upcoming school year.

Capping at the Program, Class, Grade, or Building Level Hillcrest Elementary reserves the right to cap enrollment at the program, class, grade, or building level when needed, as per F.S. 1002.33(10)(b). Hillcrest Elementary will attempt to provide every student residing in the Hillcrest Elementary attendance zones, who desires to attend Hillcrest Elementary, that opportunity.

ACCEPTANCES

- Applicants on the current year's waiting list who are not accepted during the current year will be contacted and given the opportunity to retain the current waiting list number for the upcoming school year, at the next grade level, provided the applicant will be promoted to the next grade level.
- Applicants who apply during the open enrollment period for the following school year will be randomly assigned a waiting list number utilizing a lottery system and added to the current waiting list based on preference. This will be done for each grade level and for both in-zone and out-of-zone applicants. Note: In-zone applicants who apply during the open enrollment period may be automatically accepted for the following school year if space is available. In that event, a lottery for the in-zone applicants will not be conducted.
- The school may accept an applicant from the upcoming year's waiting list during the current school year if space is available. This is an administrative decision.



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PRIORITY PREFERENCE

- Priority 1: Students residing within the Hillcrest Elementary zone.
- Priority 2: Eligible students of Hillcrest Elementary employees and Governing Board of Trustee members.
- Priority 3: Students with siblings currently enrolled in Hillcrest Elementary.

CLASS SIZE COMPLIANCE

In order to meet state class size requirements, Hillcrest Elementary will carefully monitor its enrollment to place the maximum number of students in each classroom without violating the Class Size Amendment. Our maximum school capacity according to the Florida Inventory of School Houses (FISH) Report is 473. When Hillcrest Elementary reaches the point where further enrollment would result in violation of the Class Size Amendment, it will establish a waiting list for filling future vacancies and/or offer the excess student(s) a transfer to an available seat in another charter school within the LWCS system. Students will be enrolled from the waiting list in compliance with the Class Size Amendment and pursuant to the vacancy priorities set forth above. Hillcrest Elementary will continue to work in this fashion, with the goal of absorbing the maximum possible enrollment within its zone before denying admission to any student because of Class Size violation.