YouthBuild DC Public Charter School conducts a lottery if there are more applicants than available enrollment slots in the school. The school conducts the lottery after Mental Toughness is complete. Mental Toughness is a one-week orientation where students are exposed to all of the different programmatic elements of the school so that they can make an informed decision. Any returning student who completes Mental Toughness will automatically be enrolled.

All other applicants’ names are placed in a bowl. The names are pulled one at a time. Names are drawn from the bowl and then placed on the appropriate list. The names are pulled and placed on the list until all names have been called. If there are no returning students, the first 122 names are invited to enroll and the remaining names form the basis of our waiting list. If, for example, we have 40 returning students that complete Mental Toughness, the first 75 names pulled would be enrolled and the remaining would be on the wait list.

Students are pulled off of the waiting list until the enrollment audit freeze set by OSSE (typically October 5th). After that date, applicants would have to wait until the next enrollment period to apply. In the 2020-2021 school year, a second mid-year enrollment period will be held to backfill open seats. The same process will be followed if we have more students complete mid-year Mental Toughness than we have open spots.

Students on the waiting list will receive a phone call and a follow-up letter via email and regular mail detailing the process of being pulled off of the waiting list.