



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

Enrollment Process FAQs

How do I submit an application to ASA?

- Online application (electronic form ONLY) will be available beginning **October 1st**.
- If you need any assistance with the online application process, please contact us by email admissions@goasa.org or by phone 602-257-1444 opt 1.
- Applications must be submitted online by **11:59pm on the Wednesday before the February Board of Directors meeting (typically 3rd or 4th Wednesday of the month)**
- 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 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 each applicant in a family.
- Once one sibling of the family is enrolled, the remaining siblings receive sibling enrollment preference and will be placed above rollover and new lottery applicants.

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

- Yes. 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 an equal opportunity for admissions.

How and when do I find out my lottery number?

- Lottery numbers for eligible applicants will be drawn at the Board of Directors meeting in February. Although this meeting is open to the public, no lottery information is shared at this meeting.
- Lottery numbers will be available in your application portal account on the Friday following the February Board of Directors meeting.

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 enrollment preference.
2. Rollover waitlist applicants who meet the established criteria will be processed before new lottery applications. The rollover notice will be generated from 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 in mid-March (see enrollment 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 application portal to see changes in waitlist 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 Application 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/ arts evaluation.
- "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 class placement purposes, not enrollment.**
- 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 to 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.
- Students may replace a maximum of 2 D's or F's 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 enrollment.

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 World History (sophomores)
 - 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-3:20 pm except for those taking a 9th-period class. These students are dismissed at 4:25 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?

- The School often recommends school supplies for students in both academic and arts classes, which may include students' dance/choral/theatre attire, musical instruments, and supporting equipment. Performance attire must meet the criteria set by the specific department in order to perform. Students may be assessed a periodic costume fee for various performances. Some supplemental costs may be assessed for special items (t-shirts, gear, etc.) or opportunities (i.e. travel) not in the budget. Families who need financial assistance to cover these materials should email payments@goasa.org.
- We ask parents to submit the Annual Activity fee with enrollment paperwork. The Annual Activity fee for each student is \$150 (\$300 max per family) and is not tax credit eligible. The Annual Activity fee covers the following:
 - Performances (some exclusions apply)
 - Supplemental in-school presentations/concerts/assemblies
 - Extracurricular social and school-wide events and activities
 - School ID (2)
 - Daily Planner
- Families may request a fee waiver for the Annual Activity Fee by emailing payments@goasa.org.
- The Board recognizes the need for student fees to fund certain school activities that are not fully funded by public funds. It also recognizes that some students may not be able to pay these fees. No student will be denied an education as a result of non-payment of these supplemental charges. To obtain a fee waiver based on need, families should email payments@goasa.org.

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
602-257-1444 opt
www.goasa.org