

# How to Apply to a School

## STEP ONE

- Review your student's interest and needs to look for alignment with specific Magnet programs or Program Choice transfer options.
- Use the information and links at [www.ChooseHISD.com](http://www.ChooseHISD.com)
- Consider how you will rank your choices. Families can select up to 10 school programs, with a maximum of 5 magnet programs. (Please note that, each high school CTE pathway chosen is considered a separate application/choice).
- Visit selected programs on School Choice Thursdays (for Magnet programs only). Please contact the Program Choice school for tour availability.

## STEP TWO

Visit [www.ChooseHISD.com](http://www.ChooseHISD.com) to apply online.

- If you have used the system before, please use your previous account.
- Paper applications are available online, at any school, or from the Office of School Choice (Online applications provide more options for tracking and staying up to date).
- Make sure to sign and submit your applications.

## STEP THREE

- For elementary and middle school Magnet programs, only Vanguard applications may require documentation. All Program Choice Transfer applications will require documentation.
- Please be on the lookout for emails or phone calls related to your application.

## STEP FOUR

- By **midnight on January 28, 2021**, notification of acceptance for Phase 1 K- 12 applicants. Status will be viewable online, and letters will be sent to all parents via USPS mail.
- By **midnight on May 20, 2021**, notification of TEA Eligible Pre-K 4 Phase 1 acceptance for Phase 1 applicants. Status will be viewable online and via email.

## STEP FIVE

- If your student has been offered a seat in a program, you have two weeks to provide proof of residence and sign an entrance agreement.
- If your K-12 student was not offered a seat on **January 28, 2021**, but has been placed on a wait list, stay alert for changes in application status (current HISD students can reapply through **March 12, 2021**). You may be able to submit additional applications to programs with more room.
- K-12 Waitlist will retire on **April 9, 2021** and no further movement on the lottery list will occur.

## HELPFUL WEBSITES FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Houston Independent School District: [www.HoustonISD.org](http://www.HoustonISD.org)
- HISD Find a School: <https://www.houstonisd.org/findaschool>

## SCHOOL CHOICE THURSDAYS

On the following Thursdays, you are welcome to virtually tour any HISD Magnet schools. Elementary and K-8 schools will host tours at 9:00 a.m., secondary schools at 1:00 p.m.

September 24  
October: 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
November: 5

## SCHOOL CHOICE FAIRS

**Sept 19:** 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Virtual Event  
**Oct. 3:** 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Virtual Event  
**Oct. 17:** 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Virtual Event  
**Oct. 31:** 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Virtual Event  
**Feb. 13:** 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Virtual Event\*

\* Space Available Schools

## K-12 PHASES

### Phase 1 (Sept. 19 - Nov. 6, 2020)

Qualified in-district applications received during this phase will be entered into lotteries or be offered auditions.

### Phase 2 (Nov. 7, 2020 – March 12, 2021)

Qualified in-district applications received during this phase will be offered auditions or seats on a space available basis.

### Phase 3 (March 13, 2021 – onwards)

In-district applicants new to HISD and out-of-district applications will be considered on a space available basis.

## Pre-K Application Timeline

### Phase 1 (Sept. 19, 2020 – April 30, 2021)

Qualified in-district, TEA Eligible applications received during this phase will be entered into lotteries.