

Middle School and High School Waitlists | FAQs

Why is the DOE changing this process?

The NYC DOE has heard feedback from families and schools that the current middle and high school processes are too long and confusing. We are simplifying the process to make admissions shorter, easier, and more transparent for you. These changes also align all admissions processes from 3-K through high school so you can focus on learning about schools, not processes.

What is a waitlist?

A school's waitlist is a list of students who were not able to be admitted to a school because there were not enough seats for the number of applicants.

Which schools will have waitlists?

Schools that have more applicants than seats available will have waitlists.

How do students get on waitlists?

Students will be able to get on waitlists in two ways:

1. **Through the main round application:** Students who did not get into a school through the application will automatically be added that school's waitlist. Students will be on the waitlist for any school that was listed higher on their application than the school to which they are given an offer. *For example, if a student got into their 5th choice, they would be on the waitlists of choices 1-4.*
2. **Post-Application:** Students can add themselves to waitlists for schools that they did not apply to, but they are now interested in.

How are students ordered on waitlists?

Students will be automatically placed on waitlists for all schools that they list higher on their application than the school to which they are given an offer. Students will have a unique placement on each waitlist based on a school's admissions method and priority structure.

- For schools that have open admissions, students will be ordered randomly within their priority group (e.g. zoned priority; district priority).
- For schools that rank students based on a screen or audition, students will be ordered based on their rank within their priority group.

Students' positions may shift on waitlists as students are called off or added to waitlists.

Will I be able to learn where my child is on a waitlist? How?

Families will be able to learn of their child's position on each waitlist they are on by checking **MySchools.nyc**, calling **718-935-2009**, visiting a Family Welcome Center (**schools.nyc.gov/WelcomeCenters**), or asking their current school.

How long can I be on a waitlist?

Waitlists will expire in September 2020.

Is there a limit to how many waitlists my child can be on?

There is no limit to how many waitlists a student can be on.