

HOW TO SELECT THE RIGHT KINDERGARTEN – VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION Q&A

ENROLLMENT

Where can I find the online enrollment link?

<https://enrollbasis.com/apply/>

What is the cost of the full day kindergarten?

The cost of full-day kindergarten programs vary from school-to-school. Please contact your local BASIS Charter School for specific information. Many campuses have a cost of \$400/month or \$3800/year.

When is open enrollment for 2024–25?

Open Enrollment dates are determined on a year-to-year basis. The 2024–25 Open Enrollment dates have not been announced yet.

Typically, Open Enrollment begins in mid-November for the next school year. Once finalized, the Open Enrollment dates for the 2024–25 school year will be posted on our enrollment page:

<https://enrollbasis.com/apply/>

Are all kindergartners guaranteed a space in the elementary classes that follow?

Yes, parents/guardians of rising grade 1 students will complete a re-enrollment survey for their kindergartener informing the campus of their intention to return the following school year.

How far in advance can I sign my child up for the wait list for the half day kindergarten program?

Every year, there is an Open Enrollment period for the following school year. Applications submitted during Open Enrollment and outside of Open Enrollment are processed differently.

Please note that the exact Open Enrollment dates and lottery dates are determined on a year-to-year basis. Once finalized, the Open Enrollment dates for the 2024–25 school year will be posted on our enrollment page:

<https://enrollbasis.com/apply/>

If you apply during Open Enrollment: If the number of applications received during Open Enrollment exceeds the number of openings (at any grade level), enrollment is determined by a lottery and waitlist. The Open Enrollment period for BASIS Charter Schools is NOT first-come, first-served. Instead, applicants are added to a lottery pool. To be included in the lottery, you need to apply by midnight on the last day of Open Enrollment. After the Open Enrollment period ends, lottery drawings are held. You will receive the results directly from the school(s) you applied to. Families that do not receive an enrollment offer from the lottery will be added to a waitlist.

If you apply outside of the Open Enrollment period: Applications submitted after the Open Enrollment period has ended will be added to a waitlist and processed on a first-come, first-served basis, following any applications received during Open Enrollment. Schools will continue to make offers to waitlisted applicants as seats become available. There is not a lottery for applications submitted outside of the Open Enrollment period.

How easy is it to transfer from a BASIS Charter School in one state to another? Do you still have to go through lottery system?

You are welcome to transfer from state to state, but the enrollment process is the same. You complete an

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enrollment application and the offer for a seat is dependent on availability at the campus(es) you are applying to attend.

What's the age requirement for kindergarten enrollment?

Kindergarten age requirements vary from state to state. In Arizona, your child must be 5 years old before September 1 of the year in which they wish to start kindergarten. If your child does not meet the standard age cutoff but will be turning 5 years old on or after September 1 but on or before December 31, you may apply for early admission. In Louisiana, your child must be 5 years old on or before September 30. Louisiana does not offer early admission for children who do not meet the age cutoff.

I tried to apply for kindergarten, but apparently nothing in AZ is available?

We have kindergarten seats available at BASIS Scottsdale Primary East, BASIS Phoenix Central, and BASIS Prescott. We are accepting applications at all campuses throughout the year and will make offers as seats become available.

When is the open enrollment for this current school year, 2023–24? Where would I go to get more information?

The Open Enrollment period for the 2023–24 school year was held from November 9 to December 14, 2022 for Arizona. Everyone who applied during that time was included in the lottery that took place at the end of January 2023. However, we are still taking applications for 2023–24 school year and will be making offers as seats become available!

Please make sure you are going to the new Application Portal for the 2023–24 school year here:

<https://applybasis.schoolmint.com/>

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

What does PTO/PTA look like at BASIS Charter Schools?

The parent-volunteer organizations at BASIS Charter Schools are called Booster Clubs. They assist in various campus events and activities.

How do BASIS Charter Schools foster communities of connection amongst the parents?

This varies from campus to campus. Typically, schools and the Boosters offer grade-level-specific and all-school events, so parents and students can get to know each other. The list of opportunities to foster connections continues to grow.

What is required of parents (outside of working with children on their homework)?

We ask that parents review their student's Communication Journal (CJ) each night. If your kindergarten student is not reading on their own yet, we also ask that you spend time each night reading with them.

SCHOOL DAY SPECIFICS

For the after-school program, what time does it run until?

The Late Bird program is a fee-based, after-school program that serves parents/guardians whose days end later than the school end time. During Late Bird, staff members supervise students in designated areas of the school. The Late Bird program is structured, so students have time to do homework, read, make up tests, etc.

For specific details about times and any applicable fees, please contact the school you are interested in attending.

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During the full day kindergarten program, if the transition is difficult, can we still pick up the child at 1 pm during some tough times in the initial days?

If you choose full-day enrollment, we strongly encourage you to keep your student in attendance for the full day to reap the benefits of the full-day curriculum.

Can we transition from half day to full day kinder?

Yes, you can ask for a schedule change for your student from half-day kindergarten to full-day kindergarten.

What time does kindergarten start? What time does half day end vs full day?

Start and end times vary from campus to campus. It is best to reach out to your campus of interest directly to ask specific questions about full-day and half-day kindergarten schedules.

How many students are in each classroom?

A typical class has approximately 30 students. Grades K–3 follow a co-teaching model with two teachers in each classroom, while grades 4–12 have one teacher per subject.

Is there before and after school care for kindergarten? What about other grades?

Yes, we provide a before- and after-school program for all grades. All grades are accepted. Please contact the campus directly to sign up as soon as possible. Seating is limited.

How is a child's intellectual, mental, and emotional progress measured and when/how is that communicated to parents?

Every BASIS Charter School has a Student Affairs team. Individuals on this team offer academic, social/emotional, and behavioral support to students in need. With our advanced curriculum, having a strong academic support program in place is essential for student success. Our teachers hold regular Student Hours (before and after school) during which students can get extra help. The Student Affairs team also meets with students who need extra support on a regular basis. They work with students on organization, time management, note taking, and other related skills that enable academic success. Parents are welcome to contact campus administration to get contact information and begin building that relationship when school begins.

Do you have 1:1 teacher:child teaching time every day?

Each kindergarten class has a Lead Kindergarten Teacher who is an expert in early education and a Kindergarten Teaching Fellow who assists with all aspects of lessons and learning. Our Lead Kindergarten Teachers and Teaching Fellows work collaboratively to co-teach all the core subjects. Students in our full-day kindergarten program also meet with Subject Expert Teachers (SETs) for certain enrichment courses. This co-teaching model maximizes student engagement and provides more opportunities for individualized support.

Do half day kinder students get any play or recess time?

Yes, half day students will receive time for movement and recess.

What is the allotment of time (in a full-day program) for play/movement?

In addition to recess time, students will receive instruction in PE & Sports 5 days a week for 30 minutes each day, in a class called Movement Foundation.

How much homework do you give to kindergarten?

A typical BASIS Charter School student should expect about 15–30 minutes of homework per night in kindergarten.

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CURRICULUM

Is the reading curriculum phonics based?

Yes, we use a curriculum called Logic of English which helps students master all basic phonograms, numerous advanced phonograms, and advanced phonemic awareness concepts.

Is there a name for the curriculum program you use?

We use a curriculum called Logic of English developed by Denise Eide. Students are supported to complete both the Foundations A and Foundations B Student workbooks.

Does the co-teaching model continue in other grades?

Yes, the co-teaching model continues through grade 3.

Can you touch on BASIS after kindergarten? What do BASIS Charter Schools offer for sports? Music? Etc.?

Students in grades 1–6 are required to participate in PE & Sports classes three times per week. Beginning in grade 7, students can choose to continue with Physical Education as an elective course.

BASIS Charter Schools offer extracurricular activities to enrich our students' academic experience. Each school aligns its activities to the unique interests of the student body; therefore, activities will vary from school to school. Clubs and extracurricular activities could include Music, Art, Dance, Orchestra/Band, Basketball, Soccer, Tennis, Minecraft, Coding, and Chess—just to name a few! Our middle and high school students are able to participate in charter association sports leagues and have the opportunity to test their skills against other schools inside and outside of our network. Please contact your local BASIS Charter School for specific information.

You can watch this info session for a more comprehensive look at our K–12 program:

<https://youtu.be/BJFH1Zq7wnQ>

What additional languages do you teach in the classroom?

Starting in Kindergarten and going through the end of grade 3, students at most of our campuses are introduced to and begin learning Mandarin with a teacher who is a fluent speaker. Please check with your campus of interest for specific information on World Language offerings.

Are you considered a STEM school? I know you are ranked very high for STEM.

We offer a world-class, STEM-infused, liberal arts curriculum. There is a focus on developing a strong foundation in reading and writing while simultaneously building a strong foundation in math and science.

How much does the school focus on STEM?

Our half-day kindergarten program includes all core classes (Math, Language & Literacy, Civics/History/Science) plus a daily Movement class. Students in our full-day kindergarten program also study enrichment subjects such as Music, Art, Theatre, Engineering, and Mandarin. Full-day students have lunch and snack breaks throughout the day, as well as three recess blocks. Each program has two teachers in the classroom.

OTHER

Do you provide transportation?

No. BASIS Charter Schools do not provide transportation for students to and from school at this time. However, we encourage members of our parent-volunteer Booster clubs to identify carpool opportunities.

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Are there certain academic skills required prior to starting Kinder?

If the student is an Early Kindergarten applicant (turning 5 years old between September 1 and December 31), there is an Early Kindergarten assessment that they must pass to be offered a seat. Regular admission kindergarten students aren't required to have certain academic skills to be enrolled.

What type of kids do best at BASIS? What type of kids don't do well at BASIS?

All types of students do well at BASIS Charter Schools! To foster every student's successful transition into our advanced course of study, we provide academic and student support throughout the year. We also provide optional summer orientation programs for new students.

I'm contemplating moving from WA to AZ just to send my son to a BASIS Charter School!

That's awesome! All applications must be submitted through the online enrollment portal. Please visit <https://enrollbasis.com/apply/> for more details.

What skills are required to pass kindergarten at the end of the semester/year?

Students must earn a minimum Final Course Grade of 60% and/or P (Pass) in all courses or projects taken during the year. Here is some additional information pertaining to grade promotion:

Trimesters

The academic year for grades K–12 in BASIS Charter Schools is organized into three trimesters.

Grading Scale

BASIS Charter Schools use two different types of grading scales in grades K–5: SPNU and simple A–F.

The SPNU scale uses four marking categories: Superior, Pass, Needs Improvement, and Unsatisfactory. The SPNU scale is used in courses focused on skills, participation, and collaboration. The SPNU scale is used in K–4 for all required non-core courses, and in grade 5 for PE.

The simple A–F scale uses five marking categories: A, B, C, D, and F. This scale is used for courses focused on the mastery of specific levels of thinking and material retention. The simple A–F scale is used in Kindergarten for Language & Literacy, Civics, History & Science, and Math; in grades 1–3 for Humanities and Math & Science; in grade 4 for English, History, Math and Science; and in grade 5 for English, History, Writing Mastery, Math, Science, Physical Geography, Music, Visual Arts, and Performance Arts.