Lopatcong School District
321 Stonehenge Drive
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

Interdistrict Public School Choice Application for Enrollment in a Choice District
2027-2028 School Year

For Office Use Only
On-time application ____ Late application ____
Tier 1 ____ Tier 2____
Grade applied for in 2027-28:_____
Enrollment Preferences granted (check those that apply):
___ Sibling in choice district (Sibling grade in 2027-2028: _____)
___ Applicant from a choice district that terminates before grade 12
___ Resident student who moved during school year
Lottery # (if applicable): _____

To be completed by the parent or legal guardian:

Student Information

Name of student applicant:

Student address:

City: County: Zip code:

Home phone number: Parent's work phone:

Parent's email:

Current School Information (2026-27)

Student's grade level for the 2026-2027 school year:

Student's district of residence:

School currently attending:

- Is this the student's resident public school (includes charter schools)? Yes No
  - If yes, answer the following questions:
    - Has the student been enrolled since the start of the 2026-2027 school year? Yes No
    - If the student moved during the school year and *attended the resident public school of their old district of residence,* provide:
      - » Name of previous school district of residence:
      - » Name of previous school attended:
      - » Date moved from previous school:
      - » Date enrolled in current school:
- Is this a choice district that terminates before 12th grade? Yes No
  - If yes, answer the following questions:
    - Has the student been enrolled since the start of the 2026-2027 school year? Yes No

Application Information

Grade level to which the student is applying for admission for the 2027-2028 school year:

Has the student been referred or is the student in the process of being referred for special education services? Yes No

If yes, attach any documentation, i.e. IEP (Special Education Plan) or 504 Plan (Accommodation Plan)

NOTE: If, prior to the start of the enrollment year, the student receives an IEP that the choice district cannot implement, acceptance into the program could be revoked.

Does the student have a sibling enrolled in this choice district? Yes No

Sibling's name: Sibling's grade in 2026-27: Sibling's grade in 2027-28[1]:

[1] Choice sibling must continue to be enrolled in the choice district in the choice applicant's first year of enrollment in the choice district.

Is the applicant a former resident student who moved *before* the application deadline? Yes No

Is the applicant a former resident student who moved *after* the application deadline? Yes No

[Note to choice district: If a choice district has been granted approval of the use of enrollment criteria for a special program, then the application may include a requirement that applicants address the criteria (for example in an essay, explanation or interview.)]

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Student Enrollment Policies

Tier 1 students include the following applicants:

- Students who are enrolled in a NJ public school in their resident school district during the time of application and for the entire year immediately preceding enrollment in a choice district.
- A student who moved during the school year and attended their resident district schools.
- Students who attend a choice district that terminates before 12th grade and have reached the final grade.
- Charter school students.
- To qualify as Tier 1 for preschool or kindergarten, a student must be attending their resident district preschool, or a student has a sibling attending the choice district in the current year and the sibling will continue to be enrolled in the following year.

Choice districts must first fill their available seats with Tier 1 students. If the number of Tier 1 applications exceeds the number of choice seats available, the choice district must hold a lottery to randomly select students.

Tier 2 students include NJ residents who have *not* attended their resident public school for the entire year immediately prior to enrollment in the desired choice district and do *not* otherwise meet the requirements for Tier 1. This includes students who have been attending public school outside their districts of residence or private school. Tier 2 students also include students applying for kindergarten who are **not** attending their resident district preschool and do not have a sibling attending the choice district in the current year.

Choice districts are not obligated to accept Tier 2 students. If a choice district accepts Tier 2 applicants, they may do so only *after all the qualified Tier 1 applicants have been accepted*. If the number of Tier 2 applications exceeds the number of choice seats available, the choice district must hold a Tier 2 lottery to select students.

Enrollment preference may be given to students in the following circumstances: 1) applicants with siblings enrolled in the choice district in the current year and will continue to be enrolled in the following year; 2) applicants who will have completed the terminal grade of a sending choice district (i.e., students who attend a choice district with grades that terminate before 12th grade and with a natural progression to the choice district); and 3) resident students of the choice district who move during the school year but *before the application deadline* and want to remain in the choice district the following year. The applicant's enrollment preference status will be determined from the information provided in this application and verified by the resident district.

Lopatcong School District has adopted the following policies regarding student enrollment:

Choice District Enrollment Policies	Does Policy Apply?
a. The district accepts Tier 2 students (see definitions of Tier 1 and Tier 2).	Yes
b. The district gives ***enrollment preference*** to applicants with a sibling who is a currently enrolled choice student and who will continue to be enrolled in the following year, provided the applicant will enroll in a choice-approved grade/program and they meet any program-specific criteria, and the district has determined that a seat is available in the desired grade. *The district will receive additional choice seats above the NJDOE-approved choice enrollment maximum for sibling preference applicants who apply by the application deadline.*	Yes
c. The district gives ***enrollment preference*** to choice applicants who have completed the terminal grade of the sending district (i.e., students who attend a choice district with grades that terminate before 12th grade and have a natural progression to this choice district), provided there are choice seats available in the choice-approved grades/programs and the applicants meet any program-specific criteria. *The district will receive additional choice seats above the NJDOE-approved choice enrollment maximum for send-receive preference applicants who apply by the application deadline.*	Yes
d. The district gives ***enrollment preference*** to resident students who move *before the application deadline*. If resident students move and submit choice applications for the following year prior to the deadline, the district will give them enrollment preference, provided there are choice seats available in the choice-approved grades/programs and the applicants meet any program-specific criteria*. If the district has already reached its NJDOE-approved choice enrollment maximum, this preference will not apply.*	Yes
e. The district gives special consideration to resident students who move *after* the application deadline. Students in this situation may apply as late applicants and be added to the *front of the district's waitlist*, provided the students will enroll in a choice-approved grade/program and they meet any program-specific criteria. *No additional choice seats will be approved to accommodate these students.*	Yes

If any information on this application is proven to be falsified, the student's admission to the choice program could be revoked.

By my signature I certify that I am applying for my student's admission to the choice district for academic reasons only and not for athletic or extracurricular reasons and that all of the information I have provided is accurate. If my student has a current IEP or 504 Plan, I hereby give permission to the Child Study Team of this choice district to release and/or obtain information on behalf of my student.

I understand that transportation of choice students is not guaranteed. If my student is eligible for transportation (within 20 miles from home to school) and the cost will exceed the maximum amount designated in the annual NJ State budget, the parent/guardian will be given aid in lieu of transportation and, in some cases, the option of receiving the transportation and paying the additional amount over the maximum. I will be notified by August 1 of my transportation options.

Signature of parent or guardian:

Printed name of parent or guardian:

Date:

Application is due to the Choice District by November 24, 2026

**Applications received after the deadline will be considered for enrollment only after those who applied before the deadline.*