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## Middle College Lottery

The Middle College program at the College of San Mateo is a collaboration between the San Mateo Union High School District and the San Mateo Community College District. The mission of Middle College at CSM is to offer a unique pathway for students to accomplish their secondary and post-secondary goals while challenging themselves in a supportive small learning community.

Due to increased interest and demand, Middle College will need to implement a lottery system for the 2023/24 junior class. More applicants applied than spaces are available at Middle College, as a result, we will conduct a lottery for the estimated 105 spaces available. **If a student is not eligible for the lottery due to a variety of factors, then they will be informed. Students will be notified that they were “accepted” or “waitlisted” following the lottery.** We anticipate having the lottery on March 21st. “Waitlisted” students will be given a priority number, and when space is available they will be informed. “Accepted” students will be transferred, and students should rescind the transfer offer within two days of the lottery if they are not planning to attend Middle College.

Students who reside within San Mateo Unified High School District boundaries and verified enrollment in SMUHSD are eligible for the lottery if they completed the application process.

### Lottery Process:

**PRIORITY 1A** – Students that qualify for free or reduced lunch programs within those school districts will receive a preference of 2:1. A copy of the [guidelines for eligibility](#) for the federal [National School Lunch Program](#) (“FRL”). This must be completed two weeks prior to the lottery.

AND

**PRIORITY 1B** - Students who are first-generation college students per enrollment information shared with SMUHSD will receive a preference of 2:1.

**PRIORITY 2** – All other eligible students, provided they are verified SMUHSD residents. Students that reside outside of San Mateo Unified High School District boundaries are not eligible for the Middle College program. In addition, students are required to have completed their college application to the College of San Mateo.

SMUHSD reserves the right to confirm eligibility in the event that the student accepts an offer of enrollment. Registered families are contacted via email and/or text with details of the March 21st lottery. Results are emailed the same evening to the parent/guardian listed on the registration.

If a family declines an offer of enrollment, the school will make an offer to the first person on the waitlist until the school program is fully enrolled. Offers are still possible in the days and/or weeks after the lottery has run. **It is impossible to predict when a seat may open.** The majority of families wait for lottery results to be emailed or texted to them in the privacy of their home although the lottery is a recorded event.

Students who receive offers are invited to the new student scheduling event, and their parents/guardians have an opportunity to tour, and are invited to the new families event.

Sincerely,

Middle College Staff