NINTH GRADE
Central Academy of Technology & Arts Admission Criteria for initial CATA Lottery for 2020-2021

- Application - must be received during the Application Period (see below). All materials requested must be submitted by the appropriate deadline. Late material/application will result in the student being ineligible for the lottery and admission to CATA.
- Attendance - student must meet UCPS attendance/tardy requirements throughout middle school grades 6, 7, 8.
- Discipline - student may not have any suspensions, discipline or evidence of chronic disruptive behavior from the past.
- Residency - student must be eligible to attend Union County Public Schools during the application period in order to apply.
- Course Grades - students must pass all courses attempted in the 8th grade and must earn a final course grade of 70 or better in English/Language Arts and Math in the 8th grade.
- Assessment Scores - students must meet criteria below in order to be considered for entry into any Academy program at Central Academy:
  - Mathematics (for entry into Transportation Academy, Performing Arts Academy, Music Production and Recording Arts, Medical Prep Academy, Information Systems Academy)
    - students enrolled in 8th grade Mathematics, Math I, or Math II course must have scored at or above Level III on the 8th grade NC EOC or EOG Mathematics assessment from the 2019-2020 school year
  - Mathematics (for entry into Pre-Engineering Academy)
    - students enrolled in 8th grade Mathematics, Math I, or Math II course must have scored at or above Level IV on the 8th grade NC EOC or EOG Mathematics assessment for 2019-2020 school year
    - Math 1 completion in 8th grade is highly recommended for entry into the Pre-Engineering Academy due to the math-intensive curriculum in this academy. Students in this academy should expect to take high level math courses through calculus while at CATA.
  - Reading (for entry into all Academies)
    - students enrolled in 8th grade English/Language Arts or English I course must score at or above Level III on the 7th grade NC EOG Reading assessment for 2018-2019 school year
    - If a student did not earn the above levels to be eligible for the lottery process you must pass your 8th grade English/Language Arts course with a 70 or higher to be eligible.
  - Science (for entry into Medical Prep Academy only)
    - students must score at or above Level III on the 8th grade NC EOG Science assessment for 2019-2020 school year and must meet the “Course Grades” requirement of a minimum of 70 in their 8th grade Science course
  - Audition (for entry into Performing Arts Academies - Theatre and Dance)
    - Students applying to Theatre Arts and Dance must successfully meet all audition criteria to be considered. Audition criteria are set by instructors and are reviewed prior to the audition. After submitting your application through Scribbles please contact Mrs. Tweed at 704.296.3088 to schedule your child’s audition. This must be done prior to April 27th, 2020.
    - Instructors will recommend for initial admission a set of students who met the audition requirements. Students are offered admission at Central Academy if they meet all general criteria (see above) for entry into Central Academy in addition to being recommended through the audition process. Those not recommended for initial admission, but still meeting basic audition criteria, will be placed on a waiting list should any spaces become available.
  - Assessment (for entry into Music Production and Recording Arts)
    - Students applying to Music Production and Recording Arts must successfully meet all assessment criteria to be considered for the lottery process. After submitting your application through Scribbles please contact Mrs. Tweed at 704.296.3088 to schedule your child’s assessment time. This must be done prior to April 27th, 2020. Assessment criteria are set by instructors and are reviewed prior to the assessment. Instructors will determine which students will enter the lottery process based on the outcome of the assessment. Those not meeting the assessment criteria will not enter the lottery for Music Production and Recording Arts but may enter another academy if listed on the application.
  - Students NOT meeting criteria for the CATA Lottery may be placed on a waiting list, or may receive notification of ineligibility depending on student information as a whole. Those placed on a waiting list may be offered admission if spots are available AFTER the lottery. Students accepted through this
route may be placed on an individual academic plan in order to support their learning in a rigorous curriculum.

Central Academy of Technology & Arts Application Period

- Applications must be submitted online through Scribbles starting at 9:00 am Monday, February 10th, 2020 and must be submitted by the April 27th, 2020, 5:00 pm deadline. (More information regarding Scribbles application process to come.) You will receive an email confirmation of your submission. If you do not receive this confirmation, your application was not submitted and you should call Mrs. Tweed at CATA PRIOR to the deadline. If you do not have online access at home, you may come to Central Academy to complete the online application. Please come to the guidance office at Central Academy during normal office hours. This deadline is firm and we are unable to make exceptions due to computer problems, so we strongly recommend that you apply well in advance of the deadline.

- Admission Criteria Submission - must be submitted by deadlines
  - Students currently enrolled in Union County Public Schools will have all required information to determine if they meet Admission Criteria automatically sent to Central Academy of Technology & Arts
  - Students from homeschool, private school, charter school, or non-UCPS school - It is the responsibility of the student/family to provide ALL entrance requirement information (including attendance, discipline, residency, course grades, and assessment scores) by June 11th, 2020. Central Academy will NOT contact non-UCPS schools to obtain this information. Material arriving after June 11th, 2020 will cause the student to be removed from the Application Process and Lottery. Information will be accepted via fax, mail, email, or you may bring to CATA. Please turn in all documents directly to Tammy Tweed.
  - Where North Carolina EOG or EOC scores are not available due to the school not administering the assessments, an 8th grade National Standardized Test must be submitted. It is the responsibility of the student/family to contact Central Academy to ensure that the assessment will be accepted. The results of the assessment must be received by Central Academy by the June 11th, 2020 deadline.

Lottery Process

- Students meeting the Central Academy of Technology & Arts Admission Criteria and Application Period deadlines described above will be placed in the CATA lottery. Students not meeting criteria or deadlines will be notified prior to June 15th, 2020 via the official email registration address that they will not be in the CATA lottery.
- The CATA lottery will determine if a child is admitted in his/her desired academy (all Information Systems, Pre-Engineering, Medical Science, Music Production and Recording Arts, and Transportation).
- For Information Systems, Transportation, Pre-Engineering, Music Production and Recording Arts, and Medical Prep spots are based on the students’ UCPS determined home school cluster for the upcoming year (2020-2021) through the lottery process. The home school cluster is the cluster that the student’s current address is assigned to for the upcoming school year.
- For the Performing Arts Academies - Theatre Arts and Dance - if students are not selected for these academies after auditions, or are placed on waiting lists, the students will be placed into the lottery for their other Academy choice listed on their application if another academy choice was provided
- Each Academy in the lottery has a set number of spots assigned to each UCPS home school cluster. During the lottery process, students are assigned a random number and spots are offered as available starting with the lowest random number assigned. All first choice requests are considered before any second choice requests are considered.
- The lottery for entry in the 2020-2021 school year will be held on Monday, June 22, 2020 through Scribbles. The lottery is being conducted through Scribbles (a 3rd party) this year. Only students that meet the entrance criteria will go into the lottery.
Notification and Admittance to Central Academy of Technology & Arts

- For all Information Systems, Medical Science, Pre-Engineering, Music Production and Recording Arts, and Transportation Academy - Student/parents will be notified using the primary email address listed on the application on June 22nd, 2020 if their child secures an Academy spot at Central Academy.

- Parents must follow the link in the acceptance email to accept or decline the spot offered within 24 hours of receipt. Reminders will not be made. If a response is not received, Central Academy will treat this as a rejection of the offer, and that spot will be given to another student on the waitlist. If your response was completed and received by Central Academy you will get an automatically generated email receipt of your response.

- If a student’s initial application indicates that the parent does not have access to email, Central Academy will call the phone number indicated on the application to offer the spot. If an email is indicated, then we will only send an email.

- In order to accept the Academy placement, parents are required to sign a one year commitment to Central Academy. *Students will not be able to change their academy while attending Central Academy.

- Students that have been waitlisted will be notified by email on June 22nd, 2020. If your child is waitlisted they will remain on the waitlist over the summer in case another student does not accept their spot. Please continue to check the primary email address listed on the application. If you receive an acceptance offer from the waitlist you have 24 hours to respond. Reminders will not be made.

- If you do not receive any notification from Central Academy by midnight on June 22nd, 2020, it is the parent’s responsibility to call CATA to inquire about the status of the application. (Please check your junk email folder first).

- **Theatre Arts and Dance (only)** - families will be notified if their child is being offered admission on June 10th, 2020 via email. Families must reply within 24 hours of receiving the email to accept or decline the spot. A lack of response will be taken as a rejection and the spot will be offered to a student on the waiting list. If you do not receive notification on June 10th, 2020, it is the parent’s responsibility to call CATA to inquire about the status on the application.  

- ****Admission is only offered at the beginning of the 9th and 10th grade. No mid-year admission is available. NOTE: Students who accept a spot at CATA will be required to have their parents sign a one year commitment to Central Academy.

*Students will not be able to change their academy while attending Central Academy.

Performing Arts Academies - students must participate in an audition (whether it is their first or second choice) for Theatre and Dance. Students not completing the audition (see requirements below) will have that Academy selection removed from their application. After submitting your application through Scribbles please contact Mrs. Tweed at 704.296.3088 to schedule your child’s audition. This must be done prior to April 27th, 2020. This is the responsibility of the parent/student. Failure to sign up for an audition will result in removal from the application process.

- Theatre Arts: Audition Based Selection
  - Meet all general Central Academy Admission Criteria
  - Participate in required Audition
  - Students will be recommended for admission based on Instructor Scoring of Audition, students meeting criteria, but not recommended for initial admission may also be placed on wait list
  - Students not meeting Audition criteria or placed on a wait list, will be entered into the lottery if they identified an additional Academy selection

- Dance: Audition Based Selection
  - Meet all general Central Academy Admission Criteria
  - Participate in required Audition
  - Students will be recommended for admission based on Instructor Scoring of Audition, students meeting criteria, but not recommended for initial admission may also be placed on wait list
  - Students not meeting Audition criteria or placed on a wait list, will be entered into the lottery if they identified an additional Academy selection