

HIGH SCHOOL ADMISSION FACTS

PAROCHIAL HIGH SCHOOLS

- Students who plan to attend Catholic High School should take the scheduled scholarship/placement test. Contact admissions office to register. Fees range from 25-90 dollars.
- Students must take an exam for each school they intend to apply.
- Scholarships are awarded to in December. If possible, arrange visitations when our school is closed.
- Financial Aid is also available from BLOCS and Smart Aid. Girls (eligibility requirements) may also apply for the Charles Ellis Foundation Scholarship.
- Families may apply for BLOCS and Smart Aid in October. Awards will be announced on a rolling basis beginning in January.
- Most families are given some financial aid.
- Parents and students are encouraged to attend Open House events.
- Most schools host *student shadow days*. Preregistration is required. Students are marked absent and must complete missed classwork.

Schools operated by the School District of Philadelphia are public, and fall into three categories:

1. **Neighborhood Schools:** These schools are automatically open to students living within a school's catchment or assigned area. Registration for these schools is completed in the school.
2. **City-Wide Admission Schools:** These schools are open to any student living in Philadelphia. Each school has its own admissions criteria related to attendance, punctuality, behavior, grades, and standardized test scores. An application for these schools is available on the school's website.
3. **Special Admission Schools:** These schools are open to any student living in Philadelphia. To attend, students must apply and meet any additional admission requirements that the school sets forth. Superior grades and Terra Nova scores are mandatory.

Applying to SPECIAL ADMISSION and City Wide Admission Schools

- Admissions criteria related to attendance, punctuality, behavior, grades, and standardized test scores.
- Some schools require an interview/audition and letters of recommendation.
- **Applications will be available online beginning September 29, 2016 and ending on November 14, 2016 at 5:00PM.**
- Visit schools-contact schools for open house information.
- Standardized test scores should be above 75% in both reading and math.
- Compare the admission requirements to your academic record. If you do not meet the admission criteria, find a school that is compatible to your academic achievement record.
- For example, final grades from 7th grade should be above 85 in major subjects.
- Essays must be handwritten and proofread.
- Students must mail a transcript to each school they intend to apply. (Five maximum) **DO NOT INCLUDE CHARTER SCHOOLS ON THIS APPLICATION.**
- In addition, students and parents must complete the **High School Selection Application**, available online at schoolselectphilasd.org. Find more detailed information at greatphillyschools.org
- The School District of Philadelphia Web Page: www.philasd.org
- All notifications are sent to the email address provided when the application was submitted.

- Additional Questions?? Contact the Office of Student Enrollment and Placement. 215.400.4290 or via email at schoolselect.philasd.org.
- This is a highly competitive process. Schools receive thousands of applications every year.
- Students seeking admission to CAPA, Gamp, or other arts programs are given audition dates after it is determined that student meets all academic admission requirements.
- Masterman's admission criteria include one year of Algebra 1 and one year of French/Spanish.
- **Explore your high school options, including district, magnet, charter, and private schools by attending the High School Fair on October 4th and October 5th. The fair is open to the public on Friday from 5pm -7pm and Saturday from 10am- 3pm. Fair is free and registration is not required. Location- Pennsylvania Convention Center, Hall G -- enter on the corner of Broad & Race Streets**

CHARTER HIGH SCHOOLS are free school and opened to students throughout the Philadelphia area. Charter schools cannot set criteria for admission. However, they give preference to siblings of currently enrolled students.

- Students should have an interest in the school's curriculum.
- Applications are available on school websites.
- Students are selected for admittance to Charter High Schools through a lottery process.
- Contact the school for application deadlines and lottery dates.
- Contact the school for open house dates.
- Highly competitive process.