



BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Middle & High School
Programming for the 2026–27 SY



CHOICE GUIDE



A guide to finding, choosing,
and applying to your future
middle & high school

YOUR **CHOICE**
IS YOUR **VOICE**



www.baltimorecityschools.org/choice



ANNUAL SCHOOL CHOICE FAIR

SATURDAY
DECEMBER **13** 10:00AM
2025 —TO— 2:00PM

The event, scheduled at the **Baltimore Convention Center**, provides students and families with information about our various school options.

City Schools invites all families to attend this exciting event, especially our fifth and eighth grade students and families.

Students and families should visit City Schools' website, **www.baltimorecityschools.org/choice**, for additional information about the School Choice process and upcoming events.

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

Congratulations! The **Baltimore City Public Schools Middle and High School Choice** process marks a major milestone in a student's academic journey as students and families make their voice heard through our district's School Choice process. We hope that resources like this guide, the online school search tool located on the City Schools website, and attending the Annual School Choice Fair will help you in this process.

Additionally, each school has a Choice Liaison who is eager to help families with any questions or concerns throughout this journey.

Remember—

**SUPPORTING OUR FAMILIES
THROUGH THIS PROCESS IS
OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY!**

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 - › Middle schools at a glance, with maps and school descriptions
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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Advanced Academics: a designation for any school offering Honors classes in all middle grade levels across all core subjects (i.e., math, English, science and social studies).

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

Choice Lottery: The 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 a student's grades in core subjects (ELA, math, science and social studies) last school year and the first quarter of the current school year, as well as last year's standardized assessment percentiles to determine eligibility when applying to schools with entrance criteria.

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: Some neighborhood elementary schools are "feeder" schools for nearby schools with middle grades. This means that fifth-grade students at the neighborhood elementary school are automatically enrolled in that nearby school for sixth grade.

Open House: A specific date and time designated for prospective students to visit 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 accompany current students to classes and activities to explore a typical school day.

School Choice

AN OVERVIEW

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

Students in the fifth and eighth grades complete the district's choice application online using the SEMS Parent Portal. The application includes all the schools that students can select, including those with entrance criteria if the student meets the requirements. From the schools listed, students will choose their top five school choices.

Near the end of February 2026, students will receive notification from City Schools informing them of the school they will attend for the 2026–2027 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!



If your current school has the sixth or ninth grade and you want to stay at that school, you do not have to complete a choice application. However, we do encourage families to consider all available school options. If you do decide to submit an application, please be sure to list your choices in ranked order (including your current school if you would like such to be considered).

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.

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 www.baltimorecityschools.org/choice to find the contact information for your school's Choice Liaison.

School Visits and Open Houses

Taking time to visit your schools of interest is the best way for prospective students to identify the school that best fits them. Many schools host open houses and shadow days for prospective students to visit, engage with current students and staff, and gather information. Visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/open-houses for an updated list of open house sessions at our various School Choice sites.

Central Office

City Schools is also a resource for families throughout the School Choice process. Staff from the Office of Enrollment, Choice, and Transfers (ECT) and the Multilingual Enrollment and Support Center (MESC) can help families learn about schools, the School Choice process, and district programs and services. Additionally, these offices act as choice liaisons for students not currently enrolled in City Schools. Email MESC@bcps.k12.md.us or call 443-642-4481 to make an appointment with a staff member in the MESC Office. Email Enrollment@bcps.k12.md.us or call 410-396-8600 to make an appointment with a staff member in the ECT Office.

Tips for Earlier Grade Levels

It is never too early to start planning for your future. Here are some ways third-, fourth-, sixth-, and seventh-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.



REMEMBER:
Academic performance
in fourth and seventh
grade is important
in the composite
score calculation.

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.

Inquire about opportunities outside of school.

There are programs 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 2–8.

Work hard and attend school every day.

Learning builds from grade to grade, so middle school success starts with hard work in elementary school, and excellence in high school requires dedication in middle school.

Tips for 5th & 8th Graders

CHOOSING YOUR TOP 5 SCHOOLS

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

When families submit their application online via the SEMS Parent Portal, families will receive real-time guidance on the application choices being selected. SEMS will be able to provide families with information on their composite score, if they are eligible for a program, or if other requirements are needed for consideration.



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

- What would excite you about attending that school every day?
- What school has programs or classes that fit your interests, talents, and challenges?
- What does that school offer that will prepare you for life after graduation?

Consider other factors that will impact your daily school experience.

- **Location:** How long will it take to get to school? Is it a commute that the student can make twice a day for multiple years and in extreme temperatures and after dark in the winter months?
- **Grade Span:** Does the student want to go to a school with only middle school or high school grades, or is a middle/high school with younger and older students a better fit?
- **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?
- **Building:** Is a new or recently renovated building important to your family? Does the school offer spaces that support your child's interests in science, technology, sports, or the arts? (Visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/buildings for details on how the district is working to improve all school buildings.)

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.

Make a list of the schools that interest you and for which you are eligible.

Learn as much as you can about each school by researching online, talking with your School Choice Liaison, attending the Annual School Choice Fair, and speaking to current students and staff members.

HOW TO APPLY

Using the SEMS Parent Portal, families can access, complete, and submit a school choice application between December 1, 2025, and January 23, 2026.

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

1



School Choice Application

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

2



School-Based Application

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

Check out the Schools at a Glance lists on pages 13–15 for Middle Schools and 25–27 for High Schools to learn the admission type for each school.

Completing the School Choice Application

Student Enrollment Management System (SEMS) Parent Portal

Parents and guardians can access the online Choice application, composite scores, and more. Please visit **www.baltimorecityschools.org/SEMS** to set up your Parent Portal account.



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 use school-issued Chromebooks and laptops to complete the school choice application. Contact your school's Choice Liaison to learn more about their school's computers and internet services.

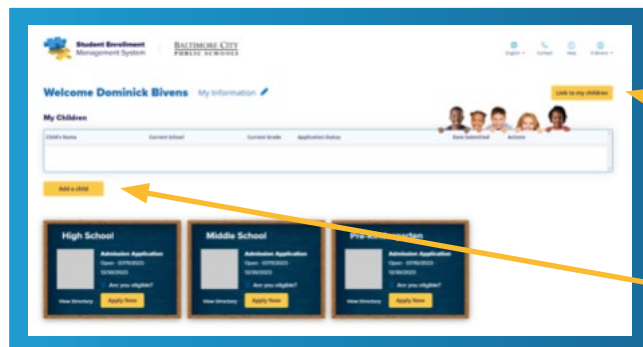
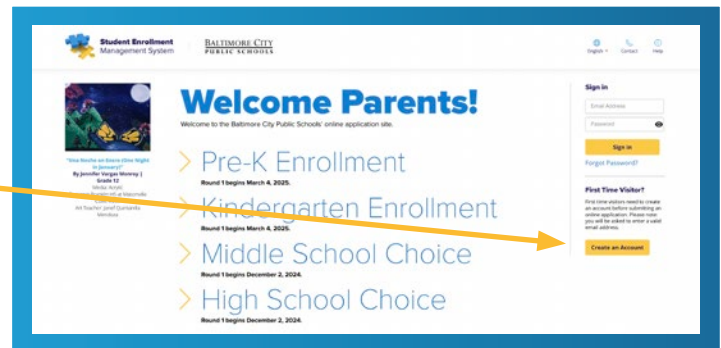
Paper applications are available

Families who wish to complete a paper application should reach out to the School Choice Liaison at their student's school or contact the Office of Enrollment, Choice, and Transfers at 410-396-8600 or visit Room 106 at City Schools Headquarters, located at 200 E. North Avenue. Multilingual families can contact the Multilingual Enrollment Support Center at 443-642-4481 or visit Room 320 at City Schools Headquarters.

Parents and guardians can complete the School Choice application online through the SEMS Parent Portal by following these steps:

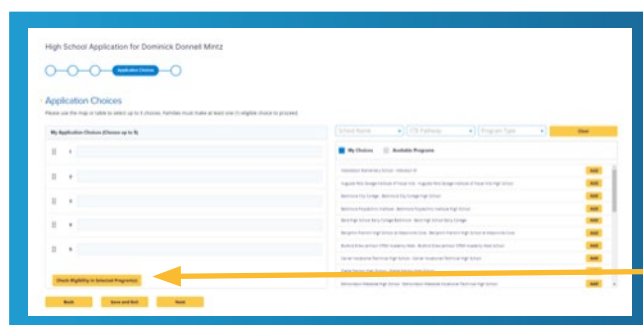
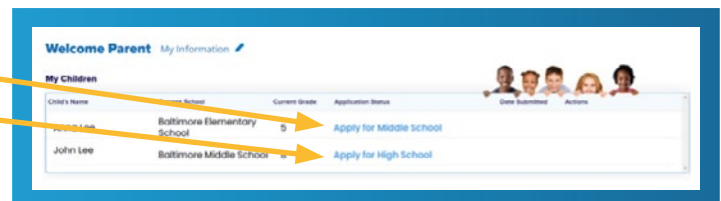
- 1 Create an account at www.baltimorecityschools.org/SEMS

When first visiting the SEMS Parent Portal site, parents will need to **“Create an Account”** by clicking the button on the homepage.



- 2 Add your students: Families of current City Schools students will need to link to their children by clicking on the **“Link to my children”** button. Note, if you have more than 1 child enrolled in a City School, you will only need to complete the process once to link to all children. Families of students not currently enrolled in a City School can add a child to their dashboard by clicking on the **“Add a child”** button. Note: you will need to upload documentation for proof of address, identity, etc.

- 3 Next to your students who are eligible to apply, you will see a link that says, **“Apply for Middle School”** or **“Apply for High School.”** Follow prompts to review and confirm demographic information, address, and academic information.



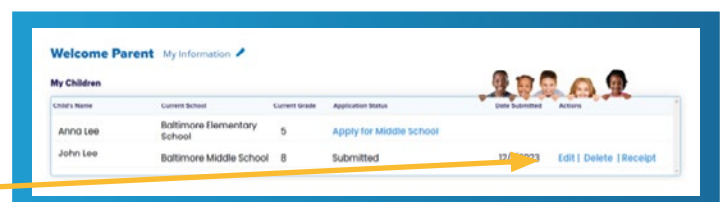
- 4 Select schools in order of preference and review your composite score if you are applying to schools where it is considered for admissions.

Families can drag-and-drop their school selections from the list of schools to the left column in order of preference.

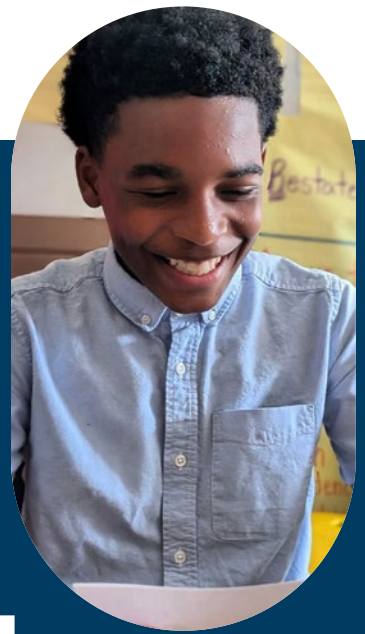
Click the **“Check Eligibility”** button to see the student’s composite score for entrance criteria programming.

- 5 Review your information and submit.

Once the application has been submitted, families will be taken back to the homepage where they can **“Edit,” “Delete”** or **“Print Receipt”** for their child’s application.



Preparing for MIDDLE SCHOOL



Middle school can be an exhilarating time for students and their families. There is so much to learn in sixth, seventh, and eighth 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.



SPOTLIGHT: Southwest Baltimore Community School (SBCS)

*Now a Traditional City School &
Participating in School Choice*

Middle School Zones

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 sixth to eighth grades will automatically be enrolled at that school. To confirm your zoned school, please contact your school's Choice Liaison or use our School Locator at www.baltimorecityschools.org/schools.

Keep in mind: 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.

Located in the heart of Southwest Baltimore's historic Pigtown neighborhood, adjacent to Carroll Park, Southwest Baltimore Community School (SBCS) continues its proud legacy with a renewed commitment to access, equity, and excellence. Serving Pre-K through 8th grade, SBCS is a citywide traditional, community-based school now participating in the School Choice process, with availability for middle grades and other levels for the 2026–27 school year. SBCS offers a dynamic, student-centered environment that promotes critical thinking, collaboration, and real-world learning. Entering its 20th year, SBCS remains dedicated to developing *Thinkers Ready to Navigate the World* and preparing students for long-term success. Families are encouraged to explore SBCS as a middle school choice option.

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, students will be selected through a lottery process. Students must apply for these schools by filling out the school choice application.

Middle school placement preference in a school choice lottery 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 sibling already attending the school (documentation is required to show that the sibling lives in the same household)

Keep in mind: 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.

Specialized Programs

Some schools offer specialized programs to challenge students in class and help them explore interesting subjects, seek enrichment, and receive assistance.

Honors Courses

Honors classes are enrichment classes available in English language arts, math, science, and social studies. Honors courses are more challenging, as students are given above grade level curriculum, compacted curriculum, or participate in yearlong project-based learning. Therefore, grades in these classes are weighted an additional 10 points in the calculation of students' composite scores. For example, if your child earned a 78 in their 7th Grade Honors Science course, it is calculated as 88 in the composite score formula. Your child's school may already offer these honors courses so start your investigation there.

Algebra I

After successfully completing honors math in sixth and seventh grades, students can take Algebra I by eighth grade at a growing number of schools. Please refer to the Middle School Table on pages 13–15 to see which schools offer Algebra I to students in middle school.

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. Please refer to the Middle School Table on pages 13–15 to see which schools offer Project Lead the Way.

Virtual Learning

City Schools' Baltimore Revolutionary Academy for Virtual Education (BRAVE) is an online educational program designed for middle and high school students that offers full-day synchronized instruction for students with flexibility for time, space, access, and support. Eligible students have demonstrated academic success by passing each core subject area and attending at least 80% of days in the 2024–25 school year.

Supported by a diverse teaching staff, students with unique learning preferences are engaged through individualized, interactive, and project-based learning opportunities. Students gain experience in real-world and 21st century technology skills in preparation for college and career goals.

Career and Technical Education (CTE)

Career exploration in middle schools within Baltimore City Schools provides students with valuable opportunities to discover and develop their interests, ultimately helping them make informed decisions about their future educational and career paths. As students are still in the early stages of their academic journey, middle school career programs introduce them to various industries and professions in a hands-on, engaging manner, offering a glimpse into the world beyond the classroom.

Some of the flagship programs available at these schools include specialized courses that align with high-demand industries. For instance, Pimlico Elementary/Middle School and Green Street Academy offer a Health and Bioscience Medical Detectives program, where students explore careers in healthcare and the sciences through interactive learning. Booker T. Washington Middle School stands out with its Graphic Design and Entrepreneurship program, providing students with the skills to combine creativity and business acumen. At the Stadium School, the Culinary and Consumer Services program gives students practical experience in the food industry, while Vanguard Middle School offers a Pre-Engineering program, exposing students to the basics of engineering and technology. These programs not only teach foundational skills but also help students connect their interests to real-world careers.

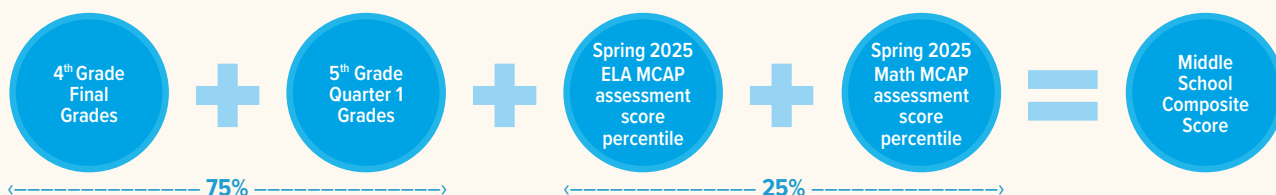
Furthermore, in partnership with the Mayor's Office of Employment Development, each middle school in Baltimore City has a Blueprint Career Coach assigned to assist students in exploring career pathways. The Career Coach serves as a guide, helping students identify their strengths and interests and connecting them with appropriate resources and programs. This support ensures that students are not only introduced to careers early on but are also equipped with the tools to pursue their passions and aspirations.

For families, it's important to connect with individual schools to learn more about the specific career exploration opportunities available to students. Each school offers unique programming and opportunities that align with different industries and interests, giving families the chance to choose the path that best fits their child's future goals. By fostering career exploration at the middle school level, City Schools is helping to create a foundation for students' future success, preparing them for both high school and beyond.



Selective Entrance Criteria

The composite score is a major consideration for schools with Advanced Academics. 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 calculated as follows:



Percentiles used for standardized test scores are calculated by comparing each student's assessment score with all other students in the district who took the same test, and percentiles are used as the assessment score for Choice. The standardized assessments that are used in this process are the MCAP (Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program) if the student participated in the Spring 2025 administration for Math and ELA.

City Schools' students who did not take the Spring 2025 Math MCAP assessment will have the most recent i-Ready Math assessment score used in the calculation of the composite score.

For City Schools fifth-grade students who do not take the i-Ready ELA assessment and did not take the Spring 2025 MCAP ELA, the student's ELA grade average will be used instead.

If your child is not currently enrolled in City Schools and did not take the MCAP, you can schedule an i-Ready assessment through the Office of Achievement and Accountability. For more information, call 443-642-4598.

Recently arrived multilingual learners (MLs) who are eligible to receive English Language Development (ELD) services will automatically have their composite scores recalculated using updated grades and assessment scores. For more information, please contact the Multilingual Enrollment and Support Center at MESEC@bcps.k12.md.us or 443-642-4481.

To learn a student's composite score, visit the SEMS Parent Portal or speak with their School Choice Liaison.



Advanced Academics

Students in fifth grade in the 2025–26 school year can apply to an Advanced Academics school if they have a composite score of 610 or higher. Students who are accepted into Advanced Academics will be placed in honors courses in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies. ***These courses have the same academic content as honors courses at other schools.***

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

Meeting the composite score requirement permits students to apply but does not guarantee their acceptance. Students interested, for example, in Advanced Academics at Roland Park or Mt. Royal will likely need to score higher than 610 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 753 at Roland Park and 739 at Mt. Royal (these scores are based on last year's 800-point cap for the middle school composite score).

Students who apply for Advanced Academics are ranked by composite scores. The highest-qualified students are admitted in order until all available seats 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.

These schools will not consider any other factors. Students whose siblings are current students at these schools or who live in these particular school zones will not receive preference.

The following schools also offer honors courses in English, Math, Social Studies, and Science, and can be applied to through the choice process.

- Hampden Elementary/Middle School
- Mount Washington Elementary/Middle School
- Vanguard Middle School

Please refer to the table on pages 13–15 for a complete listing of honors courses by school.

Spotlight: Baltimore Design School Now Participating in School Choice

Beginning December 1, 2025, families participating in the Middle and High School Choice process can now SELECT Baltimore Design School #382 (BDS) on their application!

Families should first REGISTER with BDS directly (www.balimoredesignschool.com/apply/) beginning in September to receive the interest survey for middle school. Families that do not complete the interest survey will not be considered for admission at BDS for middle school.

Schools and Programs with Direct Application Processes

Ingenuity Project

The Ingenuity Project is a City Schools partner offering a citywide specialized academic program that includes advanced math and science courses in place of the standard curriculum and ongoing enrichment and support. Students will participate in an advanced math sequence beginning with internationally recognized Singapore Math in 6th grade to honors high school Algebra I or beyond by 8th grade. The science courses are experiential, content rich, and thematic. Students are provided with opportunities to engage in long-term STEM inquiry and engineering projects and competitions. As members of these middle schools, Ingenuity students also participate in district honors courses: English Language Arts, Social Studies, and special areas resources.

Ingenuity calculates an Admissions Score differently from the district Composite Score with an emphasis on prior achievement on standardized tests and grades. Interested students must apply directly to Ingenuity by January 23, 2026.

Visit www.ingenuityproject.org to apply and/or to obtain more information.

Schools:

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

Preference is not given to students with siblings who currently participate in the program, attend these schools, or live in particular school zones.

School-based Lottery

The following charter schools are projected to have significant availability for middle grades in 2026–27, and these schools conduct their own lotteries to admit students for middle grades:

- Baltimore International Academy EAST, grades K–8*
- Baltimore International Academy WEST, grades K–8
- Baltimore Montessori Public Charter School, grades PK–8
- Belair–Edison Elementary/Middle School, grades K–8
- KIPP Harmony, grades K–8
- Midtown Academy, grades K–8
- Baltimore Collegiate School for Boys (all male student body), grades 4–8*
- Lillie May Carroll Jackson School (all female student body), grades 5–8*
- The Crossroads School, grades 6–8
- Green Street Academy, grades 6–12
- Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women (all female student body), grades 6–12*

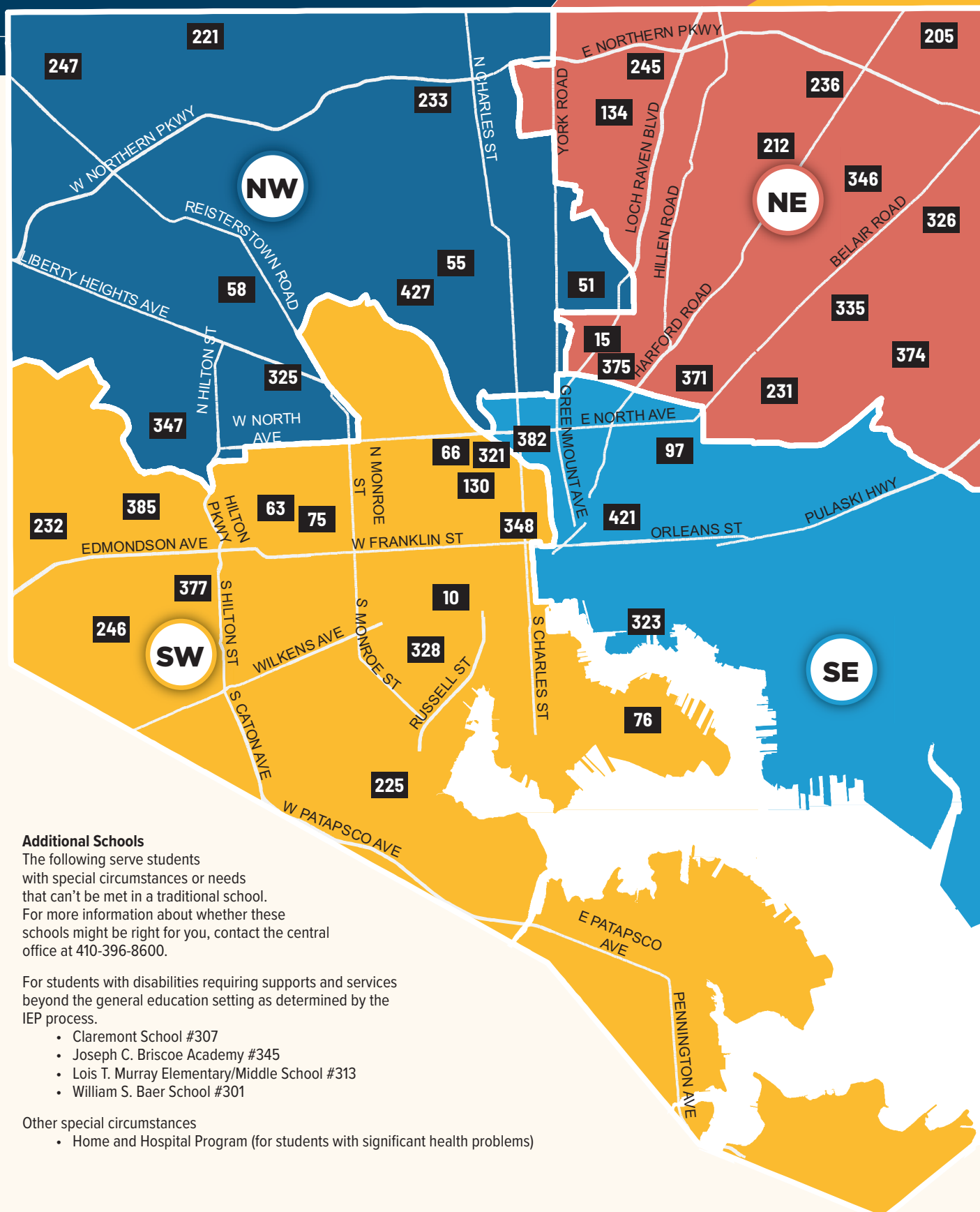
*NOTE: As part of the district's annual operator renewal process, this school is going through review to determine the terms of its contract renewal with the district. The Board of School Commissioners will decide on renewal terms which can range from eight years, five years, three years to non-renewal and school closure. The vote on these will occur in January 2026. To learn more about this process, or to see this school's renewal reports and stay updated on the results, please visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/renewal.

Other charter schools may accept students for middle grades, but seats at those grade levels are limited. Contact charters directly to inquire about seat availability.

The deadline to apply to charter schools is February 2, 2026; however, consult your School Choice Liaison or each school individually to obtain all information about the application process, including application forms.



Map of Baltimore City Middle Schools



Additional Schools

The following serve students with special circumstances or needs that can't be met in a traditional school. For more information about whether these schools might be right for you, contact the central office at 410-396-8600.

For students with disabilities requiring supports and services beyond the general education setting as determined by the IEP process.

- Claremont School #307
- Joseph C. Briscoe Academy #345
- Lois T. Murray Elementary/Middle School #313
- William S. Baer School #301

Other special circumstances

- Home and Hospital Program (for students with significant health problems)

Baltimore City Middle Schools at a Glance

Admission Type	Size*	High School Course Offerings	School Characteristics**	Program and Activity Highlights
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	Dr. Nathan Pitts-Ashburton Elementary/Middle		
Choice lottery	S		ELD	Interscholastic Athletics
NW	#55	Hampden Elementary/Middle School		
Choice lottery	M	Algebra I English I	ELD; Green School; EGATE	Art Club, Glee Club, Girls on the Run, Theatre, Project Lead the Way, Robotics, Chess Club, Junior National Honor Society
NW	#347	K.I.P.P. Harmony Academy		
Directly with school (school-based lottery)	L			Clubs for Sports and Arts, Music
NW	#221	The Mount Washington School		
Choice lottery	M	Algebra I	ELD; International Baccalaureate (IB); Green School	Clubs for Art, Debate, Fashion & Jewelry; Sports; Environmental Sustainability, Robotics, Podcast
NE	#375	Baltimore Collegiate School for Boys*** (grades 4–8)		
Directly with school (school-based lottery)	S		All male students	Clubs for Robotics, Sports, Art, Chess, Choir, Photography, Culinary, Gaming; Interscholastic Athletics
NE	#335	Baltimore International Academy EAST		
Directly with school (school-based lottery)	S	Spanish I	Foreign Language Immersion; ELD; International Baccalaureate (IB)	Clubs for Foreign Languages, Robotics, Clubs for Sports, Choir
NE	#326	City Neighbors Charter School		
Directly with school (school-based lottery)	S		Academic Approach	Clubs for Sports and Arts, Music
NE	#346	City Neighbors Hamilton		
Directly with school (school-based lottery)	S		Academic Approach	Clubs for Sports and Arts, Music
NE	#212	Garrett Heights Elementary/Middle School		
Choice lottery	S			STEM; Coding & Robotics; Clubs for Arts, Gardening, Interscholastic Athletics
NE	#245	Leith Walk Elementary/Middle		
Choice lottery	L		ELD	Robotics, Child First Club, Clubs for Sports Cheerleading, Band, Choir, Theater, Art Club
NE	#231	The Belair-Edison School		
Directly with school (school-based lottery)	L		ELD	Interscholastic Athletics, Art Club, Theatre
NE	#134	Walter P. Carter Elementary/Middle School		
Choice lottery	M		ELD	Clubs for Sports, Robotics, Arts, Dance, Choir Interscholastic Athletics; Cheerleading, Project Lead the Way
NE	#205	Woodhome Elementary/Middle School		
Choice lottery	M	Algebra I English I	ELD; Green School	Dance, Art Club, Choir, Interscholastic Athletics, School Safety
SW	#385	Baltimore International Academy WEST		
Directly with school (school-based lottery)	S		Foreign Language Immersion	Clubs for Foreign Languages, Robotics, Dance, Chess, Sports, Music

Baltimore City Middle Schools at a Glance

Admission Type	Size*	High School Course Offerings	School Characteristics**	Program and Activity Highlights
SW #246	Beechfield Elementary/Middle School			
Choice lottery	M		ELD	Clubs for Art, Biking, Gardening, STEM, Fashion, Music Production
SW #232	Dream Academy			
Directly with school (school-based lottery)	S			Robotics; Clubs for Sports and Arts, Music
SW #75	Katherine Johnson Global Academy			
Choice lottery	M		ELD	Clubs for Sports, Robotics, Arts, Music, Debate, Science; Interscholastic Athletics
SW #321	Midtown Academy			
Directly with school (school-based lottery)	S			Clubs for Arts, Sports, Music; Interscholastic Athletics
SW #63	Rosemont Elementary/Middle School			
Choice lottery	S			Clubs for Sports, Robotics, Art Club, Drum Line, Interscholastic Athletics, Chess Club
SW #328	Southwest Baltimore Community School			
Choice lottery	S		ELD	Clubs for Sports and Arts, and Science
SW #225	Westport Elementary/Middle School			
Choice lottery	S		ELD	Robotics; Coding; Dance; Design Lab; Chess Club; Sports; Arts
SE #97	Collington Square Elementary/Middle School			
Choice lottery	S		ELD	GLEAM Instruction - GL: Grade Level, E: Engaging, A: Affirming, M: Meaningful; Clubs for Sports, Art, Science

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			
Academic entrance criteria	S	Algebra I English I	ELD; Green School; EGATE	Clubs for Sports, Arts, Band, Chess, Project Lead the Way; Girls on the Run, Robotics; Environmental Sustainability; Interscholastic Athletics
NW #233	Roland Park Elementary/Middle School: Advanced Academics¹ / Ingenuity Project²			
¹ Academic entrance criteria ² Directly through Ingenuity	L	Algebra I English I Spanish I	ELD	Project Lead the Way; Clubs for Chess, Climate, Robotics Fashion, Sports, Open Doors Club, Science, Newspaper, Book Club, Yearbook, Music; Theatre; Band; Interscholastic Athletics
NW #51	Waverly Elementary/Middle School: Advanced Academics			
Academic entrance criteria	M	Algebra I	ELD	Clubs for Sports and Arts; Interscholastic Athletics
NE #236	Hamilton Elementary/Middle School: Ingenuity Project			
Directly through Ingenuity	L	Algebra I	ELD; EGATE	Band; Clubs for Arts, Robotics, Scouts, Sports, Drama; Interscholastic Athletics
SW #76	Francis Scott Key Elementary/Middle School: Advanced Academics			
Academic entrance criteria	M	Algebra I	ELD; EGATE	Clubs for Sports, Arts, Music (Violin & Piano), Debate, Robotics, Literary Magazine, Library; Interscholastic Athletics
SW #10	James McHenry Elementary/Middle School: Ingenuity Project			
Directly through Ingenuity	M	Algebra I	ELD	Clubs for Sports, Art, Robotics, Chess, Cooking, Scouts, Choir; Interscholastic Athletics
SW #66	Mount Royal Elementary/Middle School: Advanced Academics¹ / Ingenuity Project²			
¹ Academic entrance criteria ² Directly through Ingenuity	M	Algebra I	ELD; EGATE	Clubs for Science, Robotics, Media Production; Arts integration; Interscholastic Athletics

Baltimore City Middle Schools at a Glance

Admission Type	Size*	High School Course Offerings	School Characteristics**	Program and Activity Highlights
Middle Schools				
NE #371	Lillie May Carroll Jackson School (grades 5–8)			
Directly with school (school-based lottery)	S		All female students	Clubs for Arts, Sports, Music, Science, Debate; Interscholastic Athletics
NE #15	Stadium School			
Choice lottery	S		ELD	Clubs for Sports, Cheerleading, Dance, Band, Culinary; Interscholastic Athletics
NE #374	Vanguard Collegiate Middle School			
Choice lottery	S	Spanish I	ELD	Clubs for Sports, Dance, Fashion, Yearbook
SW #130	Booker T. Washington Middle School			
Choice lottery	S		ELD; Performance arts focus	Choir, Band, Theatre, Dance, Media Production; Clubs for Robotics, Interscholastic Athletics
SE #323	The Crossroads School			
Directly with school (school-based lottery)	S	Algebra I Spanish I	ELD; Green School	Clubs for Robotics, Sports, Theatre, Chess
Middle/High Schools				
NW #427	Academy for College and Career Exploration			
Choice lottery	M		ELD	Clubs for Arts, Sports, Robotics, Gaming, Modeling, Jazz Band, Dance & Step, Cheerleading, Student News, Environmental Sustainability; Interscholastic Athletics
NW #325	ConneXions: A Community Based Arts School			
Choice lottery	M	Algebra I	Arts focus; Green School	Band, Dance, Ballet, West African Dance & Drums, Media Arts, Theater, Choir, Visual Arts; Interscholastic Athletics
SW #348	Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women			
Directly with school (school-based lottery)	M	Algebra I	All female students; EGATE	STEM; Clubs for Robotics, Sports, Art, Dance & Step, Cooking, Book Club
SW #377	Green Street Academy			
Directly with school (school-based lottery)	L	Algebra I	Environmental focus	Clubs for Robotics, Art, Dance, Modeling, Gaming Chess
SE #382	Baltimore Design School			
Directly with school (school-based lottery & survey)	M	Algebra I English I	Design focus; ELD	Clubs for Sports, Architecture, Graphic, and Fashion Design; Clubs for Arts, Yearbook, Gaming, Media Production, Crochet & Sewing, Theatre
SE #421	National Academy Foundation****			
Choice lottery	M	Algebra I English I	ELD	Clubs for Sports, Arts, Dance, Chess, Yearbook, Gaming, Culinary, Interscholastic Athletics
Virtual School				
V #897	Baltimore Revolutionary Academy Virtual Education			
Academic Entrance-Criteria	M	Algebra I	ELD	Virtual and virtual/in-person Hybrid Clubs

* S = under 400 students; M = 401 to 800 students; L = more than 800 students

** ELD = English Language Development; EGATE = designated by MSDE for Excellence in Gifted and Talented Education

*** As a part of the district's annual operator renewal process, The Board is considering a proposal to non-renew the contract with Five Smooth Stones, the operator of Baltimore Collegiate School for Boys, and close the school at the end of school year 2025-26. If the recommendation is approved, current students/families would be supported in selecting another school for school year 2026–27. The Board will vote on this recommendation on January 14, 2026.

**** As a part of the district's annual review of schools, The Board is considering a proposal to change the grade bands served at National Academy Foundation (NAF) from serving grades 6-12 to serving grades 9-12, effective for next school year, school year 2026-27. If the Board approves the recommendation, current NAF middle school families would be supported in selecting another middle school for school year 2026–27. Vanguard Collegiate Middle School #374 and Commodore John Rodgers Elementary/Middle School #27 are schools that have been identified as receiving school options for middle school students, among other options. The Board will vote on this recommendation on January 14, 2026.

Preparing for HIGH SCHOOL



Get a
jump-start
on future
college and
career goals!

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 and career-specialized pathways 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 most offer several. These are college-level courses recognized by many colleges for credit based on AP exam scores. Regardless of exam scores, college admissions officers look more favorably upon applicants when students take the most rigorous courses offered at their high school. To see how many honors courses, including AP courses, are available at each high school, check out the High School Table on beginning on page 25.

Utilize the [AP Credit Policy Search](#) to identify colleges that accept AP exam scores of 3 or higher for college credit.

Dual enrollment and associate degrees students can earn tuition-free college credit—even a two-year associate degree at the same time as their high school diploma—in the following ways:

- **P-TECH is offered at Carver and Digital Harbor** 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** can provide students the opportunity to take college courses while in high school through “dual enrollment.”

Ingenuity Project at Baltimore Polytechnic Institute

The Ingenuity Project is a City Schools partner that offers an advanced, socially responsible STEM curriculum and leadership program. Accepted students participate in a 4-year cohort of math and science courses and experience deep preparation to succeed in Advanced Placement (AP) and other college-level classes in high school. Students participate in unique out-of-class college-level research with university and STEM mentors. Students are held to high academic standards and are supported to foster a passion for excellence, curiosity, and extracurricular pursuits. The program offers dynamic programming to develop inclusive leadership and collaboration.

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. To be considered for a 9th grade placement in Ingenuity, applicants must have previously taken or currently be enrolled in Algebra 1 in middle school, and must take Ingenuity’s Algebra 1 admissions exam.

Visit www.ingenuityproject.org for more information.



International Baccalaureate at Baltimore City College

Baltimore City College offers the four-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 the IB program receive an IB diploma, which many colleges recognize for college credit, in addition to their Maryland State high school diploma.

Career Prep

Get a jump-start on future professions!

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

Virtual Learning

City Schools’ **Baltimore Revolutionary Academy for Virtual Education (BRAVE)** is an online educational program designed for middle and high school students that offers full-day synchronized instruction for students with flexibility for time, space, access, and support. Eligible students have demonstrated academic success by passing each core subject area and attending at least 80% of days in the 2024–25 school year.

Supported by a diverse teaching staff, students with unique learning preferences are engaged through individualized, interactive, and project-based learning opportunities. Students gain experience in real-world and 21st century technology skills in preparation for college and career goals.

P-TECH

This four to six-year program allows students to graduate with a high school diploma and a tuition-free associate degree from Baltimore City Community College. 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.

- Information Technology at Carver Vocational Technical High School
- Transportation Logistics at Digital Harbor High School

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)

Through Career and Technical Education (CTE), students complete a three or four-course sequence in their profession of interest to graduate with their high school diploma and an industry recognized certification – increasing their earning potential when compared with students not in a CTE pathway and standing out from their peers in college and job applications.

CTE students get hands-on experience in state-of-the-art industry labs and simulated environments, learn and build connections with industry professionals, and gain access to work-based learning experiences in their CTE pathway of choice.

THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS OFFER CTE PROGRAMS:



ARTS, MEDIA, AND COMMUNICATION

CTE Program: Graphic Communications and Design

Offered at: Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School

CTE Program: Interactive Media Production

Offered at: Baltimore Design School
Carver Vocational-Technical High School
Digital Harbor High School
Patterson High School



BUSINESS, MANAGEMENT, AND FINANCE

CTE Program: Accounting and Finance

Offered at: Carver Vocational-Technical High School
Edmondson-Westside High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School
National Academy Foundation
Patterson High School

CTE Program: Business Management

Offered at: Carver Vocational-Technical High School
Edmondson-Westside High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School
Patterson High School
Reginald F. Lewis High School

CTE Program: Textile and Fashion Design, Merchandising
and Management

Offered at: Baltimore Design School



CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

CTE Program: Construction Design and Management

Offered at: Baltimore Design School
Green Street Academy

CTE Program: Construction Maintenance Professions – HVAC

Offered at: Carver Vocational-Technical High School
The REACH! Partnership School

CTE Program: Construction Trades Professions – Carpentry

Offered at: Carver Vocational-Technical High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School
The REACH! Partnership School

CTE Program: Construction Trades Professions – Electrical

Offered at: Carver Vocational-Technical High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School

CTE Program: Construction Trades Professions – Masonry

Offered at: Carver Vocational-Technical High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School

CTE Program: Local Construction Maintenance – Welding

Offered at: Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School

CTE Program: Local Construction Trades Academy –
Home Builders Institute (HBI)

Offered at: Frederick Douglass High School
Joseph C. Briscoe High School
Patterson High School

CTE Program: Local Construction Trades Academy –
Plumbing

Offered at: Carver Vocational-Technical High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School



CONSUMER SERVICES, HOSPITALITY, AND TOURISM

CTE Program: Barbering (Career Exploration)

Offered at: Frederick Douglass High School

CTE Program: Careers in Cosmetology

Offered at: Carver Vocational-Technical High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School
Patterson High School

CTE Program: Food and Beverage Management (Prostart)

Offered at: Carver Vocational-Technical High School
Forest Park High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School
National Academy Foundation

CTE Program: Hospitality and Tourism Management

Offered at: National Academy Foundation



ENVIRONMENTAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND NATURAL RESOURCES

CTE Program: Academy of Health Professions – Curriculum
for Agricultural Science Education (CASE)

Offered at: Green Street Academy



HEALTH AND BIOSCIENCES

CTE Program: Academy of Health Professions – Certified
Nursing Assistant

Offered at: Edmondson-Westside High School
Forest Park 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
Green Street Academy

CTE Program: Academy of Health Professions –
Dental Assistant

Offered at: Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School
Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy

CTE Program: Academy of Health Professions – Pharmacy Technician

Offered at: Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School
Patterson High School
The REACH! Partnership School
Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy

CTE Program: Academy of Health Professions – Surgical Technician

Offered at: Edmondson-Westside High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School

CTE Program: Allied Health Professions – Pharmacy Technician

Offered at: Patterson High School

CTE Program: Biomedical Science (Project Lead the Way)

Offered at: Paul Laurence Dunbar High School
Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy
Western High School

CTE Program: Physical Rehabilitation

Offered at: Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy



HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

CTE Program: Criminal Justice, Law and Society

Offered at: Frederick Douglass High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School

CTE Program: Early Childhood Education/Child Care

Offered at: Carver Vocational-Technical High School
Edmondson-Westside High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School

CTE Program: Homeland Security - Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

Offered at: Digital Harbor High School
Patterson High School
The REACH! Partnership School

CTE Program: Allied Health Professions – EMT

Offered at: Patterson High School
Paul Laurence Dunbar High School
Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy

CTE Program: Teacher Academy of Maryland

Offered at: Patterson High School
Western High School



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

CTE Program: Computer and Information Sciences

Offered at: Baltimore Polytechnic Institute
Digital Harbor High School
Forest Park High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School
Patterson High School
Western High School

CTE Program: IT Networking Academy (CISCO) – CCENT

Offered at: Carver Vocational-Technical High School

CTE Program: IT Networking Academy (CISCO) – CCENT Cyber Security

Offered at: Edmondson-Westside High School
Digital Harbor High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School
National Academy Foundation



MANUFACTURING, ENGINEERING, AND TECHNOLOGY

CTE Program: Advanced Manufacturing (Local)

Offered at: Carver Vocational-Technical High School

CTE Program: Pre-Engineering (Project Lead the Way)

Offered at: Baltimore Polytechnic Institute
Carver Vocational-Technical High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School
Patterson High School
Western High School



TRANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGIES

CTE Program: Local Automotive Collision Repair

Offered at: Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School

CTE Program: Local Automotive Transportation Technologies

Offered at: Edmondson-Westside High School
Forest Park High School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School

CTE Program: Maritime Technologies

Offered at: Digital Harbor High School



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.

CTE Program: Army Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (AJROTC)

Offered at: Benjamin Franklin High School at Masonville Cove
Carver Vocational-Technical High School
Edmondson-Westside High School
Forest Park High School
Frederick Douglass High School
Reginald F. Lewis High School
The REACH! Partnership School

CTE Program: Air Force Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (AFJROTC)

Offered at: Baltimore Polytechnic Institute
Patterson High School



PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

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 that offer this program are indicated in the High School Table beginning on page 25.

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

APPRENTICESHIP MARYLAND PROGRAM (AMP)

The Apprenticeship Maryland Program (AMP) is a new State program that gives businesses the unique opportunity to train, influence, and shape high school students into top-performing employees who are invested in the business. For the 2026–27 school year, this program will be offered at all high schools.

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. Some of these offerings are indicated in the High School Table on pages [25–27](#). Follow up directly with each school to receive the most comprehensive information.

Students with Disabilities

All students will have equal access and opportunity to participate in all educational programs, including the 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 ninth 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.

Multilingual Learners

English Language Development (ELD) programs help Multilingual Learners (MLs) develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills while also supporting their academic skills. ELD teachers provide English language development and work with teachers in all subject areas to make sure MLs can succeed in all their classes.

All MLs will have access to ELD services. Schools with an assigned ELD teacher are listed in the Choice guide as “ELD” (see pages [25–27](#)). However, MLs may participate fully in the choice process and ELD support will be provided at any school.

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 443-642-4481.

Facilities

City Schools is committed to creating and improving school environments that foster student learning and professional growth. City Schools is planning to renovate three citywide high schools in three buildings over the next several years. To make these historic investments in our high schools possible – as well as to keep everyone safe and ensure we are making progress – the plan is for students to move into swing space locations during this period of time. The high schools designated for renovation are:

SPECIAL NOTICE

SCHOOL	Swing Space Recommendation*	Swing Space Timeline*
Baltimore City College	The University of Baltimore 1420 N. Charles Street, 21201	Beginning in school year 25/26 thru school year 27/28
Western High School	Northwestern High School Building 6900 Park Heights Avenue, 21215	Beginning in school year 26/27 thru school year 27/28
Baltimore Polytechnic Institute	Northwestern High School Building 6900 Park Heights Avenue, 21215	Beginning in school year 28/29 thru school year 29/30

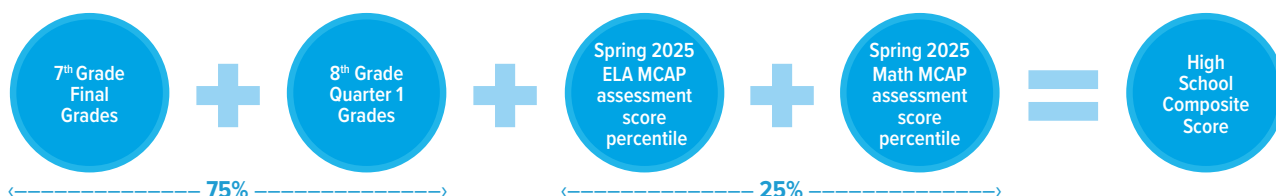
*Subject to Change

Please contact the schools or email facilities@bcps.k12.md.us for further information.



Academic Entrance Criteria

The composite score is a major consideration for schools with academic entrance criteria. Grades in the core subjects, Math, English Language Arts, Science and Social Studies are used in the calculation of the composite score. Taking honors classes in middle school will increase a student's score by adding 10 points to their final grade in each core subject. Composite scores are based on grades and test scores from the student's 7th-grade year and grades from the first quarter grades of 8th grade. It is calculated as follows:



Percentiles used for standardized test scores are calculated by comparing each student's assessment score with all other students in the district who took the same test and percentiles are used as the assessment score for Choice. The standardized assessments that are used in this process are the MCAP (Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program) if the student took part in the Spring 2025 administration for Math and ELA. The higher math assessment score between MCAP and iReady, will be used in the calculation of the composite for 7th grade students that took the Algebra 1 MCAP assessment.

If your child is not currently enrolled in City Schools and did not take the MCAP, you can schedule an i-Ready assessment through the Office of Achievement and Accountability. For more information, call 443-642-4598.

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

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

****Please note that these high schools will be undergoing renovation in the coming years. During renovation, students will move into a swing space. (See page 20 for more details)**

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.

Placement in our district's entrance-criteria high schools is very competitive and the students with the highest composite scores are the ones to receive placement in these schools. As a result, the average composite score and lowest composite score to receive placement in these schools varies slightly from year-to-year, depending on the cohort. Of the students admitted to our entrance-criteria high schools for the past three years, the composite scores for these schools were as follows:

SCHOOL NAME	Average Composite Score Admitted		Lowest Composite Score Admitted	
	24-25 SY	25-26 SY	24-25 SY	25-26 SY
Baltimore City College	748	751	695	703
Baltimore Polytechnic Institute	774	785	715	731
Paul Laurence Dunbar High School	657	660	610	610
Western Senior High School	669	669	610	610

To learn a student's composite score, visit the SEMS Parent Portal or speak with their School Choice Liaison.

Note: these scores are based on last year's 800-point cap (non-honors courses) and 860-point cap (honors courses).



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 (Bard)**

Students interested in attending this school must complete a school-based application and list it on their school choice application. Bard admits students based on a review of the student's participation in open house, an interview and a writing assessment. Families can register for an open house now. Visit <https://baltimore.bard.edu/> for more information, as the school-based application deadline precedes the district-wide school choice application deadline.

- **P-TECH at Carver Vocational-Technical and Digital Harbor high schools**

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

- **Ingenuity Project at Baltimore Polytechnic Institute**

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.

SPOTLIGHT:

Baltimore Design School (BDS) and Baltimore School for the Arts (BSA)

Now Participating in School Choice

- **Baltimore Design School (BDS)**

Students interested in attending this school must first REGISTER with BDS directly (www.balTIMOREdesignschool.com/apply/) beginning in September to schedule the submission of their portfolios for high school. Then, families must SELECT Baltimore Design School on their school choice application. Families who don't schedule the submission of their portfolio in advance will not be considered for admission. Additionally, families who submit a portfolio and don't list BDS on their application will not be considered for admissions.

- **Baltimore School for the Arts (BSA)**

Students interested in attending this school must first REGISTER with BSA directly via their website (<https://www.bsfa.org/admissions>) before December 8th to schedule their audition. Then, families must SELECT Baltimore School for the Arts on their school choice application. Families who don't register for their audition in advance will not be considered for admission. Additionally, families who audition and don't list BSA on their application will not be considered for admissions.





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.

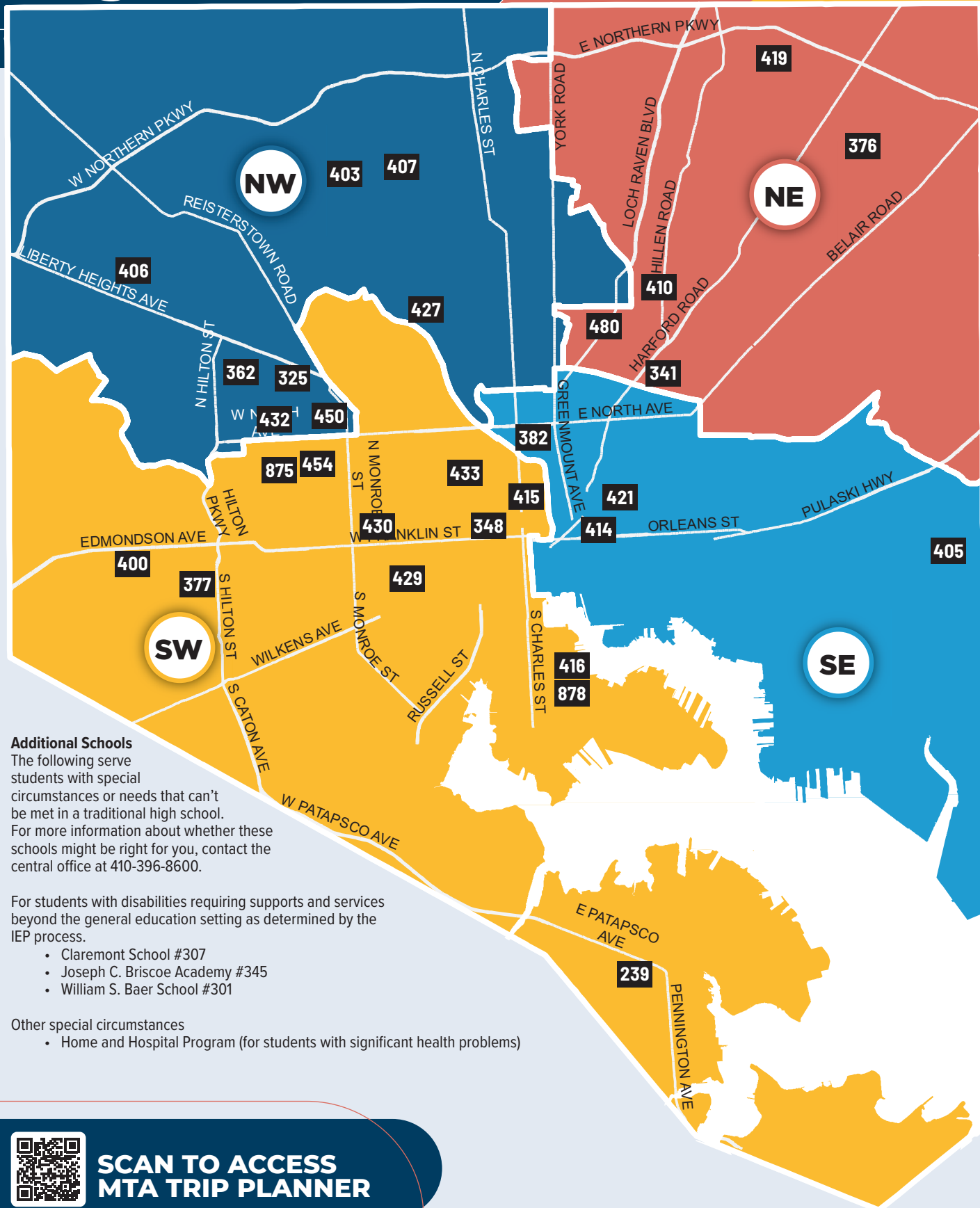
The following **charter schools** conduct their own application and lottery processes to admit students.

- **Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women** (all female student body)*
- **City Neighbors High School**
- **Coppin Academy**
- **Green Street Academy**

***NOTE:** As part of the district's annual operator renewal process, this school is going through review to determine the terms of its contract renewal with the district. The Board of School Commissioners will decide on renewal terms which can range from 8 years, 5 years, 3 years or non-renewal and school closure. The vote on these will occur in January 2026. To learn more about this process, or to see this school's renewal reports and stay updated on the results please visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/renewal.

The deadline to apply to charter schools is **February 2, 2026**. However, consult the student's school choice liaison or each school individually for more information.

Map of Baltimore City High Schools



Baltimore City High Schools at a Glance

Admission Type	Size*	School Characteristics**	Program and Activity Highlights***	Bus Routes
High Schools				
NW	#427	Academy for College and Career Exploration		
Choice lottery	L	ELD; Dual enrollment; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	Clubs for Arts, Sports, Robotics, Gaming, Modeling, Jazz Band, Dance & Step, Cheerleading, Student News, Environmental Sustainability; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus 21, 22, GOLD (Direct), 94
NW	#403	Baltimore Polytechnic Institute		
Academic entrance criteria (minimum composite score: 610)	L	CTE; ELD; Ingenuity Project (requires separate application); Advanced Placement (AP) courses; Green School	JROTC; Band; Project Lead the Way; Computer Science; Clubs for Arts, Sports, Robotics, Chess, Modeling, Theatre, Band, Choir, Yearbook, Model United Nations; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus 22, 28, 30, 33, 38, 94, SILVER near the Coldspring Light Rail station
NW	#362	Bard High School Early College		
Choice application with additional steps	M	High school diploma and associate's degree in four years; ELD; Dual enrollment	Clubs for Sports, Debate, Theatre, Modeling, Dance, Science, Art, Music, Foreign Language; Chess, Culinary, Interscholastic Athletics	Bus GOLD (Direct), 26 (Direct), 82
NW	#325	ConneXions: A Community Based Arts School		
Choice lottery	M	Arts focus; Green School; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	Band, Dance, Ballet, West African Dance & Drums, Media Arts, Theater, Choir, Visual Arts; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus GOLD (Direct), LIME, 26 (Direct), 82; near the Mondawmin Metro station
NW	#432	Coppin Academy		
Directly through the school (school-based lottery)	M	CTE; Dual enrollment; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	Clubs for Sports, Choir, Band, Chess, Debate, Modeling, Step Team, Yearbook, Robotics; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus GOLD
NW	#406	Forest Park High School		
Choice lottery	L	CTE; ELD; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	STEAM offerings; Clubs for Art, Band, Chess, Debate, Drama, Math, Robotics; JROTC; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus LIME, 80
NW	#450	Frederick Douglass High School		
Choice lottery	M	CTE; ELD; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	JROTC; Interscholastic Athletics, Clubs for Dance, Choir, Band, Chess, Gaming	Bus GOLD (Direct), LIME, NAVY, YELLOW, 22, 26, 29, 79, 82, 83, 91; near the Mondawmin Metro station
NW	#407	Western High School		
Academic entrance criteria (minimum composite score: 610)	L	CTE; ELD; Advanced Placement (AP) courses; All female students	Project Lead the Way; Clubs for Music, Debate, Environment, Fashion, Dance, Art, Spanish, Robotics; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus 22, 28, 30, 33, 38, 94, SILVER; near the Coldspring Light Rail station
SW	#430	Augusta Fells Savage Institute for Visual Arts		
Choice lottery	S	CTE; Visual arts focus; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	Clubs for arts and sports	Bus NAVY, ORANGE, PURPLE (Direct), PINK, 80 (Direct)
SW	#348	Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women		
Directly through the school (school-based lottery)	S	All female students; Dual enrollment; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	STEM; Clubs for Robotics, Sports, Art, Dance & Step, Cooking, Book Club	Bus PINK, 51
SW	#415	Baltimore School for the Arts		
Entrance-criteria (audition)	M	Visual and Performance Arts; Green School; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	Programs in Dance, Music, Acting, Stage Design & Production, Visual Arts, Film & Visual Storytelling	Bus 51, 95, GREEN, SILVER, PINK

Baltimore City High Schools at a Glance

Admission Type	Size*	School Characteristics**	Program and Activity Highlights***	Bus Routes
SW #239	Benjamin Franklin High School at Masonville Cove			
Choice lottery	M	CTE; ELD; Green School; Dual enrollment; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	JROTC; Clubs for Sports, Science, Debate, Interscholastic Athletics	Bus SILVER, 29, 67
SW #454	Carver Vocational-Technical High School			
Choice lottery	L	CTE required; ELD; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	JROTC; Club for Robotics; Project Lead the Way; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus GOLD, 26, 85 (Direct)
SW #416	Digital Harbor High School			
Choice lottery	L	CTE; ELD; Green School; Dual enrollment; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	Clubs for Arts, Debate, Science, Robotics; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus BLUE (Direct), BROWN (Direct), GREEN (Direct) ORANGE (Direct), SILVER, 71 (Direct)
SW #400	Edmondson-Westside High School			
Choice lottery	L	CTE required; ELD; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	Robotics; After-school Clubs; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus BLUE, ORANGE, 77, 78
SW #377	Green Street Academy			
Directly through the school (school-based lottery)	L	Environmental focus; CTE; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	Clubs for Robotics, Art, Dance, Modeling, Gaming Chess	Bus 29 (Direct), BLUE, PURPLE (Direct)
SW #875	P-TECH at Carver (Special program combining academics with training in a high-demand career pathway)			
Choice application with additional steps	S	Information Technology focus; High school diploma, job credentials, and associate's degree in six years; ELD	JROTC; Club for Robotics; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus GOLD, 26, 85 (Direct)
SW #878	P-TECH at Digital Harbor (Special program combining academics with training in a high-demand career pathway)			
Choice application with additional steps	S	Transportation Logistics focus; High school diploma, job credentials, and associate's degree in six years; ELD; Dual enrollment	Clubs for arts, debate, science, robotics; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus SILVER, 26, 67, 71
SW #433	Renaissance Academy****			
Choice lottery	S	CTE; ELD; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	Club for arts and sports	Bus LIME, PINK, YELLOW, 54, 73
SW #429	Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy			
Choice lottery	S	CTE required; ELD; Medical Arts focus; Dual enrollment	Clubs for specialized medical areas and sports	Bus 78, NAVY, PURPLE
NE #480	Baltimore City College (SW Temp)			
Academic entrance criteria (minimum composite score: 610)	L	International Baccalaureate (IB); Advanced Placement (AP) courses; ELD; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	Clubs for Sports, Choir, Debate, Dance, Theatre, Band Model United Nations, Yearbook; Interscholastic Athletics, Robotics	Bus 51, 95, GREEN, SILVER, PINK
NE #376	City Neighbors High School			
Directly through the school (school-based lottery)	M	ELD; Dual enrollment; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	Clubs for Sports, Chess, Music, Theater, Environmental Sustainability, Art, Steel Pan Band, Step Team, Cheerleading, Interscholastic Athletics	Bus 30 (Direct), 54 (Direct)
NE #410	Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School			
Choice lottery	L	CTE required; ELD; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	JROTC; Project Lead the Way; Club for robotics; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus GREEN, SILVER, 22 (Direct), 53

Baltimore City High Schools at a Glance

Admission Type	Size*	School Characteristics**	Program and Activity Highlights***	Bus Routes
NE	#341	The Reach! Partnership School		
Choice lottery	M	CTE; ELD; Construction & Health Care Focus; Advanced Placement (AP) courses; Dual enrollment	Clubs for robotics, sports, arts, music, science; JROTC; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus 22 (Direct), 54 (Direct)
NE	#419	Reginald F. Lewis High School		
Choice lottery	M	CTE; ELD; Dual enrollment; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	JROTC; ABC Construction; Clubs for Sports, Art, Band, Gaming, Robotics	Bus RED, SILVER, 30, 53 (Direct)
SE	#382	Baltimore Design School		
Entrance-criteria (portfolio)	M	Design focus; CTE; ELD; Dual enrollment; Advanced Placement (AP) courses	Clubs for Architecture, Graphic, and Fashion Design; Clubs for Arts, Debate, Science, Environmental Sustainability, Library, Martial Arts, Gaming, Media Production, Fashion & Sewing	Bus RED, 22
SE	#421	National Academy Foundation		
Choice application	M	CTE; ELD; Advanced Placement (AP) courses; Dual enrollment	Work-based Learning; Finance Academy; Culinary Club; Internships; Post-secondary Support; After-school Clubs; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus BROWN, LIME, PINK, 56, 120, 160; near the Johns Hopkins Metro station
SE	#405	Patterson High School		
Choice lottery	L	CTE; ELD; Advanced Placement (AP) courses; Dual enrollment	JROTC; Interpreter Certification; College Bound; Clubs for Chess, Coding, Drama, Newspaper, Science, Robotics, Band, Dance, Choir, Arts; Project Lead the Way; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus Blue (Direct), NAVY (Direct), ORANGE, 22 (Direct), 59
SE	#414	Paul Laurence Dunbar High School		
Academic entrance criteria (minimum composite score: 610)	L	CTE; ELD; Advanced Placement (AP) courses; Dual enrollment	Clubs for Sports, Band, Chess, Gaming, Robotics, Science; Project Lead the Way; Interscholastic Athletics	Bus BLUE, BROWN, LIME, ORANGE, PINK, PURPLE, 56, 105, 120, 160; near the Johns Hopkins Metro station
Virtual School				
V	#897	Baltimore Revolutionary Academy Virtual Education		
Academic Entrance-Criteria	L	ELD; Advanced Placement (AP) courses; Dual enrollment	Virtual and virtual/in-person Hybrid Clubs	n/a

* S = under 400 students; M = 401 to 800 students; L = more than 800 students

** CTE = Career and Technology Education, ELD = English Language Development

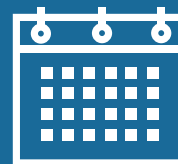
*** Programs & offerings may vary from year to year; JROTC = Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps

**** As a part of the district's annual review of schools, The Board is considering a proposal to close Renaissance Academy High School at the end of school year 2025-26. If the Board approves the recommendation, current students/ families would be supported in selecting another high school for school year 2026-27. Frederick Douglass High School #450, Edmondson-Westside High School #400, and Green Street Academy #377 are schools that have been identified as receiving school options for current Renaissance Academy high school students, among other options. The Board will vote on this recommendation on January 14, 2026.





KEY DATES



2025

- December 1** Choice applications become available
- December 13** Annual Middle and High School Choice Fair is held at the Baltimore Convention Center 10AM–2PM

2026

- January 23** Choice application deadline
- February 2** Charter school application deadline
- February 27** Charter placement results provided to families
- February 27** Choice placement results available to families via SEMS Parent Portal

BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Contact Us

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

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Baltimore City Public Schools Notice of Nondiscrimination

Baltimore City Public Schools ("City Schools") does not discriminate in employment, educational programs, or activities based on actual or perceived personal characteristics, including race, ethnicity, color, ancestry, national origin, nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, pregnancy or parenting status, family structure, ability (cognitive, social/emotional, and physical), veteran status, genetic information, age, immigration or citizenship status, socioeconomic status, language, or any 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 \(Nondiscrimination – Employees and Third Parties\)](#), [ACB \(Sexual Harassment – Employees and Third Parties\)](#), [ACD \(ADA Reasonable Accommodations\)](#), and [ADA \(Equity\)](#), 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:

Director of Fair Practices and Compliance; Title IX Coordinator
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