

West Side Elementary
425 Paca Street
Cumberland, MD 21502
(301)724-0340
(301)724-1651 fax

Directions for Chinese Language Partial Immersion /STEM Classroom Application

STEP 1: Prior to completing an Application, the student must be enrolled in Allegany County Public Schools (ACPS).

To enroll in ACPS, contact your child's home elementary school. The Partial Immersion program is available to families who live in Allegany County.

STEP 2: Partial Immersion Registration Directions

In blue or black ink, fully complete the Partial Immersion Application, Steps 1-6.

STEP 3: Parent Information

We will begin accepting completed applications on Monday, April 14, 2025. Applications must be returned to your child's home school no later than Friday, May 23, 2025. Applications received after May 23, 2025 will not be considered for the lottery process.

Additional Important Information

The Partial Immersion Program Notification

Parents will be notified via email of acceptance or waitlist status on Friday, May 30, 2025. If your child is selected through the lottery process, you will have two weeks to accept the seat.

Questions?

For additional information about the partial immersion application process and/or the partial immersion program itself, please call West Side Elementary School at (301) 724-0340. Information is also available on the ACPS website:

<https://www.acpsmd.org>.

DEADLINE: Friday, May 23, 2025

Allegany County Public Schools
Chinese Language Partial Immersion/ STEM Classroom
Student Application Form (Kindergarten only)
School Year 25-26

2025-2026 Chinese Language Partial Immersion/STEM Classroom Application

STEP 1:

Student's Full Name _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____

Address _____

Home Elementary School _____

Current Elementary School _____

LNo. WL No

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Office Use Only

STEP 2:

Sibling Link: If applicable, enter the name of the sibling in Grade K-5 who you wish to also attend West Side Elementary School.

Sibling's Full Name _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____

Elementary School _____

Current Grade _____

STEP 3:

If applicable, enter the names of this child's siblings that also are applying to the same immersion program that this child is applying.

NOTE: Siblings will be entered into the lottery as a single application.

Full Name: _____

If applicable, enter the name of this child's sibling that is already a student in the current Chinese Immersion class.

Full Name: _____

STEP 4:

Affirm each of the following statements with your initials:

____ I certify that my child is registered in an ACPS Kindergarten program.

____ I understand that I will be responsible for transportation if I live outside of the West Side district.

____ I have read and understand the Immersion Program Lottery Process Frequently Asked Questions.

STEP 5:

Please complete the following information clearly:

Print Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Home Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Work Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian E-mail: _____

Cell Phone: _____

STEP 6:

Return this form on or before the deadline, Friday, May 23, 2025 to your home school or to West Side Elementary.

Chinese Language Partial Immersion/STEM Classroom Lottery Process Frequently Asked Questions

1. Chinese Language Partial Immersion/STEM Classroom Program Description

West Side Elementary School will host a kindergarten partial-immersion Chinese program for the 2025-2026 school year. Students enrolled in the program will continue through grade 5 at West Side and have the opportunity to develop communicative and academic proficiency in Mandarin Chinese and in English. The program now continues on to middle school and high school as well with the program hosted by Braddock Middle School and Allegany High School.

2. Who can participate in the partial immersion lottery process?

Any Allegany County student scheduled to enter Kindergarten in the Fall of 2025 may complete an application. Participating students will be selected through a lottery process.

3. Are siblings given a preference in the lottery process?

Same-aged siblings' applications will be linked and entered into the lottery as a single application, thus ensuring that families with multiple children applying to the program will be granted admission for the sibling group. Siblings of students already enrolled in the Chinese Partial Immersion Program will be given an automatic seat in the new class.

4. Will older siblings be granted-of-district permits to attend West Side Elementary, should their younger sibling be accepted into the program?

Yes, ACPS is committed to keeping sibling groups together whenever possible. Therefore, if you have an older child who you would also like to attend West Side Elementary, they will be granted an out-of-district permit to do so.

5. Where and when can I get a form?

Entering Kindergarten students must be enrolled at their home elementary school prior to submitting their application. Parents must complete and submit the immersion application for each child interested in participation. Immersion applications will be available at all ACPS elementary schools and at the ACPS website (<http://acpsmd.org>). The deadline for submitting the application is May 23, 2025.

6. Is transportation to this program provided?

Parents/Guardians of out-of-district children will be responsible for providing transportation for their student to and from West Side Elementary.

7. When will we be notified of the lottery results?

All students who participate in the lottery process will receive email notification on May 30, 2025. For those not selected for the program, a waiting list is maintained. Students are assigned in a random order to the wait list and are invited to the program when a vacancy occurs before or during the first nine weeks of the 2025-2026 school year. After the first nine weeks of the school year, program admission is at the discretion of the superintendent. In order to be selected from the waiting list the student must be enrolled in ACPS.