



Arizona School for the Arts  
A COLLEGE PREPARATORY AND PERFORMING ARTS TRADITION

## **Admissions FAQs**

### **How do I submit an application to ASA?**

- Online application (electronic form ONLY) will be available beginning **October 1, 2020**.
- If you need any assistance with the online application process, please contact us by email [admissions@goasa.org](mailto:admissions@goasa.org) or by phone 602-257-1444 opt 1.
- Applications must be submitted online by **11:59pm on Wednesday, February 17, 2021**.
- All applications must be 100% complete (as indicated in the application portal) to receive a lottery number.

### **Which applicants do not need a new lottery number?**

- Children of faculty, staff, and board members
- Siblings of current ASA students OR siblings of ASA graduated alumni
- Rollover applicants- will automatically retain their previously issued lottery number and will be placed on the waitlist before new lottery applicants for the upcoming school year.

### **Which applicants need a lottery number?**

- Students who have never applied to ASA.
- Students who applied to ASA and declined or did not respond to an offer for enrollment.
- Students who applied after the **February 2021** lottery.
- Students who withdrew from ASA.

### **I have several students applying to ASA this year. Do they all receive a separate lottery number? At what point, if any, do they receive sibling status?**

- One lottery number is issued for all siblings in a family.
- Once one sibling of the family is enrolled, the remaining siblings receive sibling status and will be placed above rollover and new lottery applicants.

### **My rollover student has a sibling, do they get a lottery number?**

- All new applicants will get a lottery number. This means that a sibling of a current rollover student will get a lottery number. As soon as one of the siblings is accepted, the

other sibling will receive sibling status and will be placed above rollover and new lottery applicants. However, we issue the new sibling his/her own lottery number so that this student has equal opportunity for admissions.

#### **How and when do I find out my lottery number?**

- Lottery numbers for eligible applicants will be drawn at the Governing Board meeting on **February 22, 2021**. Although this meeting is open to the public, no lottery information is shared at this meeting.
- Lottery numbers will be available in your admissions account on **February 26, 2021**.

#### **Since there are both lottery and non-lottery applicants, in what order are students enrolled?**

1. Siblings of current ASA students, siblings of ASA graduates, and children of ASA Board members and ASA faculty receive priority.
2. Rollover wait list applicants who meet the established criteria will be processed before new lottery applications. The rollover notice will be generated from [admissions@goasa.org](mailto:admissions@goasa.org).
3. New Lottery numbers are used to create a numerical order for the applicants that require a lottery number. This lottery order of applicants will immediately follow the applicants that do not require a lottery number (see #1 and #2 above).

#### **When will I know if there is an opening for my student at ASA? How will I be notified?**

- All grade levels will receive an email offer mid-March ( see admissions timeline for specific dates)
- Once an offer of enrollment is received, parents must email their reply by the deadline indicated in the offer
- Offers for enrollment continue through the summer and first semester as openings become available.
- It is the parent's responsibility to monitor the admissions portal to see changes in wait list status. Please be aware that there is minimal change during July. Most changes occur in May and August.

#### **How are openings filled?**

- Openings in each grade level are offered to applicants that meet the program criteria/ program availability.
- [Click here](#) for more details about the Admissions Process

#### **What impacts the placement of new students? Is it possible for someone with a higher lottery number to receive an offer for enrollment ahead of me?**

- ASA enrolls students in accordance with [ARS 15-184](#).

- Students will be placed in the appropriate classes and grade levels for which they have demonstrated eligibility as determined by previous standardized testing, previous school evaluations, and ASA placement tests/ auditions.
- "Program" for academic placement means in which class the child will be placed so as to best meet his/her needs to access the school curriculum.
- "Program" for arts enrollment refers to music, dance, and theatre arts.
- If the student's first choice for arts is full, the student will be placed in an alternate class.
- The ASA administration has the sole authority to place the student at the appropriate grade level for both arts and academic classes according to openings available.

#### **Are placement tests required and how are they used?**

- No, placement tests are not required to complete the application process.
- **Results from placement tests are used for placement, not admissions.**
- Placement tests results are used to provide recommendations to parents to remediate skills if needed before beginning at ASA.
- 5th-9th grade and homeschooled students take math, reading and writing placement tests.
- Please note that ASA has an advanced English class in grades 5-10 and accelerated math class in grades 5-8.
- Students will be placed in the appropriate classes and grade levels for which they have demonstrated eligibility as determined by previous standardized testing, previous school evaluations, and ASA placement tests/ auditions.
- The ASA administration has the sole authority to place the student at the appropriate grade level for both arts and academic classes according to openings available.

#### **How many openings are available in a typical school year?**

- For 5th grade- ASA enrolls 112 students
- Openings for 6th-12th grades vary and are determined by the number of current ASA students who choose to re-enroll

#### **What are the minimum academic requirements?**

- Students must have successfully completed their prior academic coursework to enroll in the next grade level at ASA.
- ***Middle School Students:***
  - Earn C- or higher in all classes (semester/ year end grades)
  - No developing or approaching core skill sets (reading, writing, social studies, science, math)
  - No Ds (or equivalent)
  - No Fs (or equivalent)

- **High School Students:**

- Need to have completed 1 full year of English, math, science, social studies, and either Spanish or French for each year of high school completed
- Earn C- or higher in all classes (semester/ year end grades)

### **What if my student has D's or F's?**

- While ASA does not accept D's or F's for credit transfer, ASA is committed to assisting students from diverse backgrounds find a pathway to college. Some students may need supplemental academic instruction in English and/or Math during the school day in order to prepare for success in a college preparatory environment. If determined to be necessary, faculty and administration will place students in Connections classes for additional instruction for the entire year. Connections academic classes may replace up to 2 arts credits each year. Please review the [Admissions Process page](#) for more information.
- Students may replace a maximum of 2 Ds or Fs by earning a C- or higher in an approved summer class. ASA allows students to make up 2 credits during summer school.
- Students who do not attain the necessary skill competency or complete the required academic coursework with a letter grade of C- or higher may be offered a placement in their current grade level if a space is available.

### **Do I need to submit a portfolio or resume for my child?**

- No, ASA does not consider portfolios or resumes for admissions.

### **Does ASA charge tuition?**

- ASA is a nonprofit, public charter school that is tuition free and donation dependent. We rely on financial support from our families and community members to maintain our extensive arts programming, retain the highest quality academic teachers, and professional teaching artists our children deserve. Arizona School for the Arts is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and contributions are tax deductible. Please consult your tax advisor with specific questions. Thank you for your generosity and investment in ASA's unparalleled, innovative education model.

### **How is ASA funded?**

- Academic programs are funded by the state. ASA receives no funds from the state for capital building (facilities) or for the extensive performing arts programs.
- The school relies on the generosity of individual donors, the business community, and foundations to fund the conservatory arts program which costs over \$2 million each year. Volunteering and in kind donations also help us keep operating costs in line.

- In order to fully fund the robust integration of arts and academics, a \$2,000 (per student) annual donation is requested to our **Annual Fund**. We are grateful for all donations and encourage families who are able to give more to do so, which allows all students to receive the benefits of being educated at this unique, innovative school.
- ASA also receives funds through **The Arizona Public School Tax Credit**. This is a state program that allows Arizona taxpayers to contribute to our extracurricular programs and receive a dollar-for-dollar credit on their state taxes. Married couples can donate up to \$400 and single filers can donate up to \$200. Consult your tax professional for more information. NOTE: Tax Credit dollars at ASA supports extracurricular clubs and activities, field trips, academic competitions, etc. Tax credit funds do NOT support the arts.

#### **How should I assess whether my student is ready for the rigor and quick pace of ASA?**

- Students with demonstrated grade level skill proficiency and an openness to being challenged transition well into ASA.
- Students who engage in learning through dialogue, discussion, self-advocacy, and discipline also adapt easily to the learning environment at ASA.

#### **What type of student is usually successful at ASA?**

- One who thinks deeply and asks questions
- One who enjoys school and craves learning
- One who strives for excellence and is willing to persevere to work through difficult problems

#### **Does ASA offer AP courses?**

- Yes, students enrolled in AP classes receive an additional 1.0 to their class grade. For example, a student earning an A in an AP course would earn a 5.0 instead of a 4.0 in the particular class. ASA currently offers:
  - AP Statistics (juniors and seniors)
  - AP Calculus AB (juniors and seniors)
  - Post AP Calculus II (seniors)
  - AP English Literature and Composition (juniors)
  - AP World History - Modern (sophomores)
  - AP United States History (juniors)
  - AP United States Government & Politics (seniors)

#### **Does ASA have Honors classes?**

- Yes, students earning honors credit in a class receive an additional 1.0 to their class grade. For example, a student earning an honors A would earn a 5.0 instead of a 4.0 in that particular class.
  - All seniors and juniors are eligible to earn honors credit in each of their academic courses.
  - Juniors and seniors are eligible to earn honors credit in the highest levels of each performing arts area.
  - Honors credit is earned by meeting the criteria established by the specific content teacher.

**Does ASA offer dual-enrollment courses?**

- Yes, high school students can earn both high school and college credit during regular school hours when passing (C- or higher) a dual enrollment course. ASA courses available for dual enrollment are shared with students enrolled in applicable courses. Students who take these courses must request their college transcript from the respective school as the ASA transcript does not specify dual enrollment courses. All questions, fees, and paperwork regarding dual enrollment are handled by Phoenix College.

**What are ASA's school hours?**

- School hours are 7:45 am-3:15 pm except for those taking a 9th period class. These students are dismissed at 4:15 pm.
- Students are not allowed on campus before 7:20 am.
- Students must be picked up within 15 minutes of their dismissal time
- ASA offers an after school "drop in" (\$10 fee) for students needing to stay past dismissal
- Early dismissal days for all students is 11:25 am.

**Why would my student take a 9th period class?**

- Some arts classes are only offered 9th period.
- ASA has many classes that run from 3:15-4:15 pm daily, except on early release days. There is a monthly fee for some of these classes.
- Some students choose to take a 3rd arts class by request.

**Does ASA have before and after school care?**

- ASA does not offer any before school care.
- Yes, we have after school programs every day except on early release days. Monthly fee applies.
- After school programs include:
  - Homework hour and/or practice hour

- Extended homework hour

### **What expenses can parents expect to pay?**

- We request parents pay an annual activity fee (not eligible for tax credit) which covers performances (some exclusions apply), special in-school presentations/ concerts/ assemblies, school-wide events and activities, school ID (2), and a daily planner.
- Some examples of other expenses include:
  - Academic:
    - School supplies
    - PSAT fees (10th and 11th only)
    - Literary texts
    - Materials for 3rd quarter presentation
    - AP classes
  - Arts:
    - Instrumental rental (if applicable)
    - Performance clothing
    - Dance gear (leotards, tights, shoes, Showcase costume fee)
    - Piano theory book
  - Extracurricular:
    - Socials/ dances
    - Disneyland trip
    - Movie day
    - Senior Ropes (12th grade only)
    - School clubs

### **Does ASA provide transportation?**

- No, parents are responsible for getting their students to and from school.
- ASA can provide a carpool list to set up a carpool.
- Many students at ASA use the light rail and city bus system to get to school. The light rail stop is located 2 blocks from campus.

### **What lunch options are available at ASA?**

- Students can purchase food on campus through approved food vendors.
- ASA does not have a cafeteria.
- ASA is a closed campus for 5th-11th graders.
- ASA seniors are allowed to walk off campus for lunch.

**Does ASA provide lockers?**

- Lockers are provided to some students at ASA. Currently students in 7th, 8th, 12th, students who take dance, and certain band instruments receive a locker. This is subject to change based upon student needs.
- Students eligible for a locker will be notified.

**What athletic opportunities does ASA offer?**

- ASA offers Cross Country for all students in Grades 5-12.
- Aside from providing sports equipment during lunch, ASA students may be eligible to play for a Canyon Athletic Association member district with a letter from ASA. For students interested in club sports, there are currently 269 Amateur Athletic Union clubs within 25 miles of ASA. For students interested in city leagues, "Phoenix Plays" youth sports programs include basketball, soccer, baseball, football, hockey, and volleyball. Other cities offer similar programs.

**How do I find out more information about ASA? (dress code/ grading policy/ daily rules/ graduation requirements/ etc)**

- Please visit ASA's [Rules of the School](#) webpage.

Arizona School for the Arts  
Admissions Office  
[admissions@goasa.org](mailto:admissions@goasa.org)  
602-257-1444 opt  
[www.goasa.org](http://www.goasa.org)