

Sibling Guarantee

CMS guarantees younger siblings placement into the same school options program and school as older siblings through the lottery process, provided all entrance requirements and eligibility criteria are met. (CMS Board Policy regulation JCA-R). Siblings are recognized as students with the same residence. For current CMS students, a younger sibling(s) or twin can be placed in the same program and school as a current CMS sibling. The younger sibling(s) must identify the same program and school the current CMS sibling attends as their first choice on their school options lottery application. For families new to CMS, all siblings in a family can be placed in the same program and school. All siblings must identify the same program and school as their first choice on their school options lottery application. For example:

- **Example A:** Suzy is currently in the 4th grade at Cotswold Elementary and part of the IB program. Her younger sibling, Kim, is starting kindergarten in the upcoming school year and Cotswold is her assigned home school. For Kim to receive a guaranteed continuation to Randolph IB Middle School like Suzy, she must specifically apply for the IB program at Cotswold in the lottery and meet all entrance and eligibility criteria.
- **Example B:** After finishing the 5th grade at First Ward Creative Arts, Marcus will enter the 6th grade at Northwest School of the Arts next year. Anthony, his younger sibling, is starting kindergarten next year and is interested in visual and performing arts. The sibling guarantee would not allow Anthony to attend First Ward Creative Arts because next year Marcus would no longer be attending the school.
- **Example C:** Tasha and Tonya are twins and just moved to the district. They are starting the 9th grade next year and want to attend Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology. Tasha would like to study at the Academy of Information Technology, while Tonya wants to study at the Academy of Engineering. The sibling guarantee would allow both Tasha and Tonya to attend Phillip O. Berry and study in their preferred programs. For purposes of the sibling guarantee, all of the courses of study offered at Phillip O. Berry are treated as one program. (The same applies for all languages offered at E.E. Waddell International Academy of Languages).

Siblings must meet any school options program entrance requirements or eligibility criteria. Additionally, the first admitted sibling must remain enrolled in the school for the entire year in order for the sibling guarantee to remain in effect for the other sibling(s). The sibling guarantee only operates in the school options lottery, so families must use the Online Lottery Application.