



# Magnet School Frequently Asked Questions

**Q:** Are magnet schools the same as charter schools?

**A:** No. Charter schools operate outside county school districts.

**Q:** How can I attend a magnet school?

**A:** You may apply to magnet schools during the application period, Oct. 15-Jan. 28.

**Q:** What do I need to do if my child is selected for a magnet school or year-round school?

**A:** You don't have to do anything else. Students who are selected are automatically assigned to that school. Students selected for a school other than their first choice are placed in an applicant pool for their first choice.

**Q:** Is bus transportation available to magnet or year-round students?

**A:** Yes, in most cases, but the type of service may vary depending on your school choice and home address. To check transportation options, visit [wcpss.net/preview](http://wcpss.net/preview)

**Q:** If I get into a magnet elementary school, where will my child attend middle school?

**A:** Magnet elementary students have priority when applying to a magnet middle school. They have highest priority for the middle school in their program pathway but also have priority to any other magnet middle program.

**Q:** What is a pathway?

**A:** Pathways allow students to continue with their chosen magnet theme from kindergarten through senior year of high school, if they choose. Students get a high priority for placement when continuing to a magnet middle or magnet high school in

their pathway. The pathways are: • Leadership & Technology • Gifted & Talented • International Baccalaureate • Language Immersion/Global Studies. Visit the magnet webpage link to access the [K-12 pathways chart](#).

**Q:** How do I register my kindergartner in WCPSS?

**A:** Rising kindergartners or students new to Wake County register at the base school – October 15, 2020 [wcpss.net/enroll](http://wcpss.net/enroll). Students must have a student identification number to apply for a magnet, early college, or year-round

**Q:** To how many magnet and year-round schools may I apply?

**A:** You may apply to 1-5 magnet programs/schools and 1-2 year round schools ranking them first choice, second choice...Use [www.wcpss.net/eligible](http://www.wcpss.net/eligible) to identify eligible magnet schools based on your address.

**Q:** Is there a waitlist?

**A:** Any student NOT selected for their first choice school is placed in an applicant pool even if you are selected for a second or third choice. An applicant could be in several applicant pools (early college, magnet/year-round). Selection to another school does NOT impact place in the applicant pool

**Q:** Are siblings processed together?

**A:** If all students in a residence (siblings) cannot be selected for the same grade level (e.g. elementary), then none are selected.

**Q:** Can I decline my magnet or year-round acceptance?

**A:** No, there is no decline option.

**Q:** How can I return to base after applying to a magnet or year-round school?

**A:** You may submit a request to attend a different school or return to base, during the transfer period (Feb 24-Mar 9)

**Q:** Are there any entrance requirements for acceptance to a magnet school?

**A:** There are no test or performance requirements to apply to a magnet program except for the AIG Basics program at the middle school level.

**Q:** Do I have to apply every year to keep my magnet seat?

**A:** Guaranteed assignment until the terminal grade. High priority to the program pathway school. MUST submit an application to continue in a magnet school at the next grade level.

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**Q:** From elementary to middle and from middle to high school, do magnet students get any priority in the selection process?

**A:** Yes, magnet students have high priority in the selection process.