GUIDE TO MY SCHOOL DC

MY SCHOOL DC
The Public School Lottery
MySchoolDC.org

DC's common application and lottery for DCPS and public charter schools

SY 2020 - 2021

IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES. CHOOSE YOUR SCHOOL. START HERE.

Make Your School List

Use this worksheet to make a list of schools you want to learn about. You can begin your search by using the School Finder at MySchoolDC.org. Once you've researched each school, list them in the order you like most (your 1st choice, 2nd choice, and so on). You can apply to up to 12 schools on the My School DC application, and you will need to rank them in the order you like most.

SCHOOL NAME	DATE OF SCHOOL VISIT	NOTES What matters most to you and your child in a school? Which schools are a good fit?	RANK
Example: *School ABC*	*1/9/20*	*School focuses on science and math, which is a good fit for my child; but school is located 3 miles from where we live (need to research transportation options)*	*3*

OVERVIEW OF MY SCHOOL DC

The My School DC common lottery is a single, random lottery that determines placement for new students at all participating schools. While there is no advantage to applying first, applicants must apply by the application deadlines.

School Year 2020-21 Lottery Deadlines:
February 3: Grades 9-12 | March 2: PK3 – Grade 8

There are three steps to My School DC:

1. **LEARN:** Consider what is most important to you and your child, make a list based on those needs, and research your school options.
2. **APPLY:** Go to MySchoolDC.org to create your family account and start your application, rank your school choices in the order you like most, and submit your application by the application deadlines.
3. **ENROLL:** Once your child receives an offer to enroll, prepare all required documents and enroll your child at the school by the communicated deadline.

Who Needs My School DC?

Submit a My School DC application if your child will be a NEW student at a:

- PK3 or PK4 program at any DCPS school (including your in-boundary school)
- DCPS school outside your boundary or feeder pattern (PK3 – Grade 12), including DCPS citywide schools
- DCPS selective high school or program (Grades 9-12)
  + See page 5 for more information
- Participating public charter school (PK3 – Grade 12)

You do <u>not</u> need to submit a My School DC application if your child will:

- Remain in their current school (contact your school to re-enroll)
- Attend their DCPS in-boundary or feeder school (Grades K-12)

TIP: Every K–12 student who lives in the District of Columbia has the right to attend at least one DCPS school where they can directly enroll without submitting a My School DC application. Use the School Finder at MySchoolDC.org to find your DCPS in-boundary school.

The My School DC lottery application opens on **December 16, 2019**. The application is available in English and Spanish. Application guides are available for download in Amharic, Chinese, Vietnamese, and French on MySchoolDC.org. Call the My School DC Hotline at (202) 888-6336 for application assistance in your language, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5p.m.

LEARN

First, consider what is most important to you and your child.

- How important is school location? How will I get my child to school?
- How important is before and after care to my family?
- What kind of learning environment is best for my child?
- What academic offerings are important for my child?
- What extracurricular offerings are important for my child?

Learn about the public school options that meet your needs. Here are some good starting points:

- **Visit MySchoolDC.org.**
  - + **Use the School Finder** to search by address, grade, and program type to find DCPS and public charter schools near you, including your DCPS in-boundary schools.
  - + **Check out the My School DC school profiles** to learn about participating schools and view their open house schedules.
- **Visit schools or call schools directly** if you have questions about their programs. Make sure to download and review our list of helpful questions to ask of schools from MySchoolDC.org!
- **Talk with your neighbors or friends** who attend the schools you are interested in and **go to EdFEST** – the annual public school fair – and other school fairs.

TIP: Keep track of your list of schools by using the worksheet on page 1!

APPLY

First, create a My School DC family account at MySchoolDC.org.

- **Create one family account**. You will use this account to submit an application for each child applying to a new school.
- You will need to provide an **email address** and set a **password**. If you do not have an email address, you can instead create a username.

Next, start a My School DC application.

You need the following information to complete a My School DC application:

- Information about your child
  + Name, date of birth, current school, and application grade
  + Sibling information
- Basic information about your family
  + Legal guardian's name (first and last)
  + Contact information, including guardian's home address
- School selections
  + You can choose up to 12 schools
  + List your 1st choice (the school that you want the most), then your 2nd choice, and so forth. Review your choices to ensure that they are ranked in the **order you like most.**

Finally, submit your application by the deadline!

- **February 3, 2020:** Application deadline for Grades 9-12
- **March 2, 2020:** Application deadline for PK3 – Grade 8

Note: You have until the date of the deadline to make any edits on your application and until March 15 to re-order your school rankings if you so choose.

IMPORTANT: The order in which you list your schools matters! Students can only be matched with **one school** and are waitlisted only at the schools they ranked higher than the school where they are matched or enrolled.

APPLYING TO DCPS SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS

Is your child applying to a DCPS selective high school or program? These schools have additional application components which must be submitted through the My School DC application. Visit "Apply" on **MySchoolDC.org** for more information, including essay questions.

Refer to the chart below to familiarize yourself with each school's and program's selection criteria.

TIP: Plan ahead to make sure your child is able to complete all required sections of the application before the lottery application deadline of **February 3, 2020**.

| SCHOOL | APPLICATION COMPONENTS | | | | ADMISSIONS PROCESS** |
	REPORT CARD	PARCC SCORES*	ESSAY	RECOMMENDATIONS (*Completed online through the My School DC application.*)	
Bard High School Early College DC	Final SY18-19 and SY19-20 First Quarter report cards required for 11th graders only. GPA of 2.0 or above recommended.	No	Yes (To be completed at Bard; not through the My School DC application.)	Math teacher; English teacher	Application review; Essay (on-site); Individual interview
Benjamin Banneker High School	SY19-20 First Quarter	Yes	Yes	English teacher; Math teacher; Counselor	Application review; Family interview
Columbia Heights Education Campus	SY19-20 First Quarter *Attendance should be included on report card.*	No	No***	English teacher; Math teacher	Application review; Individual interview
Duke Ellington School of the Arts	SY19-20 First Quarter *Attendance should be included on report card.*	No	Yes	Math teacher; Art teacher (or other); Counselor	Application review; Audition; Academic placement assessment; Family interview
Early College Academy @Coolidge High School	SY19-20 First Quarter	Yes	Yes (To be completed at Early College Academy @ Coolidge; not through the My School DC application.)	English teacher; Math teacher	Application review; Essay (on-site); Family interview
McKinley Technology High School	Final SY18-19 and SY19-20 First Quarter. GPA of 3.0 or above recommended.	Yes	Yes (To be completed at McKinley Tech; not through the My School DC application.)	English teacher; Math teacher; Counselor	Application review; Essay (on-site); Individual interview
Phelps Architecture, Construction, and Engineering High School	SY19-20 First Quarter *Attendance should be included on report card.*	Yes	Yes	English teacher; Math teacher	Application review; Family interview
School Without Walls High School	Final SY18-19 GPA of 3.0 or above required.	No	No	None	Application review; Admissions test; Student & Parent/Guardian interview

*If student did not take PARCC, include other state standardized test scores on the My School DC application for schools that require them. **No minimum score required to apply**.

**Check MySchoolDC.org for more detailed information about schools' admissions processes.

***Applicants are required to complete a student interest survey through the My School DC application.

Questions? Need application support?
Call the My School DC Hotline at 202-888-6336, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. for assistance in your language or email us at info.myschooldc@dc.gov.

✓ ENROLL

What should you do when you receive your lottery results?

Lottery results will be released on **March 27, 2020**. Log in to your family account at **MySchoolDC.org** to view your child's lottery results and their positions on waitlists.

If your child is matched with a school through the lottery, you have until **May 1, 2020** to enroll at that school. If your child is offered a space off a waitlist, you have until the deadline communicated to you by the school to enroll. Families that do not enroll by these deadlines may lose their space at the school.

Enrollment occurs at the school, and a parent or legal guardian is responsible for enrolling their child at the school.

To enroll, you must:

- **Prove that you are a DC resident.** Go to **MySchoolDC.org** for a list of documents you can use to show your home address.
- **Follow the school's additional enrollment requirements**, including submitting all required health and vaccination records.
- **Submit a My School DC seat acceptance form.** Download the form at **MySchoolDC.org**.

Enrolling at your matched school does not remove your child from other schools' waitlists. At any time you can log in to your family account at **MySchoolDC.org** to view your child's current waitlist positions. Offers from a waitlist are not guaranteed. For information on understanding your lottery results and on how waitlists work go to **MySchoolDC.org**.

MY SCHOOL DC: THE PUBLIC SCHOOL LOTTERY

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 14, 2019 | EdFEST – the annual public school fair

December 16, 2019 | My School DC Application opens

February 3, 2020 | APPLICATION DEADLINE for Grades 9-12

March 2, 2020 | APPLICATION DEADLINE for PK3 – Grade 8

March 27, 2020 | Lottery results are released

May 1, 2020 | Enrollment deadline for matched families

MySchoolDC.org

info.myschooldc@dc.gov

202.888.6336

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For assistance in your language, call 202.888.6336.

Para recibir ayuda en su idioma, llame al 202.888.6336.

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如果需要语言方面的帮助，请拨打 202.888.6336。

Để được hỗ trợ bằng ngôn ngữ của quý vị, hãy gọi 202.888.6336.

Pour obtenir de l'aide dans votre langue, appelez le 202.888.6336.