



**HIGH SCHOOL
CHOICE GUIDE 2020-21**

My SCHOOL **My** CHOICE

A GUIDE TO FINDING, CHOOSING, AND APPLYING FOR YOUR FUTURE HIGH SCHOOL

**BALTIMORE CITY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



Dear Middle School Students and Families,

As a former teacher and mother of a middle school student, I know how important the middle school years have been for you and your family. You've been learning about more subjects in greater depth, finding your talents and interests, taking part in new activities, and figuring out what you want for your future.

Planning where you'll go to high school is a big step toward that future. Across the city, there are schools that focus on different subjects and career fields — for example, science or the arts, medicine or construction. There are big schools and small schools, schools that combine middle and high school or high school and college, and schools with clubs and teams for everything from basketball to band to robots. For some schools, you need to have good grades to get in, and others have special steps to apply.

Over the years, I've heard families and students tell me they had a lot of questions about the process and that they didn't always know how to find the answers. That's why we've improved this guide, created an online school comparison tool, and are now helping families prepare for choosing a school starting in the 6th grade. We're here to help you get on the path to the right school for you — so if you can't find the answers you're looking for, please ask your school's choice liaison or call the district office.

We look forward to supporting you in this exciting process, and seeing all you will accomplish!

Sincerely,
Dr. Sonja Brookins Santelises
Chief Executive Officer
Baltimore City Public Schools

We're Here to Help

Congratulations! Preparing for the **High School Choice Process** marks another milestone in your journey toward college, career, and beyond. We heard families tell us that while it's an exciting time, it's also stressful and sometimes confusing. We also heard that families of 6th and 7th grade students didn't know how they could be preparing for choosing a high school.

We want you to know that we're here to help – from the time you're in the 6th grade all the way through the 8th grade.

We have staff in schools and at the district office who can help you with any questions or concerns. Plus, with tools like this guide and the online school search tool, we hope you have what you need to make this important decision.

Remember –
**IT'S YOUR SCHOOL,
YOUR CHOICE!**

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Parent Portal: The online program that gives parents of students in the 8th grade access to the online choice application.

Choice lottery: When a school has more applications than the school can accept, we use a lottery system to randomly select who will be given a seat.

Entrance criteria: Some schools have additional academic requirements for admission. These requirements are known as "entrance criteria" and the schools are known as "entrance criteria schools."

Choice liaison: The staff member at your school who helps families understand the choice process, learn about school options, and more.

Open house: A specific date and time that a school invites future students to visit and learn about the school.

Shadow day: A specific day that a school invites future students to join current students for a typical school day.

Composite score: This score is used to determine eligibility for applying to entrance criteria schools. The score is calculated using various factors, including academic performance.

High School Choice

AN OVERVIEW

Students in the 8th grade complete the district's choice application online using the Parent Portal. On the application, you'll see all the schools you can choose from. The list will include schools with entrance criteria if you meet the requirements.

From the schools that are listed, you'll select your top five choices. If your current school has the 9th grade and you want to stay at your school, list it as your top choice and you'll automatically be accepted.

In early March, you'll receive a letter from City Schools, letting you know which school you'll attend next year.

If you are not currently enrolled in Baltimore City Public Schools but want to apply, please visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/enroll to find out how, or call the district office at 410.396.8600. We look forward to welcoming you to the City Schools family!

THIS GUIDE

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Tips for 6th, 7th and 8th graders

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High schools at a glance, with maps and school descriptions

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More about schools and programs

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The choice process, including entrance criteria and application information

ONLINE TOOLS: SEARCH FOR SCHOOLS AND FILL OUT YOUR APPLICATION

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. Search for schools that have certain programs or by location.

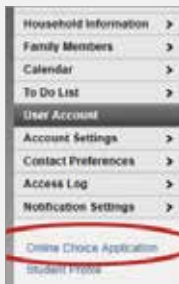


Parent Portal (www.baltimorecityschools.org/portal):

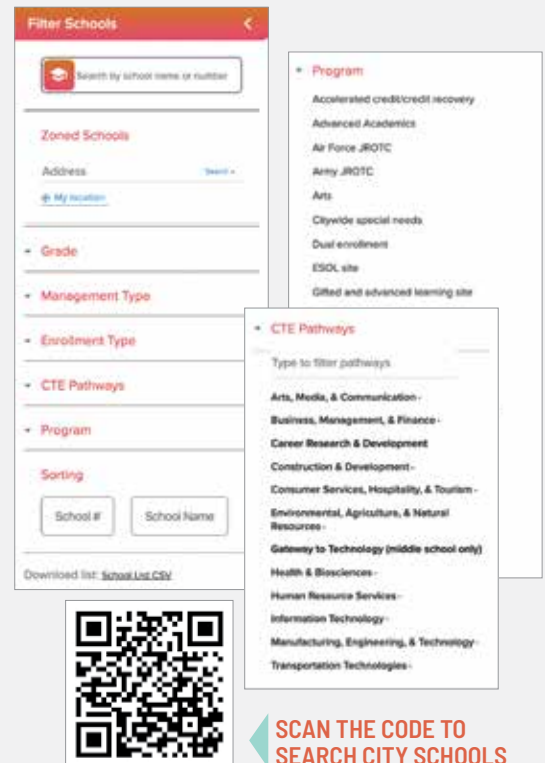
Parents and guardians can access the online choice application, composite scores, and more. If you don't have access to Parent Portal already, ask your current school for your activation key and visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/portal to set up your account.

Filling out the choice application

Parents and guardians can fill out the choice application online through Parent Portal.



- 1 Log on.
- 2 Click on the "Online Choice Application" link on the left side of the screen.
- 3 Select the student who is filling out the application.
- 4 Select your top five schools.
- 5 Click save.



SCAN THE CODE TO SEARCH CITY SCHOOLS



Don't have internet access at home? Here are some ways to get the information you need:

Local Library

Visit your local Enoch Pratt library to access the internet and free-Wi-Fi.

School Community

All schools have computers that can be accessed by students and families. Contact your choice liaison or Community School Coordinator to learn more about how you can use your school's computers and internet services.

YOUR SCHOOL CHOICE LIAISON

There's a staff member at your current middle school – the choice liaison – who can help you find the perfect school for you.

Ask your school's front office staff or visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/choice to find the contact information for your school's choice liaison. You can talk to this person about high school programs, which schools you're eligible to attend, visiting schools you're interested in, how to apply, and more.

SCHOOL VISITS AND OPEN HOUSES

Visiting schools is the best way to see which school will be the best fit for you. We encourage you to visit as many schools as possible to see which ones you'd want to attend. Most open houses are scheduled between October and December. If you missed the scheduled open house, call and ask if you can visit at a different time.

THE DISTRICT OFFICE

Staff from Enrollment, Choice, and Transfers and the Multilingual Enrollment and Support Center can help families learn about schools, the choice process, and district programs and services. They also act as choice liaisons for students not currently enrolled in City Schools.

You can stop by 200 E. North Ave. to talk to a staff member or call 443.396.8600 to make an appointment.



Many schools have shadow days where you can partner with a current student and attend classes to get a true feel for the school.

Choosing Your Top 5 Schools

1



Think about the kind of high school you're looking for.

What makes you want to go to school every day?

How can high school help you get ready for life after graduation?

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

2



Find out what your school options are.

You need good grades to get into some schools – check Parent Portal to see which schools you can apply to. Other schools have special applications and requirements.

Read pages 18–19 for more information about these schools.

3



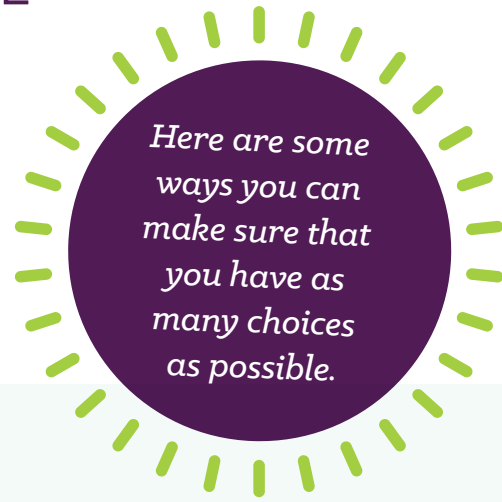
Make a list of schools you're interested in and eligible to attend.

Learn as much as you can about them – research those schools online, talk with your school choice liaison, visit the schools, or talk with current students and staff members.

Making Your Plan

TIPS FOR 6th AND 7th GRADE

It's never too early to start planning for your future. Did you know that what you do in the 6th and 7th grade can help give you more high school choices?



TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EVERYTHING MIDDLE SCHOOL HAS TO OFFER!

Participate in class, play sports, join clubs, find out about honors courses and other opportunities, and challenge yourself. This will help you do your best at school and learn more about yourself and the things you are interested in and are good at.

FIND OUT ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL.

There are programs across the city where you can explore your interests and talents — and make yourself a more competitive student at the same time. For example: The Enoch Pratt Free Library has clubs, activities, and homework help for students. TWIGS at the Baltimore School for the Arts offers free classes in dance, music, stage production and design, visual arts, and storytelling (and is a great way to learn about auditioning to attend that high school). Ask your school counselor for more information.

WORK HARD AND COME TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY.

Learning builds from grade to grade, so getting ready for success in high school means working hard now. Plus: For several high schools, you need to have good grades and a strong history of attendance. Keep your options open by keeping your grades up and not missing any days of school! (Read more about academic entrance criteria on page 19.)

START LEARNING ABOUT HIGH SCHOOLS.

Visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/schools to find out a little about every school. Learn which ones have special programs that might interest you, or special requirements or applications to get in. Use the map to see which ones are close to your home or easy to get to on MTA. Talk to neighbors, friends, or family members about their high school experiences. For more advice, talk to your school choice liaison or call the district at 410.396.8600.

Getting Ready to Choose

TIPS FOR 8th GRADE



THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR IN A HIGH SCHOOL.

What interests you most about school: Specific subjects? Career or technical training? Sports or other activities? Something else? What type of school will help you be most successful: A school with a specific focus or with lots of options? Big or small? All boys/girls or co-ed?

LEARN ABOUT YOUR OPTIONS.

Talk with your school choice liaison, visit websites (start at www.baltimorecityschools.org/schools), go to open houses, and talk to friends, neighbors, and family members.

NARROW DOWN YOUR CHOICES.

Which schools offer what you're looking for? If any of the schools have academic entrance criteria, is your composite score high enough to be eligible? (See page 19 for more about academic entrance criteria and the composite score.) Where are the schools? How would you get to schools that aren't walking distance from your home — and are you sure you can get there every day, on time, for the next four years?

MAKE SURE YOU KNOW HOW TO APPLY.

For most schools, you'll fill out the district's high school choice application (available through Parent Portal or your school's choice liaison). There are a few schools that have different processes and deadlines. Keep your options open by making sure you understand the different application processes and don't miss any deadlines. See page 18 and talk to your school choice liaison for more information.

KEEP WORKING HARD AND COMING TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY.

Doing well in 8th grade will get you off to a great start in 9th grade. Also, grades from the first quarter of 8th grade will count toward your composite score.



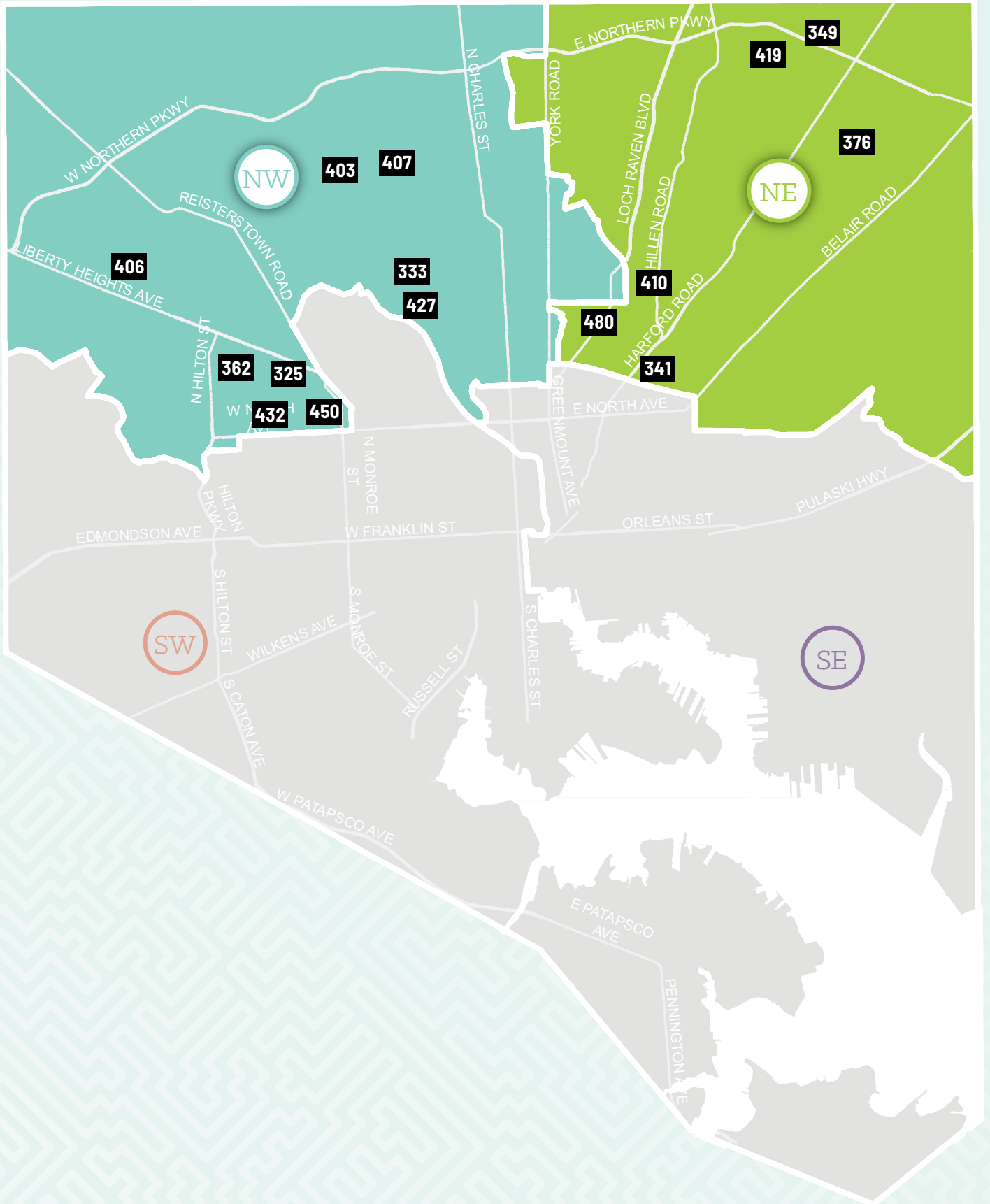
APPLY.

Include your top five school choices on the district's high school choice application. Apply separately to any schools that use their own application process. See pages 18-19 and talk to your school choice liaison for more information.

Schools at a Glance

	School Name	School Details	Programming ¹
		ADMISSION TYPE = AT ENROLLMENT = E	ACADEMIC = A OTHER = O
Middle/High Schools			
NW #427	Academy for College and Career Exploration	AT Choice lottery E 401 to 800 students	O ESOL site; ILS (literacy)
NW #325	ConneXions: A Community Based Arts School	AT Choice lottery E 401 to 800 students	A Arts
NE #349	NACA Freedom and Democracy Academy II²	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	O ILS (social-emotional learning)
High Schools			
NE #480	Baltimore City College	AT Academic entrance criteria (minimum composite score: 610) E Fewer than 400 students	A International Baccalaureate O ESOL site
NW #403	Baltimore Polytechnic Institute	AT Academic entrance criteria (minimum composite score: 610) E More than 800	A CTE O ESOL site; JROTC
NW #362	Bard High School Early College Baltimore³	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 School⁴	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 O ESOL site; ILS (literacy); JROTC
NW #450	Frederick Douglass High School	AT Choice lottery E More than 800	A CTE; 3DE (see page 13) O JROTC; ILS (wholeness)
NW #333	Independence School Local I	AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	
NE #410	Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School	AT Academic entrance criteria (minimum composite score: 475) E More than 800	A CTE O ESOL site; JROTC; ILS (wholeness)
NE #341	The Reach! Partnership School⁵	AT Choice lottery E 401 to 800 students	A CTE O JROTC; ILS (wholeness)
NE #419	Reginald F. Lewis High School	AT Choice lottery E 401 to 800 students	A CTE O ESOL site; ILS (literacy)
NW #407	Western High School	AT Academic entrance criteria (minimum composite score: 610) E More than 800; All girls	A CTE O ESOL site

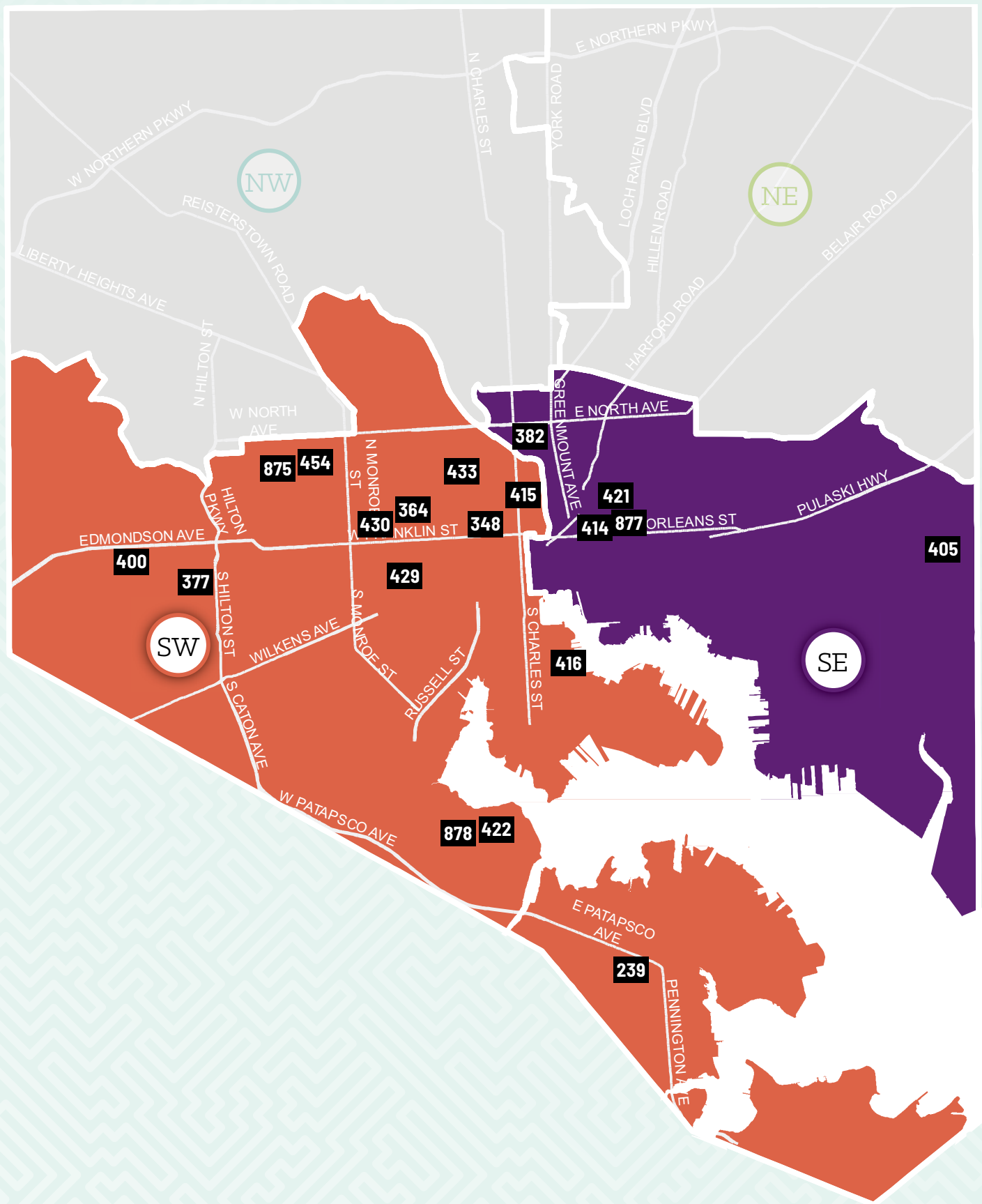
- 1 Programming: Academic Programs or Focus: (CTE = Career and Technology Education; note that all schools offer at least one Advanced Placement course)
Other Programs: (ESOL = English for Speakers of Other Languages; ILS = intensive learning site; JROTC = Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps)
ESOL and ILS site locations reflect the 2019-20 school year. Additional ILS sites are anticipated for 2020-21.
- 2 As part of the district's annual review of schools, the Board of School Commissioners is now considering a recommendation to close this school program as of June 2020. The Board will vote on this recommendation on January 14, 2020. Visit www.baltimorecityschools.org or read the renewal report (bit.ly/NACARenewal) for more information.
- 3 As part of the district's annual review of schools, the Board of School Commissioners is now considering recommendations to renew the school charters for some schools. The recommendation for Bard is still pending, as of the printing of this publication. Learn more by reading the school's renewal report (bit.ly/BARDRenewal).
- 4 As part of the district's annual review of schools, the Board of School Commissioners is now considering a recommendation to renew the charter for this school program for 5 years. Learn more by reading the school's renewal report (<http://bit.ly/CNHSRenewal>)
- 5 As part of the district's annual review of schools, the Board of School Commissioners is now considering a recommendation to renew the charter for this school program for 3 years. Learn more by reading the school's renewal report (bit.ly/ReachRenewal).



Schools at a Glance

School Name	School Details ADMISSION TYPE = AT ENROLLMENT = E	Programming ¹ ACADEMIC = A OTHER = O
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 O ESOL site; ILS (social-emotional learning)
High Schools		
SW #430	Augusta Fells Savage Institute AT Choice lottery E 401 to 800 students	A CTE O 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 O ESOL site
SW #454	Carver Vocational-Technical High School AT Academic entrance criteria (minimum composite score: 475) 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 O ESOL site; ILS (literacy)
SW #400	Edmondson-Westside High School AT Academic entrance criteria (minimum composite score: 475) E More than 800	A CTE O ILS (wholeness)
SW #422	New Era Academy AT Choice lottery E Fewer than 400 students	A CTE O ESOL site; ILS (literacy); JROTC
SE #405	Patterson High School AT Choice lottery E More than 800	A CTE O ESOL site; JROTC; ILS (wholeness)
SE #414	Paul Laurence Dunbar High School AT Academic entrance criteria (minimum composite score: 610) 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 O 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 O ILS (wholeness)
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 2019-20 school year. Additional ILS sites are anticipated for 2020-21.



More about Schools and Programs

All high schools offer the courses you need to graduate, but each one is unique. Your school choices should meet your needs and interests, so you'll be excited about learning and stay on track.

ACADEMICS AND COLLEGE PREP

You can earn college credit alongside your high school diploma with some special programs.

Advanced Placement

Every high school has at least one AP course, and some offer a lot more than one. These are college-level courses, and a score of 3, 4, or 5 on the final exam may be recognized by many colleges for credit.

International Baccalaureate

Baltimore City College gives students the opportunity to participate in the International Baccalaureate (IB) certificate program or pursue an IB diploma. The IB curriculum encourages students to ask challenging questions, develop a strong sense of their own identity and culture, and develop the ability to communicate with and understand people from other countries and cultures. Successful completion of IB courses may be recognized by some colleges for credit.

Dual enrollment and associate's degrees

You can earn tuition-free college credit and even a two-year associate's degree at the same time as your high school diploma with the options below.

- **P-TECH (Carver, New Era, and Dunbar):** This six-year program lets students graduate with a high school diploma and a tuition-free associate's degree in information technology (at Carver), transportation logistics (at New Era), or health sciences (at Dunbar). Each P-TECH site has an industry partner and students get career mentoring. P-TECH students are first in line for internships and jobs after graduation.
- **Bard High School Early College:** Graduate in four years with a high school diploma and a two-year associate's degree.
- **All other high schools:** You can take college courses before you finish high school. Ask your counselor for more information.



INGENUITY PROJECT

The Ingenuity Project, offered only at Baltimore Polytechnic Institute (Poly), emphasizes inquiry, investigation, strong work habits, and a deep mastery of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) concepts. Teachers prepare students to become the next generation of leaders in STEM.

Ingenuity is offered by a City Schools' partner. To apply, you'll need to be accepted to Poly through the high school choice process and fill out a separate application online.

Visit www.ingenuityproject.org for more information.

3DE BY JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

This new program, only at Frederick Douglass High School, encourages students to use the skills they're gaining in the classroom to develop solutions for real-world challenges that businesses face. All 9th-grade students enrolled in Frederick Douglass High School for the 2020-21 school year will participate in this program.

JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS

JROTC provides students with a variety of intellectual, physical, and social experiences that encourage them to become leaders, critical thinkers, and productive members of society. JROTC is dedicated to creating leaders who will serve their nation as productive citizens; it is not military training or a recruiting organization. Check out the Schools at a Glance list (see pages 8-11) to see which schools offer JROTC.



CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION (CTE)

Get a jump start on a future profession! You can graduate with the skills and certifications you need to jump into a work-study program in your field, start a paid apprenticeship, or stand out in college or job applications. With CTE, you'll get hands-on experience in state-of-the-art labs, use professional equipment, learn from industry professionals, and have access to internships.

Listed below are all the schools that have CTE programs. Visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/schools to find out which ones offer the specific pathway you're interested in.



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
Forest Park High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School
National Academy Foundation
Patterson High School
Reginald F. Lewis High School



CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Explore » Carpentry, electrical work, masonry, plumbing, heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC), and Computer-Aided Drafting and Design (CADD)

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



ENVIRONMENTAL, AGRICULTURE, AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Explore » Agriculture, food safety, sustainability and bio-technology

Schools » Benjamin Franklin High School at Masonville Cove
Green Street Academy
Reginald F. Lewis High School



HEALTH AND BIO SCIENCES

Explore » Dentistry, nursing, surgery technician, sports medicine, pharmaceuticals, and lab work

Schools » Edmondson-Westside High School
Green Street Academy
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

*Students are placed in this school by referral. Call 410.396.8600 for information.





HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

Explore » Homeland security, law, EMT/firefighting, 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
 National Academy Foundation
 Patterson High School
 Paul Laurence Dunbar High School
 Reginald F. Lewis High School
 Renaissance Academy
 Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy
 Western High School



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Explore » Networking, IT support, web development, cybersecurity, computer science, and Cisco

Schools » Augusta Fells Savage Institute of Visual Arts
 Bluford Drew Jemison STEM Academy West
 Carver Vocational-Technical High School
 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
 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



PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

is a special CTE program available in bioscience, information technology, and engineering. With a hands-on, project-based approach, students solve real-world problems and get experience in the range of skills needed in these fields. Visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/schools to find out which schools offer Project Lead the Way.



Additional Support

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

All students have equal access and opportunity to participate in all educational programs, including high school choice. IEP teams will work with school-based staff to make sure students with disabilities receive all necessary support, both while they are choosing a high school and after they begin 9th grade. If a student requires specialized supports beyond the general education setting, based upon a documented need within their IEP, please call our Special Education department at 410.396.8900 for assistance.

STUDENTS WHO ARE LEARNING ENGLISH

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programs help English learners develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, while also supporting their academic skills. ESOL teachers provide English language instruction and also work with teachers in all subject areas to make sure English learners have the support they need to 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 8–11) have an ESOL teacher for the 2019–20 school year. ESOL sites are adjusted every year based on changes in school population.

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

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS ABOUT THE SCHOOLS YOU CHOOSE

Each year, we review how the district as a whole and individual schools are doing in providing all students and families with high-quality school options. This annual school review process helps us create better options for students and families by strengthening low-performing schools, expanding the reach of high-performing schools, tapping into the resources of outside organizations to operate or partner with schools, ensuring as many students as possible have access to modern buildings, and closing schools with poor prospects of improvement for growth. The district’s review process takes into account academic performance, enrollment trends, facilities needs, the range of school options available in different areas of the city, and opportunities to create new schools or programs. Depending on the findings of the review, the district recommends that the Board of School Commissioners consider changes at certain schools and programs. Visit the district website at www.baltimorecityschools.org to find out more. This year’s recommendations include the following:

- Bard High School Early College Baltimore (pending as of this publication; bit.ly/BARDRenewal)
- City Neighbors High School (renew charter for 5 years; bit.ly/CNHSRenewal)
- NACA Freedom and Democracy Academy II (closure as of June 2020; bit.ly/NACARenewal)
- The REACH! Partnership School (renew charter for 3 years; bit.ly/ReachRenewal)

The Board of School Commissioners will vote on these recommendations on January 14, 2020. To find out more about this year’s recommendations, visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/school-portfolio-review.

Baltimore City Public Schools’ Notice of Nondiscrimination

Baltimore City Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ancestry or national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, disability, veteran status, genetic information, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups.

For inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies, please contact:

Equal Opportunity Manager, Title IX Coordinator, 200 E. North Avenue, Room 208, Baltimore, MD 21202, Phone 410.396.8542, Fax 410.396.2955 **QR**
Coordinator – Section 504, Special Education and Student Supports, 200 E. North Avenue, Room 210, Baltimore, MD 21202, Phone 443.462.4247.

If you believe you have been treated differently because of your race or color, national origin or ethnicity, religion of creed, sex or gender, age, physical or mental disability, genetic information, marital status, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression, you have the right to file a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity department. You must file a complaint within 90 days of the most recent act(s) of discrimination or harassment.



Applying for high school

There are three main ways to apply:



High School Choice Application

For schools that have **academic entrance criteria** or use the **school choice lottery** (some schools use the choice application with additional requirements)



School-Based Application

For schools, including charters, that have their own application processes, including **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 (see page 19 for more information)

The Schools at a Glance section on pages 8–11 lists the admission type for each school.

HIGH SCHOOL CHOICE LOTTERY

These schools do not have specific entrance criteria or admissions processes. If these schools don't have space for all the students who apply, a lottery will be used to select the students. You apply for these schools by filling out the choice application.

HIGH SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICATION WITH ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Bard High School Early College:** First complete a school-based process with Bard **and** list it on the choice application. (*Note: Bard's school-based deadline is before the choice application deadline. Visit bhsec.bard.edu/Baltimore for more information.*)
- **National Academy Foundation (NAF):** List this school on the choice application **and** contact the school to schedule an interview.
- **P-TECH (at Carver, New Era, or Dunbar):** Specify the site you want to apply to (i.e., PTECH at New Era) on the choice application **and** contact that school to schedule a consultation visit with the site's P-TECH coordinator.

ACADEMIC ENTRANCE CRITERIA

Important note: City Schools is currently reviewing our entrance criteria and composite score calculations. This will not affect current 8th-grade students applying for high school this year. Changes may affect future high school admissions. We'll keep current 6th- and 7th-grade families updated.

Students can apply to the following schools if they have the **composite score** indicated below. Simply meeting the requirement does not guarantee acceptance, it only gives you the option of applying.

The composite score is based on results from 7th grade and the first quarter of 8th grade, so taking honors classes in middle school can increase your score.

Baltimore City College*, Paul Laurence Dunbar, and Western

Minimum score of
610

calculated as standardized test reading percentile + standardized test math percentile + (math grade x2) + (English grade x2) + (overall grade x2)

Baltimore Polytechnic Institute*

Minimum score of
610

calculated as standardized test reading percentile + standardized test math percentile + (math grade x3) + English grade + (overall grade x2)

Carver, Edmondson-Westside, and Mergenthaler

Minimum score of
475

calculated as standardized test reading percentile + standardized test math percentile + math grade + science grade + English grade + overall grade + attendance percentage

Students who apply for entrance criteria schools are ranked by composite score and admitted in order until all seats are filled. Remaining students are put on a waiting list and may be admitted if space opens up.

To learn your composite score, speak with your school choice liaison. Parents and guardians can also check students' composite scores through Parent Portal.

*If you're interested in going to Baltimore City College and Baltimore Polytechnic Institute, you'll probably need to score higher than 610 to be admitted because these schools don't have enough space to serve everyone who is eligible to apply. **Last year, the student with the lowest composite score who was admitted to Poly had a 708; for City, it was 687.**

SCHOOLS WITH DIRECT APPLICATION PROCESSES (Including Charters)

In addition to the five schools you list on the choice application, you can apply directly to the schools below. Check the websites of these schools for information about how to apply. Deadlines to apply to these schools are different from the district's choice application deadline.

These charter schools conduct their own lotteries to admit students:

- Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women (all girls)
- City Neighbors High School
- Coppin Academy
- Green Street Academy

The deadline to apply to charter schools is February 5, 2020.

These schools have their own application process:

- Baltimore Design School: Interested students must submit a portfolio of their work
- Baltimore School for the Arts: Interested students must have applied by November 20 for an audition

PLACEMENT

The following serve students with special circumstances or needs that can't be met in a traditional high school. For more information about whether these schools might be right for you, contact the district office at 410.396.8600.

For students who have fallen behind on credits and need support to get back on track

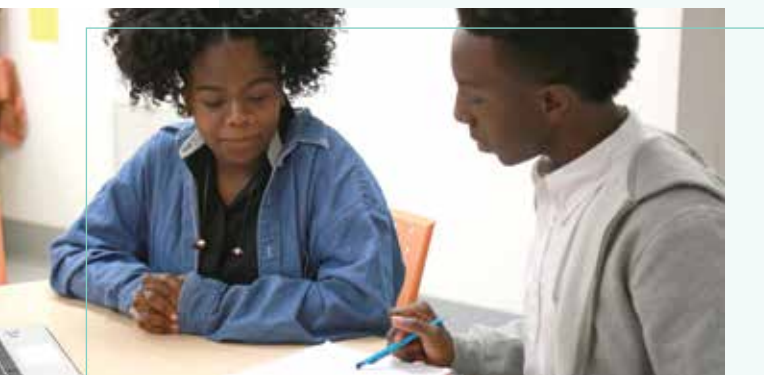
- Achievement Academy (413)
- Career Academy (854)
- Excel Academy (178)
- Success Academy (855)
- Youth Opportunity (858)

For students with disabilities whose needs can't be met in a general education setting

- Claremont School (307)
- George W.F. McMechen High School (177)
- Joseph C. Briscoe Academy (345)
- William S. Baer School (301)

Other special circumstances

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





KEY DATES

2019

October through December: School open house events

December 2: Choice applications become available

2020

January 17: Choice application deadline

February 5: Charter school application deadline

Early March: Choice placement results provided to families

July 20 – August 14: Summer transfer window



BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

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