





UPCOMING VIRTUAL EVENTS

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 2

VIRTUAL SCHOOL CHOICE INFORMATION SESSION

designed to provide information to students and families about the process, answer questions and prepare them for the Virtual Choice Fair.

All 5th and 8th grade students and their families are encouraged to attend.

We encourage students and families to visit the City Schools' website, www.baltimorecityschools.org/choice, for additional information about the school choice process and upcoming events. FRIDAY DECEMBER 4

VIRTUAL CHOICE FAIR

session designed to walk students and families through the school choice process.

CHOICE ARTICULATION SESSIONS

designed for emerging middle and high school students on the following dates to connect them with current student leaders for student perspectives on their experiences at our School Choice sites.



DISTRICT-WIDE HIGH SCHOOL ARTICULATION SESSIONS



DISTRICT-WIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL ARTICULATION SESSIONS

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

Congratulations! The Baltimore City Public Schools' Middle and High School Choice Process marks major milestones in a student's college and career journey. Evaluating all options and selecting the best school fit is very exciting, but we know it can be stressful and sometimes confusing. However, we are here to help you navigate this journey.

Baltimore City Public Schools (City Schools) aims to give each family the necessary information and support to make this important decision. We hope that providing resources like this guide, the online school search tool found on the City Schools website, the virtual Choice Fair, and Articulation Sessions will help you in the process.

Additionally, district office staff are always accessible to students and families in need of assistance and support throughout the school choice process. Each school has also identified a choice liaison who is eager to help families with any questions or concerns throughout this journey.

Remember –

WE ARE HERE
FOR YOU BECAUSE



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Campus Portal: The online program gives parents of 5th and 8th grade students access to the online school choice application.

Choice Liaison: A designated staff member that helps families understand the school choice process, eligibility requirements, opportunities to visit schools, how to apply, and more.

Choice Lottery: Occurs when a school has more applications than the school can accept. A lottery system is used to randomly select who will be given a seat.

Composite Score: This score is calculated using various factors, including academic performance and attendance, to determine eligibility when applying to schools with entrance criteria. *NOTE: For this school year, the district has adjusted the formula to calculate students' composite scores. See pages 11 & 23 for details.

Entrance Criteria: Some schools have additional academic requirements, known as "entrance criteria," for admission that may include consideration of grades, an audition, and other special conditions. These schools are known as "Entrance Criteria Schools."

Feeder School: A few neighborhood elementary schools are "feeder" schools for nearby schools with middle grades. This means that 5th-grade students at the neighborhood elementary school are automatically enrolled in a nearby school for 6th grade.

Open House: A specific date and time designated for prospective students to connect virtually with a school of interest and discover all it offers by touring classrooms and speaking with students and staff.

Shadow Day: An opportunity for prospective students to virtually accompany current students to classes and activities to explore a typical school day.



School Choice

AN OVERVIEW

At City Schools, students choose and apply for the middle and high school of their choice.

Students in the 5th and 8th grade complete the district's choice application online using the Campus Portal. The application includes all the schools that students can choose from, including those with entrance criteria if the student meets the requirements.

From the schools listed, students will select their top five school choices. If their current school has the 6th or 9th grade and they want to stay at that school, they should list it as their top choice, and they will automatically be accepted.

In March 2021, students will receive a letter from City Schools informing them of the school they will attend for the 2021-2022 school year.

If a student is not currently enrolled in Baltimore City Public Schools but wants to apply, visit **www.baltimorecityschools.org/enroll** or call 410-396-8600 to find out how. We always look forward to welcoming new students to the City Schools family!

THIS GUIDE

- School Choice: An Overview
- Making Your Plan: Tips for Earlier Grade Levels
- Getting Ready to Choose: Tips for 5th and 8th Grade Students
- Preparing for Middle School
 - > Applying for Middle School
 - Middle schools at a glance, with maps and school descriptions
- 16 High Schools and Programs
 - > Enrichment and Support
 - Applying for High school
 - High schools at a glance, with maps and school descriptions

EVERYTHING YOU NEED — ONLINE AND AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Search for schools > www.baltimorecityschools.org/schools

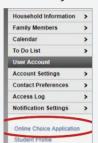
Every school in the district has an online school profile that includes contact information, programs, achievement data, pictures, and more. Families can search for schools by location or program availability.

Campus Portal > www.baltimorecityschools.org/campus-portal

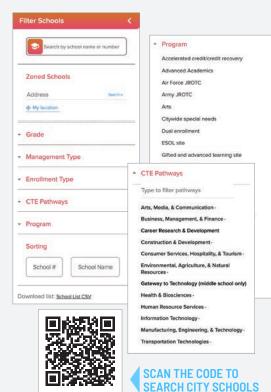
Parents and guardians can access the online Choice application, composite scores, and more. If you do not have access to Campus Portal already, please visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/campusportal to set up your account.

Completing the School Choice Application

Parents and guardians can complete the school choice application online through Campus Portal.



- Log in to your account.
- 2 Click on the 'Online Choice Application' link on the left side of the screen.
- 3 Select the student's name for which you are completing the application.
- Select your top five schools.
- 5 Click 'Save.'



No internet access at home? Here are some ways to complete the school choice application.

Local Library

Visit your local Enoch Pratt Free Library location to access the internet and free-Wi-Fi.

School Community

Families are encouraged to utilize the school-issued Chromebooks and laptops used for virtual learning to complete the school choice application. While all schools have computers that can be accessed by students and families, some remain closed due to COVID-19. Contact the student's choice liaison to learn more about accessibility opportunities for their school's computers and internet services.

Paper applications available

Families who wish to complete a paper application should contact their school's Choice Liaison or the Office of the Enrollment, Choice, and Transfers at 440-396-8600 or email enrollment@bcps.k12.md.us.

YOUR SCHOOL CHOICE LIAISON

Confused about something related to the school choice process? No worries! Your current school has a school choice liaison who can walk you through the application process, school eligibility, available programs, open houses, and more.

Contact your school's main office or visit **www.baltimorecityschools.org/choice** to find the contact information for your school's choice liaison.

SCHOOL VISITS AND OPEN HOUSES

Taking time to visit the schools of interest is the best way for prospective students to identify the school that best fits them. However, considering the COVID-19 pandemic, City Schools encourages families to attend the virtual Choice Fair and the Choice Articulation Sessions to gain more insight about their schools of interest.

Open houses and shadow days are other opportunities for students to learn more about their choice schools. Many schools host these events for prospective students to visit their schools of interest, engage with current students and staff, and gather information. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many of these events have been modified for virtual presentation. Therefore, students and families are encouraged to contact the school of interest to learn of any opportunities available to acquaint prospective students with the school.

DISTRICT OFFICE

City Schools is also a resource for families throughout the school choice process. Staff from the Office of Enrollment, Choice, and Transfer (ECT) and the Multilingual Enrollment and Support Center (MESC) can help families learn about schools, the choice process, and district programs and services.

Additionally, these offices act as choice liaisons for students not currently enrolled in City Schools. Call 410-396-8600 to make an appointment with a staff member.



Choosing Your Top 5 Schools

Students should consider the following when selecting their top school choices.



Think about the attributes you are looking for in a school.

What would excite you about attending that school every day?

What does that school offer that will prepare you for life after graduation?

What school has programs or classes that fit your interests, talents, passions, and challenges?



Understand your school options.

Some schools have special application processes and grade requirements. Therefore, it is important to know the schools for which you are eligible to attend. It is also essential to think about each school's location and consider how, if accepted, you will get there on time every day.



Make a list of the schools that interest you and you are eligible to attend.

Learn as much as you can about each school by researching online, talking with your school choice liaison, attending the virtual Choice Fair and Articulation sessions, and speaking to current students and staff members.



Making Your Plan TIPS FOR EARLIER GRADE LEVELS

It is never too early to start planning for your future. Here are some ways 3rd, 4th, 6th, and 7th grade students can prepare for the middle and high school choice processes early to ensure they have as many choices as possible when their time arrives.

It's never too early to start planning for the Choice process!



TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EVERYTHING YOUR SCHOOL HAS TO OFFER!

Participate in class, play sports, join clubs, inquire about honors courses and other enrichment opportunities, and challenge yourself. These practices in your earlier grade levels will help you excel in school and learn more about your interests and talents.

INQUIRE ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL.

There are programs throughout the city offered by community partners for Baltimore City youth to explore their interests and talents while also making them more competitive academically. For example, Enoch Pratt Free Library offers free clubs, activities, and assistance with homework to all students, and Baltimore School for the Arts' TWIGS program offers free classes in dance, music, stage production and design, visual arts, and storytelling to students in grades 2 through 8. Each experience and connection outside of the student's school helps broaden their exposure and network, which will pay dividends when choosing their middle and high schools. For instance, students who participate in TWIGS may better understand the application and audition criteria for Baltimore School for the Arts when preparing for their high school choice process.

WORK HARD AND ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY.

Learning builds from grade to grade, so middle school success means hard work in elementary school, and excellence in high school requires dedication in middle school. Remember, some schools evaluate grades in consideration of acceptance. Therefore, to broaden a student's choice options, parents and guardians should support and encourage them to maintain good grades. For more information about academic entrance criteria, visit page 11.

LEARN MORE ABOUT MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS.

Visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/schools to begin researching every school. Learn about the special programs offered that might interest the student, as well as any special requirements or applications required for acceptance. Use the map feature to determine each school's location to assess their proximity to your home and accessibility to mass transportation. Talk to neighbors, friends, and family members about their experiences and encounters with each school.

Getting Ready to Choose

TIPS FOR 5th AND 8th GRADE STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Here are some helpful tips for students and families currently participating in the middle and high school choice process.



THINK ABOUT WHAT THE STUDENT IS LOOKING FOR IN A MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL.

Involve the student in the process. Ask them about their passions and favorite subjects, whether they wish to participate in sports or clubs, and future career goals. Discuss the various types of schools available and ask the student where they think they would be most successful—large or small student body, specific focus or general studies, single-gender or co-ed.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR SCHOOL OPTIONS.

Use all your resources to best understand all the student's school options by talking with their school choice liaison, attending the virtual Choice Fair and Articulation Sessions, exploring individual school open houses, and talking to neighbors, friends, and family members about their experiences and encounters with each school. Also, visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/schools for more information about choice schools.

NARROW DOWN SCHOOL CHOICES.

Take time to help the student narrow their school choices by helping them to determine the attributes and amenities they are looking for in this next phase of learning. Discuss whether any of the schools have academic entrance criteria and whether the student has a qualifying composite score (See <u>page 11</u> for more about academic entrance criteria and the composite score). Consider each location, assessing their proximity to your home and accessibility to mass transportation to determine how the student will get to school each day on time.

MAKE SURE YOU KNOW HOW TO APPLY.

For most schools, you will complete the middle or high school choice application, which is available through the campus portal. However, a few schools require you to apply directly to the school and have individualized processes and deadlines. Keep all your options open by making sure you understand the different application processes and meet all deadlines. See page 5 and talk to your school choice liaison for more information.

MAKE SURE THE STUDENT IS WORKING HARD AND ATTENDING CLASSES EVERY DAY.

Doing well in elementary and middle school will expand your opportunities in the school choice process. Fall 2020 first-quarter grades will count towards the student's composite score.

APPLY.

Deadlines are critical throughout the school choice process, so note all significant dates so you do not miss pertinent deadlines. Include your top five school choices on the school choice application, and only apply to schools that you are interested in your child attending. Apply separately to any other schools that use their own application process. See page 5 and talk to your school's choice liaison for more information.

2021-22 MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CHOICE GUIDE

Preparing for MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOOL



Middle school can be an exhilarating time for students and their families. There is so much to learn in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades! During these years, students will build on the skills they gained in elementary school as they deepen their knowledge of English, math, science, and social studies. They will take art, music, and physical education classes and even learn a new language. Most schools also offer after-school clubs and sports. Middle schoolers will also learn how to set and meet goals, organize work, manage time, work alone and in groups, and study effectively.

Check out a few specialized programs that some schools offer to challenge students in class and help them explore interesting subjects, seek enrichment, and receive assistance.

HONORS COURSES

Honors classes are extra important! Taking and doing well in honors classes can make it easier to get into high schools with special requirements, including Baltimore City College and Baltimore Polytechnic Institute. These enrichment classes are available in English, math, science, and social studies. Honors courses are more challenging, as students are expected to perform higher than their grade level in that subject. Therefore, grades in these classes are weighted, which typically boosts students' composite scores.

ADVANCED ACADEMICS

Students in 6th grade who are accepted into advanced academics will be grouped for honors courses in English, math, science, and social studies, which also has the same academic content as honors courses at other schools.

To be eligible to apply for the schools below, students must have a composite score of 355. The schools will not consider any other factors. Students whose siblings are current students at these schools or who live in particular school zones will not receive preference.

Schools:

- · Cross Country Elementary/Middle School
- Francis Scott Key Elementary/Middle School
- · Mount Royal Elementary/Middle School
- Roland Park Elementary/Middle School
- · Waverly Elementary/Middle School

ALGEBRA I

After successfully completing Honors math in 6th and 7th grades, students can take Algebra I in 8th grade at some schools. A few schools offer Algebra I by combining online learning and face-to-face teaching.

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY: GATEWAY TO TECHNOLOGY

Through this career and technology education program, students explore engineering by completing challenging and engaging projects in design, modeling, and robotics.

Schools:

- The Historic Cherry Hill Elementary/Middle School
- Cross Country Elementary/Middle School
- Roland Park Elementary/Middle School



INGENUITY PROJECT

The Ingenuity Project is a City Schools partner offering an accelerated program that emphasizes inquiry and investigation through strong work habits and a deep understanding of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) concepts. In this program, teachers prepare the next generation of leaders in STEM curriculums and careers.

This program is only offered at the following schools and has a separate application process. Preference is not given to students with siblings who currently participate in the program, attend these schools, or live in particular school zones.

Visit www.ingenuityproject.org for more information.

Schools:

- · Hamilton Elementary/Middle School
- James McHenry Elementary/Middle School
- Mount Royal Elementary/Middle School
- Roland Park Elementary/Middle School





Applying for Middle School

Using Campus Portal, families can access, complete, and submit a school choice application between December 1, 2020 and January 22, 2021.

While most schools follow the same admissions process, some have different processes and additional requirements. Here are the three main ways to apply:



Middle School Choice Application

For schools that have academic entrance criteria, a school choice lottery, or a school choice application with additional requirements



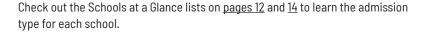
School-Based Application

For schools that have their own application processes, including those with a **schoolbased lottery, audition,** or **portfolio submission**



District Office Application

For specialized, unique circumstances that need to be discussed and considered prior to placement decisions at a school.



Keep in mind: Some parts of Baltimore City have zoned middle schools. If a student lives in the enrollment zone for an elementary school that **does not** have middle school grades or feeds into a school with those grades, they **must** choose their middle school for next year. They will receive top priority for placement in schools that use the choice lottery method.

If a student lives in the enrollment zone for an elementary/middle school or for an elementary school that is a feeder for a school with middle grades, they are not required to complete the school choice application to be considered for that middle school. Students who live in a neighborhood with a zoned school for 6th to 8th grades will automatically be enrolled at that school.



These schools do not have specific entrance criteria or additional requirements; however, if these schools do not have the capacity to serve all the students who apply, they will be selected through a lottery process. Students must apply for these schools by filling out the school choice application. Placement preference is given to students who:

- Live in a neighborhood that does not have a zoned option for middle school
- · Live in the same quadrant of the city as the school
- Have a brother or sister already attending the school (documentation is required to show that the brother or sister lives in the same household or is the legal responsibility of the parent or legal guardian)

Space for out-of-zone students in neighborhood elementary/middle schools is limited. Choice lotteries will only admit out-of-zone students in these schools if there is space after enrolling students who live in the school's enrollment zone.



ACADEMIC ENTRANCE CRITERIA

The composite score is a major consideration for schools with academic entrance criteria. This score is based on grades and test scores from the student's 4th-grade year and the first quarter grades of 5th grade. It is traditionally calculated as follows:

grade average + attendance rate + math test score + reading test score

***NOTE: This year, in response to the coronavirus pandemic and subsequent school closures, the U.S. Department of Education waived requirements for Maryland school districts to participate in annual standardized testing. Given the disparate impacts of COVID on our students and our commitment to equity, we have decided not to include attendance and standardized test scores as part of the calculation for composite scores.

Students in 5th grade in the 2020-2021 school year can apply for the Advanced Academics program at Cross Country, Francis Scott Key, Mount Royal, Roland Park, or Waverly elementary/middle schools if they have a composite score of 355 or higher. However, students interested in Advanced Academics at Roland Park or Mt. Royal will likely need to score higher than 355 to be admitted because they do not have enough space to accommodate all who are eligible to apply. Last year, the lowest composite score for admission was 385 at Roland Park and 375 at Mt. Royal.

Meeting the composite score requirement permits students to apply but does not guarantee their acceptance. Students who apply for Advanced Academics are ranked by composite scores. The highest-qualified students are admitted in order until all available seats in the program are filled. The next 50 highest qualified students are placed on a waitlist and may be admitted if accepted students do not enroll. If a seat becomes available, that school will contact the next student on their waitlist directly to offer them admission. However, this is not common, and families may not be notified of an available space until the upcoming school year, as the waitlists remain active for an entire school year.

To learn a student's composite score, visit the Campus Portal or speak with their school choice liaison.

Schools and Programs with Direct Application Processes

In addition to the five schools listed on their middle school choice application, students interested in the Ingenuity Project can apply directly to Hamilton, James McHenry, Mount Royal, or Roland Park elementary/middle schools.

Acceptance into this program is based on results from statewide math and English language arts tests, report card results from 4th grade and the first quarter of 5th grade and results on a test administered by **The Ingenuity Project**. Interested students must apply directly to Ingenuity by December 18, 2020 and take the test on January 8, 2021. See **www.ingenuityproject.org** for information and application forms.

School-based Lottery

The following charter schools conduct their own lotteries to admit students:

- Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women (all female student body)
- Baltimore Collegiate School for Boys (all male student body)
- · The Crossroads School
- · Green Street Academy

The deadline to apply to most charter schools is February 5, 2021; however, consult the student's school choice liaison or each school individually to ascertain all information pertinent to the application process, including application forms, deadlines, and additional information.

Other school-based processes

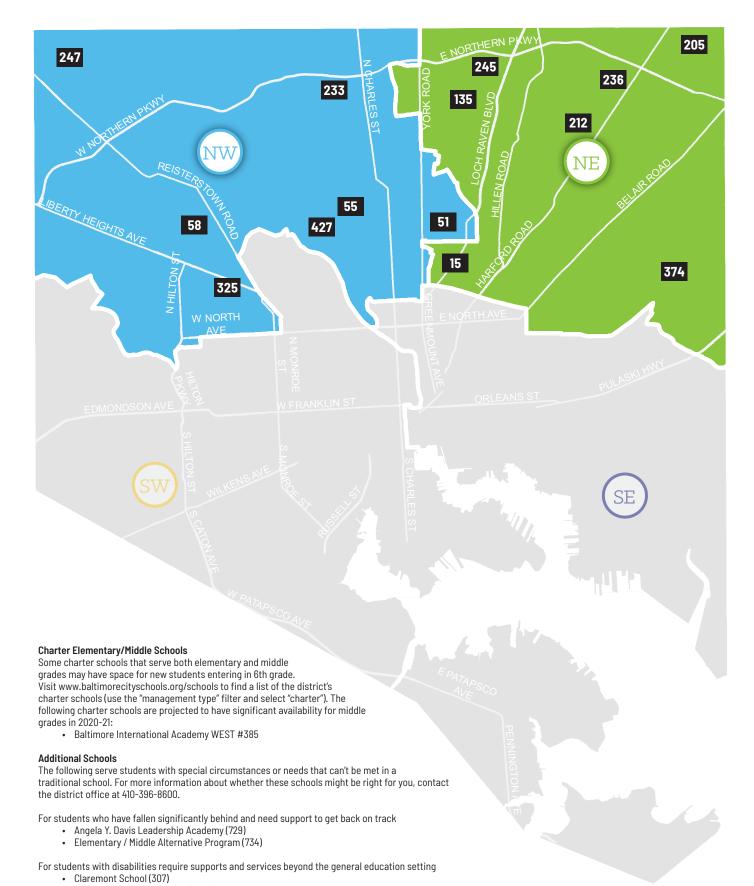
Baltimore Design School requires all interested students to complete an interest survey. Contact the school for more information.



Schools at a Glance

	School Name	School Details ADMISSION TYPE = AT	Programming ¹ ACADEMIC = A OTHER = 0		
	Out-of-Zone Elementary/Middle Schools Students from outside the neighborhood enrollment zone can apply to attend these schools, which accept out-of-zone students until capacity is reached. (If you live in the enrollment zone for any of these schools and wish to attend for 6th to 8th grade, you will be enrolled automatically without participating in middle school choice.)				
NW #58	Ashburton Elementary/Middle School Available for Choice	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	A Honors classes; GAL site O ESOL site; ILS (literacy)		
NE #212	Garrett Heights Elementary/ Middle School Available for Choice	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	A GAL site O Montessori		
NE #245	Leith Walk Elementary/Middle School Available for Choice	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	A GAL site 0 ESOL site		
NW #55	Hampden Elementary/Middle School Available for Choice	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	A Honors classes; GAL site ESOL site		
NE #134	Walter P. Carter Elementary/ Middle School Available for Choice	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	A Robotics ULS (restorative practices)		
NE #205	Woodhome Elementary/Middle School Available for Choice	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	A Honors classes; GAL site ESOL site; ILS (literacy)		
	Special Programs in Elementary/Middle Schools You must apply to attend these programs, even if you live in the enrollment zone for the school. Students' home address and zoned school are not considered in accepting students in these programs.				
NW #247	Cross Country Elementary/Middle School: Advanced Academics	AT Academic entrance criteria E Fewer than 400 students	A Project Lead the Way; honors classes; GAL site 0 ESOL site; ILS (social-emotional learning)		
NE #236	Hamilton Elementary/Middle School: Ingenuity Project	AT Directly through Ingenuity E More than 800	A Honors classes; GAL site C ESOL site		
NW #233	Roland Park Elementary/Middle School: Advanced Academics	AT Academic entrance criteria E More than 800	A Project Lead the Way; honors classes; GAL site 0 ESOL site		
NW #233	Roland Park Elementary/Middle School: Ingenuity Project	AT Directly through Ingenuity E More than 800	A Project Lead the Way; honors classes; GAL site 0 ESOL site		
NW #51	Waverly Elementary/Middle School: Advanced Academics	AT Academic entrance criteria E Fewer than 400 students	A Honors classes; GAL site C ESOL site; ILS (literacy)		
	Middle Schools				
NE #15	Stadium School	AT Choice lottery E 401 to 800 students	A GAL site 0 ESOL site; ILS (literacy)		
NE #374	Vanguard Collegiate Middle School	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	A Honors classes; GAL site ESOL site; ILS (literacy)		
	Middle/High Schools				
NW #427	Academy for College and Career Exploration	AT Choice lottery E 401 to 800 students	0 ESOL site; ILS (literacy)		
NW #325	ConneXions: A Community Based Arts School	AT Choice lottery E 401 to 800 students	A Arts; honors classes		

¹ Programming: Academic Programs or Focus: (GAL = gifted and advanced learning)
Other Programs: (ESOL = English for Speakers of Other Languages; ILS = intensive learning site)
ESOL and ILS site locations reflect the 2020-21 school year. Additional ILS sites are anticipated for 2021-22.



- Joseph C. Briscoe Academy (345)
- Lois T. Murray Elementary/Middle School (313)
- William S. Baer School (301)

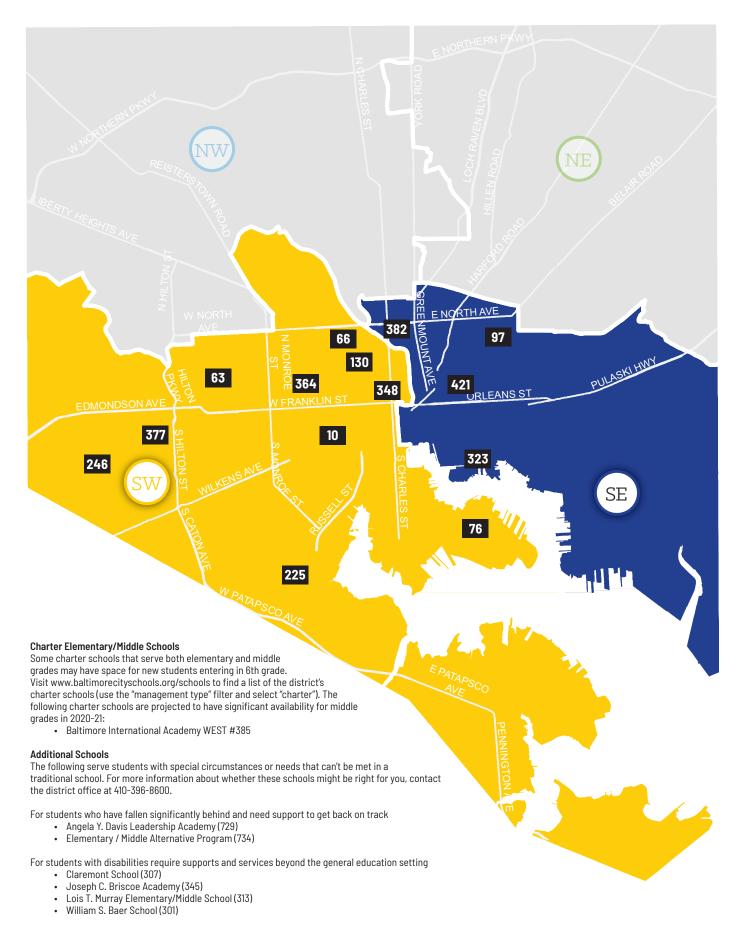
Other special circumstances

- Eager Street Academy (for incarcerated youth)
 Home and Hospital Program (for students with significant health problems)

Schools at a Glance

	School Name	School Details	Programming ¹		
	0. (7 5	ADMISSION TYPE = AT	ACADEMIC = A OTHER = 0		
	Out-of-Zone Elementary/Middle Schools Students from outside the neighborhood enrollment zone can apply to attend these schools, which accept out-of-zone students until capacity is reached. (If you live in the enrollment zone for any of these schools and wish to attend for 6th to 8th grade, you will be enrolled automatically without participating in middle school choice.)				
SW #225	Westport Elementary/Middle School Available for Choice	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	A Robotics 0 ILS (restorative practices)		
SW #246	Beechfield Elementary/Middle School Available for Choice	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	0 ESOL site		
SE #97	Collington Square Elementary/ Middle School Available for Choice	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	0 ILS (social-emotional learning)		
SW #63	Rosemont Elementary/Middle School Available for Choice	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students			
	Special Programs in Elementary/Middle Schools You must apply to attend these programs, even if you live in the enrollment zone for the school. Students' home address and zoned school are not considered in accepting students in these programs.				
SW #76	Francis Scott Key Elementary/Middle School: Advanced Academics	AT Academic entrance criteria E 401 to 800 students	A Honors classes; GAL site O ESOL site; ILS (social-emotional learning)		
SW #10	James McHenry Elementary/Middle School: Ingenuity Project	AT Directly through Ingenuity E Fewer than 400 students	A GAL site C ESOL site; ILS (literacy)		
SW #66	Mount Royal Elementary/Middle School: Advanced Academics	AT Academic entrance criteria E 401 to 800 students	A Honors classes; GAL siteILS (social-emotional learning)		
SW #66	Mount Royal Elementary/Middle School: Ingenuity Project	AT Directly through Ingenuity E 401 to 800 students	A Honors classes; GAL site ULS (social-emotional learning)		
	Middle Schools				
SW #130	Booker T. Washington Middle School	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	A Arts 0 ILS (literacy)		
SE #323	The Crossroads School	AT Directly through the school (school-based lottery) E Fewer than 400 students	A Project-based learning; honors classes; GAL site 0 ESOL site		
	Middle and Middle/High Schools				
SE #382	Baltimore Design School	AT Directly through the school (school-based lottery with interest survey) E 401 to 800 students	A Architecture, graphic, and fashion design; honors classes; GAL site		
SW #348	Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women	AT Directly through the school (school-based lottery) E 401 to 800 students; All girls	A Honors classes; GAL site		
SW #364	Bluford Drew Jemison STEM Academy West	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students; All boys	A Science, technology, engineering, and math ILS (social-emotional learning)		
SW #377	Green Street Academy	AT Directly through the school (school-based lottery) E More than 800	A Environmental studies and greening; honors classes		
SE #421	National Academy Foundation	AT Choice lottery E More than 800	A Honors classes 0 ESOL site; ILS (social-emotional learning)		
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Programming: Academic Programs or Focus: (GAL = gifted and advanced learning)
Other Programs: (ESOL = English for Speakers of Other Languages; ILS = intensive learning site)
ESOL and ILS site locations reflect the 2020-21 school year. Additional ILS sites are anticipated for 2021-22.



Other special circumstances

- Eager Street Academy (for incarcerated youth)
 Home and Hospital Program (for students with significant health problems)

HIGH SCHOOLS and Programs

High school is a pivotal period in every student's academic career because it is the final phase of their required education before adulthood. All high schools offer the necessary courses to graduate. However, each one has a unique combination of academic, career, specialized programs, and services to offer. Therefore, a student's top school choices should match their needs and interests, so they remain excited about learning and stay on track for their diploma.

There are no zoned schools at the high school level in Baltimore City Public Schools. Placement at all high schools is determined by the school choice process or through separate charter school lotteries.



ACADEMICS AND COLLEGE PREP

Whether considering a two-year or four-year college, students are encouraged to take challenging academic courses in high school in preparation for college and career. Students can earn college credit alongside their high school diploma with some specialized programs.

Advanced Placement

Every high school has at least one Advanced Placement (AP) course, and some offer several. These are college-level courses recognized by many colleges for credit with a passing score on the AP exam.

Utilize the <u>AP Credit Policy Search</u> to identify colleges that accept AP credits.

International Baccalaureate

Baltimore City College offers the two-year International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum that encourages students to ask challenging questions, develop a strong sense of identity and culture, and build cross-cultural communication and understanding. Students who graduate from this program receive an IB diploma, which many colleges recognize for college credit, in addition to their Maryland State diploma.

Dual enrollment and associate degrees

Students can earn tuition-free college credit—even a twoyear associate degree at the same time as their high school diploma—in the following ways:

- P-TECH is offered at Carver, New Era, and Dunbar high schools. Students can graduate in six years with a high school diploma and associate degree from Baltimore City Community College to be first in line for jobs at area employers. Learn more about P-TECH under the Career Prep section.
- Bard High School Early College: allows students to graduate in four years with a high school diploma and a two-year associate degree.
- All high schools: permit students to take college courses while in high school through "dual enrollment."

CAREER PREP

Get a jump-start on future professions!

City Schools offers an array of curriculums and focus areas for students to consider for high school. Some schools focus on specific career fields like medical professions or the arts. Others offer specialized career-preparation programs that allow students to obtain industry certifications.

So, students who already know the career they are interested in should identify and consider the schools that offer programs in that area. Most schools provide career counseling, work-based learning, internships, and other opportunities for future planning.



This six-year program allows students to graduate with a high school diploma and a tuition-free associate degree from Baltimore City Community College in information technology at Carver Vocational Technical High School, transportation logistics at New Era Academy, or health sciences at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School. Each P-TECH site has an industry partner that provides students with career mentoring and support throughout the program and prioritizes them for internship and job opportunities after graduation.

3DE BY JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

This new program, offered only at Frederick Douglass High School, encourages students to use the skills they are gaining in the classroom to develop solutions for businesses' real-world challenges.

All 9th and 10th grade students enrolled in Frederick Douglass High School for the 2020-2021 school year are currently participating in this program.

INGENUITY PROJECT

The Ingenuity Project is a City Schools partner that offers an accelerated program that emphasizes inquiry and investigation through strong work habits and a deep understanding of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) concepts. In this program, teachers prepare the next generation of leaders in STEM curriculums and careers.

Since this program is only offered at Baltimore Polytechnic Institute (Poly), students interested in the Ingenuity Project must be accepted into Poly through the high school choice process **and** complete a separate online application.

Visit www.ingenuityproject.org for more information.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)

Through Career and Technical Education (CTE), students can graduate with the skills and certifications they need to embark on a work-study program or paid apprenticeship in their respective field or stand out on college or job applications. With CTE, students get hands-on experience in state-ofthe-art labs, use professional equipment, learn from industry professionals, and gain access to internships in one of the career fields listed below.



The following schools offer CTE programs:



ARTS, MEDIA, AND COMMUNICATION

Explore >> Graphic Design, Web Design, Interactive Media Production, Game Development, and Music Production

Schools >> Augusta Fells Savage Institute of Visual Arts Baltimore Design School Carver Vocational-Technical High School Digital Harbor High School Edmondson-Westside High School Frederick Douglass High School Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School Patterson High School



BUSINESS, MANAGEMENT, AND FINANCE

Explore >> Finance, Accounting, Marketing, and **Business Management**

Schools >> Carver Vocational-Technical High School Edmondson-Westside High School Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School National Academy Foundation Patterson High School Reginald F. Lewis High School



CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Explore >> Carpentry, Electrical, Masonry, Plumbing, Computer-Aided Drafting and Design (CADD), and Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)

Schools >> Augusta Fells Savage Institute of Visual Arts Baltimore Design School Carver Vocational-Technical High School Edmondson-Westside High School Green Street Academy Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School Patterson High School The REACH! Partnership School



CONSUMER SERVICES, HOSPITALITY, AND TOURISM

Explore >> Cooking, Baking, Fashion Design, Lodging Management, Hotel Management, and Cosmetology

Schools >> Baltimore Design School Carver Vocational-Technical High School Claremont School* Edmondson-Westside High School Forest Park High School George W.F. McMechen High School* Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School National Academy Foundation Patterson High School

* Students are placed in this school by referral only. Those who are interested should contact the Office of Specialized Services.



ENVIRONMENTAL, AGRICULTURE, AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Explore >> Agriculture, Food Safety, Sustainability and Biotechnology

Schools >> Green Street Academy Reginald F. Lewis High School



HEALTH AND BIOSCIENCES

Explore >> Dentistry, Nursing, Surgery Technician, Sports Medicine, Pharmaceuticals, and Laboratory professions

Schools >> Edmondson-Westside High School Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School Patterson High School Paul Laurence Dunbar High School The REACH! Partnership School Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy Western High School



HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

Explore >> Homeland Security, Law, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)/Fire, Childcare/Early Childhood Education, and Teaching

Schools >> Carver Vocational-Technical High School
Digital Harbor High School
Edmondson-Westside High School
Forest Park High School
Frederick Douglass High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School
Patterson High School
Paul Laurence Dunbar High School
Reginald F. Lewis High School
The REACH! Partnership School
Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy
Western High School



Explore >> Networking, Information Technology (IT) Support,
Web Development, Cybersecurity, Computer
Science, and Cisco Systems

Schools >> Academy for College and Career Exploration Augusta Fells Savage Institute of Visual Arts Baltimore Polytechnic Institute Baltimore School for Leadership of Young Women Benjamin Franklin High School Bluford Drew Jemison STEM Academy West Carver Vocational-Technical High School Coppin Academy Digital Harbor High School Edmondson-Westside High School Forest Park High School Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School National Academy Foundation New Era Academy Patterson High School Western High School



MANUFACTURING, ENGINEERING, AND TECHNOLOGY

Explore >> Product Manufacturing and Civil Engineering

Schools >> Baltimore Polytechnic Institute
Bluford Drew Jemison Stem Academy
Carver Vocational-Technical High School
Edmondson-Westside High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School
National Academy Foundation
Patterson High School
Western High School



TRANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGIES

Explore >> Auto Mechanics, Collision Repair, and Seagoing

Schools >> Edmondson-Westside High School Forest Park High School Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School New Era Academy



JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS (JROTC)

JROTC provides students with various intellectual, physical, and social experiences that encourage them to become leaders, critical thinkers, and productive members of society. JROTC is not military training or a recruiting organization; rather, it is dedicated to creating leaders who will serve their nation as productive citizens.

Schools with Army JROTC >>

Carver Vocational-Technical High School The REACH! Partnership School Forest Park High School New Era Academy Frederick Douglass High School

Schools with Navy JROTC >>

Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School

Schools with Air Force JROTC >>

Baltimore Polytechnic Institute Patterson High School



This special CTE program offers students a hands-on, project-based approach to solve real-world problems and gain experience in a range of skills needed in the bioscience, information technology, and engineering fields.

Schools >> Baltimore Polytechnic Institute
Edmondson-Westside High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School
National Academy Foundation
Patterson High School
Western High School

Visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/schools for more information about the specific pathways offered at each school.







Enrichment and Support

High school is about a lot more than earning credits and learning job skills. It is also an opportunity for students to figure out what is important to them and hone their social and emotional learning (SEL) skills.

When deciding their top school choices for next year, students must consider other activities such as sports, music, and after-school clubs.

The following resources and specialized programs are also available at many of our schools.



STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

All students have equal access and opportunity to participate in all educational programs, including the high school choice process. Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams will work with school-based staff to ensure students with disabilities receive the necessary support while choosing a high school and after starting the 9th grade. The only exception is when a student has a documented need within an IEP for a city-wide special education program, non-public school, or separate public day school.

For more information, contact the Special Education team at 410-396-8900.

STUDENTS LEARNING ENGLISH

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programs help English learners develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills while also supporting their academic skills. ESOL teachers provide English language instruction and work with teachers in all subject areas to make sure English learners can succeed in all their classes.

All English learners have access to ESOL services. Schools noted as "ESOL sites" in the Schools at a Glance list (see pages 24 and 26) have an ESOL teacher for the 2021-22 school year. ESOL sites are adjusted every year based on changes in the school population.

Students do not need proof of U.S. legal status, immigration documents, citizenship papers, or social security cards to register for school. Multilingual Enrollment and Support Center staff are available to help families who speak another language with the school choice and enrollment process.

For more information, email MESC@bcps.k12.md.us or call 443-984-2000.





Applying for High School

Using Campus Portal, families can access, complete, and submit a school choice application between December 1, 2020 and January 22, 2021.

While most schools follow the same admissions process, some have different processes and additional requirements. Here are the three main ways to apply:



High School Choice Application

For schools that have academic entrance criteria, a school choice lottery, or a school choice application with additional requirements



School-Based Application

For schools that have their own application processes, including those with a **school-based lottery**, **audition**, or **portfolio submission**



District Office Placement

For specialized, unique circumstances that need to be discussed and considered prior to placement decisions at a school



ALTIMORECITYSCHOOLS.ORG/CHO

Check out the Schools at a Glance lists on pages 24 and 26 to learn the admission type for each school.

HIGH SCHOOL CHOICE LOTTERY

These schools do not have specific entrance criteria or additional requirements; however, if these schools do not have the capacity to serve all the students who apply, they will be selected through a lottery process. Students must apply for these schools by filling out the school choice application.

HIGH SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICATION WITH ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

A few schools require prospective students to complete the school choice application and fulfill additional requirements for acceptance consideration.

- Bard High School Early College
 - Students interested in attending this school must complete a school-based application and list it on their school choice application. Visit bhsec.bard.edu for more information, as the school-based application deadline precedes the district-wide school choice application deadline.
- National Academy Foundation (NAF)
 - Students interested in attending this school must list it on their school choice application **and** contact the school to schedule an interview. For more information, call NAF at 443–984-1594.
- P-TECH at Carver Vocational-Technical, New Era Academy, and Paul Laurence Dunbar high schools

Students interested in attending a P-TECH school must specifically list the site(s)(i.e., P-TECH at New Era) on their school choice application **and** contact that school to schedule an interview with the school's P-TECH coordinator.

ACADEMIC ENTRANCE CRITERIA

The composite score is a major consideration for schools with academic entrance criteria. The score is calculated based on academic performance in 7th grade and the first quarter of 8th grade. Taking honors classes in middle school will increase a student's score. The composite score is traditionally calculated as:

standardized test reading percentile

- + standardized test math percentile + (math grade x2)
- + (English grade x2) + (overall grade x2)

***NOTE: This year, in response to the coronavirus pandemic and subsequent school closures, the U.S. Department of Education waived requirements for Maryland school districts to participate in annual standardized testing. Given the disparate impacts of COVID on our students and our commitment to equity, we have decided not to include attendance and standardized test scores as part of the calculation for composite scores.

The following schools attract prospective students with extremely competitive composite scores:

- · Baltimore Polytechnic Institute
- Baltimore City College
- · Paul Laurence Dunbar High School
- Western Senior High School

Students who apply to these schools are ranked by composite scores. The highest-qualified students are admitted in order until all available seats in the program are filled. The next 50 highest qualified students are placed on a waitlist and may be admitted if accepted students do not enroll. If a seat becomes available, that school will contact the next student on their waitlist directly to offer them admission. However, this is not common, and families may not be notified of an available space until the upcoming school year, as the waitlists remain active for an entire school year.

Of the students admitted last year, the average composite scores for the following schools were:

· Baltimore City College

• Average composite score: 721

• Lowest composite score: 682

· Baltimore Polytechnic Institute

• Average composite score: 753

• Lowest composite score: 714

To learn a student's composite score, visit the Campus Portal or speak with their school choice liaison.

SCHOOLS WITH DIRECT APPLICATION PROCESSES

In addition to the five schools listed on a student's high school choice application, some schools require students to apply directly to the school.

The following schools have their own application process.

- <u>Baltimore Design School</u> requires interested students to submit a portfolio of their work.
- <u>Baltimore School for the Arts</u> requires interested students to apply for an audition by November 19, 2020. Auditions will be held January 19-25, 2021.

The following charter schools conduct their own lottery processes to admit students.

- <u>Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women</u> (all female student body)
- City Neighbors High School
- · Coppin Academy
- · Green Street Academy

The deadline to apply to most charter schools is February 5, 2021; however, consult the student's school choice liaison or each school individually to ascertain all information pertinent to the application process including applications forms, deadlines, and additional information.

OTHER FACTORS TO CONSIDER

When choosing a high school, students should consider the following factors.

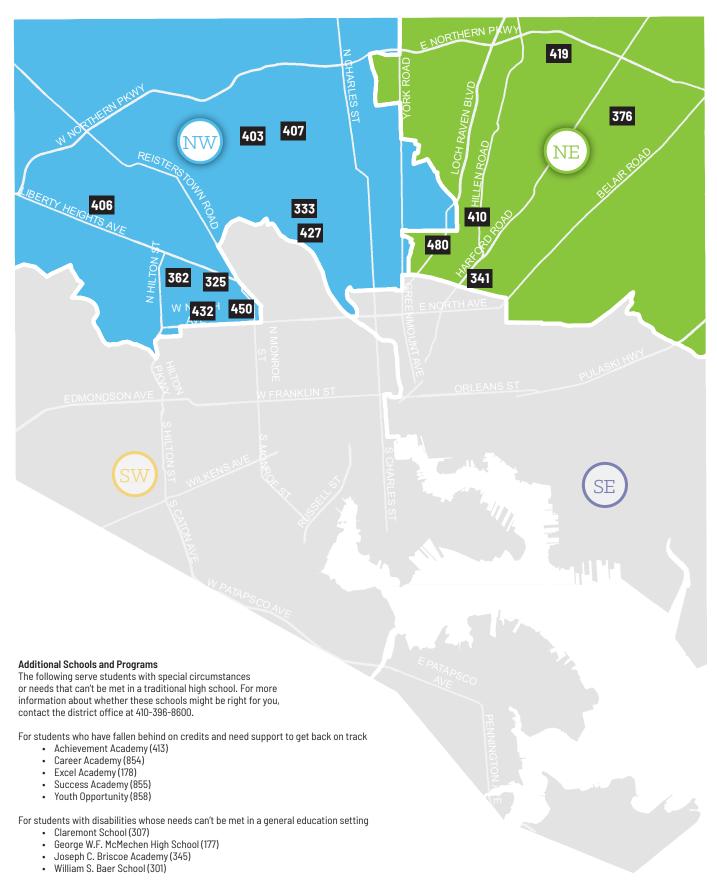
- Location: How long will it take to get to school? Is it a commute that the student can make twice a day for four years and in extreme temperatures?
- Grade span: Does the student want to go to a school with only high school grades, or is a middle/high school with younger and older students a better fit? (See pages 24 and 26 for lists of middle/high and high schools.)
- Enrollment: Does the student want to go to a small school with fewer than 100 students in each grade or a school with a student body of 1,000 or more? Does the student want to attend a single-gender or co-educational school? (See pages 24 and 26 for an overview of enrollment at each school.)
- Building: How important are the facilities for the student? Is a new school building important?
 Does the student want facilities for science and technology, sports, or performances? (Visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/buildings for details on how the district is working to improve all school buildings.)

2021-22 MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CHOICE GUIDE

Schools at a Glance

	School Name	School Details ADMISSION TYPE = AT ENROLLMENT = E	Programming ¹ ACADEMIC = A OTHER = 0
	Middle/High Schools		
NW #427	Academy for College and Career Exploration	AT Choice lottery E 401 to 800 students	0 ESOL site; ILS (literacy)
NW #325	ConneXions: A Community Based Arts School	AT Choice lottery E 401 to 800 students	A Arts
	High Schools		
NE #480	Baltimore City College	AT Academic entrance criteria E More than 800	A International Baccalaureate0 ESOL site
NW #403	Baltimore Polytechnic Institute	AT Academic entrance criteria E More than 800	A CTE 0 ESOL site; JROTC
NW #362	Bard High School Early College Baltimore	AT Choice application with additional steps E 401 to 800 students	A High school diploma and associate's degree in four years
NE #376	City Neighbors High School	AT Directly through the school (school-based lottery) E 401 to 800 students	
NW #432	Coppin Academy	AT Directly through the school (school-based lottery) E Fewer than 400 students	
NW #406	Forest Park High School	AT Choice lottery E 401 to 800 students	A CTE 0 ESOL site; ILS (literacy); JR0TC
NW #450	Frederick Douglass High School	AT Choice lottery E More than 800	A CTE O JROTC
NW #333	Independence School Local I	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	
NE #410	Mergenthaler Vocational- Technical High School	E More than 800	A CTE 0 ESOL site; JROTC
NE #341	The Reach! Partnership School	AT Choice lottery E 401 to 800 students	A CTE O JROTC
NE #419	Reginald F. Lewis High School	AT Choice lottery E 401 to 800 students	A CTE 0 ESOL site; ILS (literacy)
NW #407	Western High School	AT Academic entrance criteria E More than 800; All girls	A CTE 0 ESOL site

Programming: Academic Programs or Focus: (CTE = Career and Technology Education; note that all schools offer at least one Advanced Placement course)
Other Programs: (ESOL = English for Speakers of Other Languages; ILS = intensive learning site; JROTC = Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps)
ESOL and ILS site locations reflect the 2020-21 school year. Additional ILS sites are anticipated for 2021-22.



Other special circumstances

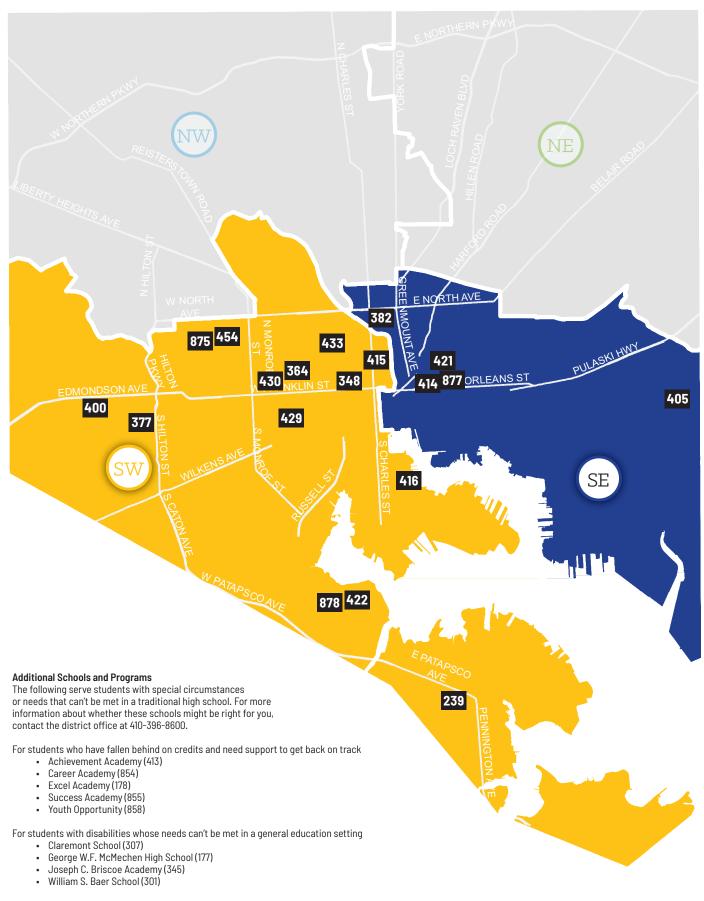
- Eager Street Academy (for incarcerated youth)
- Home and Hospital Program (for students with significant health problems)

2021-22 MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CHOICE GUIDE

Schools at a Glance

	School Name	School Details ADMISSION TYPE = AT ENROLLMENT = E	Programming ¹ ACADEMIC = A OTHER = 0
	Middle/High Schools		
SE #382	Baltimore Design School	AT Directly through the school (portfolio) E 401 to 800 students	A CTE
SW #348	Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women	AT Directly through the school (school-based lottery) E 401 to 800 students; All girls	
SW #364	Bluford Drew Jemison STEM Academy West	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students; All boys	A CTE O ILS (social-emotional learning)
SW #377	Green Street Academy	AT Directly through the school (school-based lottery) E More than 800	A CTE
SE #421	National Academy Foundation	AT Choice application with interview E 401 to 800 students	A CTE 0 ESOL site; ILS (social-emotional learning)
	High Schools		
SW #430	Augusta Fells Savage Institute	AT Choice lottery E 401 to 800 students	A CTE 0 ILS (literacy)
SW #415	Baltimore School for the Arts	AT Directly through the school (audition) E 401 to 800 students	A Arts
SW #239	Benjamin Franklin High School	AT Choice lottery E 401 to 800 students	A CTE 0 ESOL site
SW #454	Carver Vocational- Technical High School	E More than 800	A CTE O ILS (social-emotional learning); JROTC
SW #416	Digital Harbor High School	AT Choice lottery E More than 800	A CTE © ESOL site; ILS (literacy)
SW #400	Edmondson-Westside High School	E More than 800	A CTE
SW #422	New Era Academy	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	A CTE 0 ESOL site; ILS (literacy); JROTC
SE #405	Patterson High School	AT Choice lottery E More than 800	A CTE 0 ESOL site; JROTC
SE #414	Paul Laurence Dunbar High School	AT Academic entrance criteria E More than 800	A CTE
SW #875	P-TECH at Carver	AT Choice application with interview E Small programs within larger schools	A High school diploma, job credentials, and associate's degree in six years; focus on information technology O JROTC
SW #878	P-TECH at New Era	AT Choice application with interview E Small programs within larger schools	A High school diploma, job credentials, and associate's degree in six years; focus on transportation logistics © ESOL site; JROTC
SE #877	P-TECH at Paul Laurence Dunbar	AT Choice application with interview E Small programs within larger schools	A High school diploma, job credentials, and associate's degree in six years; focus on health sciences
SW #433	Renaissance Academy	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	A CTE 0 ILS (social-emotional learning)
SW #429	Vivien T. Thomas Academy	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	A CTE

¹ Programming: Academic Programs or Focus: (CTE = Career and Technology Education; note that all schools offer at least one Advanced Placement course)
Other Programs: (ESOL = English for Speakers of Other Languages; ILS = intensive learning site; JROTC = Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps)
ESOL and ILS site locations reflect the 2020-21 school year. Additional ILS sites are anticipated for 2021-22.



Other special circumstances

- Eager Street Academy (for incarcerated youth)
- Home and Hospital Program (for students with significant health problems)



PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Linda M. Chinnia

Chair, Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners

Contact Us

Find contact information for individual schools at www.baltimorecityschools.org/schools

Departments at the district office > 200 E. North Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21202

Enrollment, Choice, and Transfers Room 106 410.396.8600

Multilingual Enrollment and Support Center Room 320 443.642.4481

College and **Career Readiness** Room 316 443.642.3928

Special **Education** Room 205 410.396.8900

General Information 443.984.2000

Baltimore City Public Schools' Notice of Nondiscrimination

Baltimore City Public Schools ("City Schools") does not discriminate in its employment, programs, and activities based on race, ethnicity, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, pregnancy/parenting status, disability, veteran status, genetic information, age, or other legally or constitutionally protected attributes or affiliations. Discrimination undermines our community's long-standing efforts to create, foster, and promote equity and inclusion for all. Some examples of discrimination include acts of hate, violence, harassment, bullying, or retaliation.

For more information, see Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners Policies JBA (Nondiscrimination - Students), JBB (Sex-Based Discrimination - Students), JICK (Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation of Students), ACA (Nondiscrimination - Employees), ACB (Sexual Harassment - Employees), and ACD (ADA Reasonable Accommodations), and the accompanying City Schools Administrative Regulations.

City Schools also provides equal access to the Boy and Girl Scouts and other designated youth groups.

For inquiries about these nondiscrimination policies, please contact: Equal Opportunity Manager, Title IX Coordinator

Equal Employment Opportunity and Title IX Compliance 200 E. North Avenue, Room 208 • Baltimore, MD 21202

Phone: 410.396.8542 Fax: 410.396.2955

Email: eeo-titleixcompliance@bcps.k12.md.us