

# High School Admissions

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Prepare: **Grades 6 and 7** • Apply: **Grades 8 and 9**

The high school admissions process is centered on two principles: equity and choice. The student-driven process allows you to rank up to 12 school programs in your order of preference. Eighth grade and first-time ninth grade students who are New York City residents can apply for admission to high school in the fall for September of the following school year.

## Ways to Prepare and Resources

The Department of Education offers citywide and borough-wide high school fairs each fall, in addition to a fair in the spring. The fairs will enable you and your family to learn more about your high school options and meet school staff members and current students. In addition to the fairs, there are information sessions about the high school admissions process throughout the City each year.

For event dates and times, visit the Calendar and Events page: [www.nyc.gov/schools/choicesenrollment/high/calendar](http://www.nyc.gov/schools/choicesenrollment/high/calendar).

If you are unable to attend Department of Education events, consider checking out our “Making Choices” video series from previous workshops: [www.nyc.gov/schools/choicesenrollment/high/videos](http://www.nyc.gov/schools/choicesenrollment/high/videos).

*The Directory of the New York City Public High Schools* is available at high school fairs, enrollment offices, and online at [www.nyc.gov/schools/choicesenrollment/high/directory](http://www.nyc.gov/schools/choicesenrollment/high/directory). The Directory provides detailed descriptions of New York City public high schools and includes information about courses, extracurricular activities, special education services, and eligibility.

## High School Options

You have the opportunity to choose from over 400 public high schools offering nearly 700 programs. Based on your preferences, interests, and academic needs, you can apply to the types of high schools and programs that suit you best.

The eight types of high schools are listed below:

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Schools	Charter Schools	International Schools	iZone Schools
Small Learning Community (SLC) Schools	Small Schools	Specialized High Schools	Transfer Schools

For more information about types of high schools, visit: [www.nyc.gov/schools/choicesenrollment/high/choices](http://www.nyc.gov/schools/choicesenrollment/high/choices)

## Making Informed Decisions

When filling out the high school application, you should consider each program’s Admissions Method and Admissions Priorities. **Admissions Methods** are the processes schools use to consider applicants for each program. There are eight different admissions methods. Examples of methods include Limited Unscreened (in which students receive priority based on their attendance at an information session) and Screened (in which students are ranked by a school based on their seventh grade grades, test scores, attendance, etc.). Each of the eight methods is described in detail in the High School Directory, as well as online at [www.nyc.gov/schools/choicesenrollment/admissions/methods](http://www.nyc.gov/schools/choicesenrollment/admissions/methods).

**Admissions Priorities** list the order in which applicants are considered for any given program. Examples of priorities include a student’s residence and information session attendance. To see each school’s Admissions Priorities, consult the High School Directory.

If you’d like to discuss the admissions process and your high school application further, speak to your guidance counselor.