

Important Parent Information about HISD School Choice Application for School Year 2024-2025

HISD is an open enrollment district where a family can apply to any school in the district that meets a student's needs. The School Choice process allows families to choose among hundreds of neighborhood and specialty school options in a single application.

Who should apply? Students interested in attending a school that is not their zoned school for the first time should apply.

- *Exception: Students must apply to their zoned school to access a "school within a school" magnet program for the first time if applicable. All students must apply to Cullen Military Academy.*

Who does not need to apply? Students who want to attend their zoned school do NOT need to apply unless they are applying for the first time to a magnet within their school. Additionally, students who obtained a spot at their campus in previous years do not need to reapply; they will be automatically enrolled in the next grade.

- *Exception: Current PreK4 students who are currently attending their non-zoned school, and would like to stay at that non-zoned school for Kindergarten, must apply.*

Most Important Dates

- **1/18:** Application opens. Parents rank up to 10 choices in the application. To be considered in the lottery, applications must be submitted before application closes. Date of application does not influence result as long as choices are submitted before application close.
- **2/23:** Application closes. All rankings and required documents must be submitted.
- **3/26:** Parent Notification Day. Families offered one seat based on lottery results.
- **4/9:** Deadline for families to accept seat offered in Phase I
- **Starting 3/26,** parents will be able to apply for schools with space available. They will also be able to add themselves to a waitlist if a school is full.

Recommended Application Next Steps

Learn about Schools

Explore two resources to learn about schools best aligned to your student's interests:

- **SchoolFinder:** Includes information for each campus in one place
<https://schoolfinder.houstonisd.org>
- **Specialty Program Guide:** Parents can look for the type of programming they want and see a list of schools with that offering on the school choice website.
houstonisd.org/schoolchoice

Build your rank list

- **Rank based on preference.**
You have the same chance to get into a school, regardless of rank order.
- **Rank up to 10 programs.**
If a school has multiple programs, each program counts as an application choice.
- **Don't miss deadline.**
You have the highest chance to get a seat if you participate in the lottery during Phase 1.
- **You can use all 10 options.**
You do NOT increase your chances of getting into one school by applying to fewer schools.

Submit your Application

- **Login/Create a Salesforce account and Apply by 2/23!**
Parents of current HISD students need their student ID to apply. New to district students need report card and STAAR scores to apply.
<https://choosehisd.my.site.com/Apply>
- **Complete "Next Steps"**
If applying to performing arts, sign up for auditions.
- **View lottery results on 3/26 and accept seat by 4/9!**
Lottery results will be emailed and status of applications will be available in parent portal.

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Visit Campuses to Learn more! Fall School Choice Thursdays are extended into the spring, and you are welcome to tour any HISD Magnet school on the following dates and times. Please contact individual schools before visiting to sign up for the tour.

- January 25, February 1, February 8, February 15 and February 22
- Elementary and K-8 schools at 9:00 a.m.
- Middle and High schools at 1:00 p.m.

Need additional assistance with the application? School Choice Application Clinics are places parents can go to receive in-person support to submit their application.

- **Saturday Clinics:** Offered from 9am - 2pm at two locations across HISD
 - 1/27: Kashmere & Sterling
 - 2/3: Austin & Bellaire
 - 2/10: Northside & Yates
 - 2/17: Booker T Washington & Westbury
- **School Choice Bus Clinic:** Bus will tour high traffic locations and neighborhoods daily to assist parents to apply. Go to Parent Resources at houstonisd.org/schoolchoice to find a bus stop near you!
- **Afterschool Mini Clinic:** One-hour clinic offered at all elementary and middle school campuses on February 15 and February 22. School staff will assist parents to apply for school choice.

The application asks for my student's student ID#. Where can I find that? The Student ID# is found on your student's report card, progress report, test reports, and other communications from your student's school. You can also find it online at HISD Parent Student Connect. If you are unable to find it, please contact your student's current school.

Resources:

The School Choice Phonenumber is open 8AM-5PM M-F, and 8AM-8PM during the first week of launch. Please call 713.556.6734. Families may also submit questions via email at schoolchoice@houstonisd.org.

School Choice Application
<https://choosehisd.my.site.com/Apply>

SchoolFinder
<https://schoolfinder.houstonisd.org/>

School Choice Homepage
<https://www.houstonisd.org/schoolchoice>

