

OFFICE OF ACCESS AND ENROLLMENT

High Schools and High School Programs

Application, Selection, Notification
2015-2016 School Year

Deadline: December 12, 2014



High School Options: OAE-Managed Programs *

- Selective Enrollment High Schools
- Military Academies
- Magnet High Schools and Programs
- International Baccalaureate (IB) High Schools
- CTE – College and Career Academies
- Other High School Programs

* For all other high schools, see the High School Guide for application information.

HOW TO APPLY

Online Application Process

Online site: apply.cps.edu

- All eighth grade students receive an Eligibility Letter that contains a Personal Identification Number (PIN) to be used for the online site.
- If a student is applying to schools with admissions screenings – tests, information sessions, and auditions – they will first **Schedule** the appointments and THEN **Apply**.
- All confirmation pages should be printed and kept in a safe place.

Paper Application Process

- Obtain paper applications from www.cpsoae.org (click 'Apply' and 'Application Materials'), CPS school counselors, or by contacting the Office of Access and Enrollment at (773) 553-2060 or oea@cps.edu.
- If admissions screenings (tests, information sessions, and audition) are required for the schools to which the student will apply, OAE will schedule the appointments and notify the parent by mail of the dates, times, and locations. (If the student is applying to the Fine Arts Program at Senn, the school will schedule and send the letters.)

CHANGES TO THE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR 2015-2016

New for 2015-2016!

Eligibility is based on scores from the NWEA MAP.

Last year: The ISAT, and comparable standardized tests, were used to determine eligibility for students to take the Selective Enrollment admissions exam and apply for Magnet Schools, IB High Schools, Military Academies, and CTE-College and Career Academies.

New this year: All students must have scores from the NWEA MAP in order to determine their eligibility. Non-CPS students who have not taken or registered for the NWEA MAP should contact the Office of Access and Enrollment at 773-553-2060 or oea@cps.edu by December 12, 2014.

New for 2015-2016!

One Information Session for IB High Schools

Last year: Applicants to IB High Schools were required to attend an Information Session at each IB High School to which they applied.

New this year: Students are only required to attend ONE Information Session for IB High Schools, even if they apply to more than one IB High School.

New for 2015-2016!

Minimum eligibility requirements for students with a 504 Plan are the same as the requirements for general education students.

Last year: Students with an IEP and students with a 504 Plan had minimum eligibility requirements that differed from the requirements for general education students.

New this year: Students with a 504 Plan now have the same requirements as general education students. HOWEVER, testing accommodations on students' 504 Plans will be provided.

SELECTIVE ENROLLMENT HIGH SCHOOLS

Selective Enrollment High Schools

- Designed for academically advanced students
- Offer primarily honors and AP courses
- Admissions testing required

Testing Eligibility Requirements

- Students must pre-qualify for the Selective Enrollment High Schools admissions exam, based on their NWEA MAP scores.
- General education students and students with a 504 Plan must score at the 24th percentile or above in reading and math.
- Students with an IEP and students receiving bilingual education services must have percentiles in reading and math that equal 48 or more.

Application Process

- Apply to up to six schools.
- If the student is applying online, they will schedule the test first and THEN apply.
- If the student submits a paper application, their test will be scheduled by OAE and the parent will receive a letter containing the date, time, and location of the test.

Early Testing Results

- Students who schedule their Selective Enrollment exam for October or November will receive their test results and final point score within three weeks of the test date.
- This allows parents and students to be better informed when deciding on their choices for the Selective Enrollment High Schools.

The Admissions Exam

- The Selective Enrollment High Schools admissions exam is approximately three hours long (unless the student has an IEP/504 Plan that allows for additional time).
- The exam covers four subject areas: reading comprehension, vocabulary, language arts (grammar), and math word problems.
- Calculators are not allowed (unless this is specified in the accommodations on an IEP).

Selection Process

- Selection is based on a 900-point scale derived from admissions test scores, NWEA MAP scores, and final (cumulative) report card grades.
- Each of these three areas is worth a maximum of 300 points.

Socio-Economic Factors

- The selection process for Selective Enrollment High Schools takes socio-economic characteristics into consideration.
- Each street address falls within one of four tiers. These tiers are used as part of the selection process.
- For details on how the tiers are determined and how they are used in the selection process, see the *CPS High School Guide* or www.cpssoae.org , under "NEWS."

Selection Process

- First 30% of seats at each school are filled by rank score ONLY.
- Remaining seats are divided equally among the four tiers.
- The top-scoring students in each tier are selected.
- NO sibling preference.
- NO consideration for proximity.

Principal Discretion

- Principal Discretion allows principals of Selective Enrollment High Schools to fill a designated number of seats, outside of the regular selection process.
- The process takes place in March, after the first round of regular selection. Information will be posted at www.cpssoae.org in February.

MILITARY ACADEMIES

Military Academies

- Offer rigorous and relevant college preparatory curriculum.
- Each academy focuses on a different branch of the military.
- There is no expectation for students to enter the military after graduation. Specific opportunities are provided for leadership, teamwork, and service.

Eligibility Requirements

- Students must pre-qualify for the Military Academies application process, based on their NWEA MAP scores.
- Students must have must have percentiles in reading and math that equal 48 or more.

Application Process

- Apply to up to four schools.
- Attendance at ONE information session is required (even if the student applies to more than one Military Academy).
- If the student is applying online, they will schedule the information session first and THEN apply.
- If student submits a paper application, they should go to www.chicagoJROTC.com or www.cpsoae.org for a list of information sessions and attend the session of their choice.

Selection Process

- Students are selected based on a two-part questionnaire and an essay completed at the required Information Session, along with their NWEA MAP scores and final grades from seventh grade.
- Students are given points based on their seventh grade final grades (150 points), NWEA scores (150 points), the two-part assessment (50 points for each part), and the essay (100 points), for a maximum total of 500 points.

MAGNET SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS

Magnet Schools and Programs

Offer specialty programs in areas including fine and performing arts, engineering, and agricultural sciences.

Eligibility Requirements

- Students must pre-qualify to participate in the selection process for magnet schools and programs, based on their NWEA MAP.
- General education students and students with a 504 Plan must score at the 24th percentile or above in reading and math.
- Students with an IEP and students receiving bilingual education services must have percentiles in reading and math that equal 48 or more.

Eligibility Requirements - Exceptions

Von Steuben has two programs – a Science program and a Scholars program.

The **Scholars** program requires minimum percentile of 60 in both reading and math. In addition, applicants must submit teacher recommendations and an essay. For additional information, see Von Steuben's website, www.vonsteuben.org.

Application Process

- Apply to up to eight schools/programs
- Only one magnet school/program has a required admission screening -- an audition/portfolio review is required in order for students to be considered for the fine and performing arts program at Senn.
- If applicants to Senn are applying online, they will schedule the audition/review first and THEN apply.
- If applicants to Senn submit a paper application, the parent will be contacted by Senn regarding the date, time, and location for the audition/review.

Selection Process

For most Magnet High Schools and Programs, students are randomly selected through a computerized lottery. Siblings are accepted first. There are two exceptions:

Senn Fine Arts Program:

Eligible students are selected through an audition and/or portfolio review process.

Von Steuben Scholars Program:

Eligible students are selected based on test scores, GPA, teacher recommendations, and an essay. (Go to www.vonsteuben.org for information.)

Socio-Economic Factors

- The selection process for most magnet schools takes socio-economic characteristics into consideration.
- Each street address falls within one of four tiers. These tiers are used as part of the selection process.
- For details on how the tiers are determined, and how they are used in the selection process, see the High School Guide or www.cpsoae.org under "NEWS."

Waitlists

- After available seats are filled, non-selected students are placed on waitlists.
- Waitlists are managed by the school.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE HIGH SCHOOLS

International Baccalaureate High Schools

- Offer a comprehensive and challenging pre-university program.
- Widely recognized for high academic standards.

Eligibility Requirements

- Students must pre-qualify for the selection process, based on their NWEA MAP scores and 7th grade GPA.
- General education students and students with a 504 Plan must score at the 24th percentile or above in reading and math, AND have a minimum 7th grade GPA (grade point average) of 2.5, AND attend one Information Session.
- Students with an IEP and students receiving bilingual education services must have percentiles in reading and math that equal 48 or more, AND have a minimum 7th grade GPA (grade point average) of 2.5, AND attend one Information Session.

Application Process

- Apply to up to six schools.
- Students must attend one Information Session.
- If the student is applying online, they will schedule the Information Session first and THEN apply.
- If the student submits a paper application, OAE will schedule the student's Information Session and send a letter to the parent's home containing the location, date, and time.

Selection Process

- Students are given points based on their NWEA MAP scores and seventh grade final grades. Applicants meeting a school's cutoff score will receive an offer.
- If a student is enrolled in an IB school's Middle Years Programme partner school or Academic Center, and meets the minimum application requirements and attends an Information Session, he/she will be automatically accepted to that school.
- If a student lives in the attendance area or overlay boundary of an IB High School to which they are applying, they will receive 50 additional points.

CTE-COLLEGE AND CAREER ACADEMIES

CTE – College and Career Academies

- Prepare students for college and career success.
- Offer hands-on training in various industries.
- May give students opportunities to earn college credit and participate in job shadows and internships.

Application/Eligibility Requirements

- Apply to up to five academies.
- Lottery Academies do not have minimum eligibility requirements.
- Selective Academies (Most Health Sciences, Law & Public Safety, Pre-Engineering, IT – Cisco and IT – Database Programming) require that students not be repeating eighth graders nor have been pushed from sixth grade into eighth grade.
- **For Jones ONLY:** General education students and students with a 504 Plan must score on the NWEA MAP at the 24th percentile or above in reading and math; students with an IEP and students receiving bilingual education services must have percentiles in reading and math that equal 48

Selection Process

- Lottery Academies select students through a computerized lottery, with preference given to students with minimum NWEA MAP scores at the 24th percentile in reading and math (or percentiles that add up to 48 or more, for students with an IEP or students receiving bilingual education services).
- Selective Academies select students based on points. Students are given points based on their NWEA MAP scores and seventh grade final grades. Applicants meeting a school's cutoff score will receive an offer.

Selection Process - Jones

- Total possible points: 600 points, based on seventh grade GPA and NWEA MAP scores in reading and math
- Students are ranked by score from high to low. Seats are filled starting from the highest score.
- Students who live in the school's overlay boundary are selected first.

Notification Letters

Notification letters will be mailed to the parent's home no later than February 20, 2015.

Parents will receive a letter for each program (e.g., Selective Enrollment, Magnet, etc.) to which the student applies.

Questions? Contact us!

Office of Access and Enrollment

773-553-2060

or

www.cpsoe.org