

# OFFICE OF ACCESS AND ENROLLMENT

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## High Schools and High School Programs

Application, Selection, Notification  
2016-2017 School Year

Deadline: December 11, 2015



# High School Options: OAE-Managed Programs \*

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- 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.

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# HOW TO APPLY

# Online Application Process

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Online site: [apply.cps.edu](http://apply.cps.edu)

- All CPS eighth grade students receive an Eligibility Letter that contains a Personal Identification Number (PIN) to be used for the online site.
- If you are applying to schools with admissions screenings – tests, information sessions, and auditions – you will first **Schedule** the appointments and THEN **Apply**. Both actions MUST be completed by the December 11<sup>th</sup> deadline.
- All confirmation pages should be printed and kept in a safe place.

# Paper Application Process

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- Obtain paper applications from [www.cpsoae.org](http://www.cpsoae.org) (click 'Apply' and 'Application Materials').
- Details on how your admissions screenings will be scheduled can be found later in this document, in the sections for each program.

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# **CHANGES TO THE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR 2016-2017**

# New for 2016-2017!

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## Information Sessions for International Baccalaureate Schools are offered at each IB school.

Last year: One of the requirements to apply for IB High Schools is to attend an Information Session. Last year, the sessions were only offered at four IB schools.

New this year: Information Sessions will be offered at all IB High Schools. You can attend an Information Session at any IB High School, even if you don't plan to apply to that school.

# New for 2016-2017!

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**Paper applicants for IB High Schools must contact the school.**

Last year: The Office of Access and Enrollment scheduled the Information Sessions for students who submitted paper IB High Schools applications.

New this year: If you submit a paper IB High Schools application, you must contact the IB school directly to schedule your Information Session.



# New for 2016-2017!

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**The online application portal will be accessible after the deadline for rescheduling.**

Last year: Students could use the online application portal to reschedule their tests, Information Sessions and auditions only until the application deadline.

New this year: If you need to reschedule your admissions screening appointments or reprint your confirmation form, the online portal will remain open after the application deadline. Be sure that you original appointments are scheduled BEFORE the application deadline. (Note that rescheduling is not guaranteed.)

# New for 2016-2017!

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## The Scholars Program at Von Steuben has additional criteria.

Last year: Applicants to the Scholars program were required to have NWEA scores at the 60th percentile or above in both reading and math.

New this year: In addition to the NWEA score requirement, applicants must also have a minimum 7th grade GPA of 3.0.

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# **SELECTIVE ENROLLMENT HIGH SCHOOLS**

# Selective Enrollment High Schools

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

# Testing Eligibility Requirements

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- 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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

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- Apply to up to six schools. NOTE that you do NOT have to apply to the maximum number of schools allowed. If a school is too far from your home, or there are other reasons why you wouldn't accept an offer if you receive one, DON'T APPLY TO IT.
- If you apply online, you will schedule the test first and THEN apply. Both actions MUST be completed by the December 11<sup>th</sup> deadline.
- If you submit a paper application, your test will be scheduled by OAE and you will receive a letter containing the date, time, and location of the test.

# Early Testing Results

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- If you take your Selective Enrollment test in November, you will receive your test results and final point score before the December 11<sup>th</sup> deadline.
- This helps you to be better informed when deciding on your choices for the Selective Enrollment High Schools.

# The Admissions Exam

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- The Selective Enrollment High Schools admissions exam is approximately three and a half 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

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- 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

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- 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 [www.cpsdae.org](http://www.cpsdae.org), under "NEWS."

# Selection Process

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- The 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

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- 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](http://www.cpssoae.org) in February.

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# MILITARY ACADEMIES

# Military Academies

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- 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

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- 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

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- Apply to up to four schools.
- Attendance at ONE information session is required (even if you apply to more than one Military Academy).
- If you are applying online, you will schedule the Information Session first and THEN apply.
- If you submit a paper application, go to [www.chicagoJROTC.com](http://www.chicagoJROTC.com) or [www.cpsoae.org](http://www.cpsoae.org) for a list of Information Sessions and attend the session of your choice.



# Selection Process

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- 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.

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# MAGNET SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS

# Magnet Schools and Programs

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

# Eligibility Requirements

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- 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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

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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, and a minimum GPA of 3.0. In addition, applicants must submit teacher recommendations and an essay. For additional information, see Von Steuben's website, [www.vonsteuben.org](http://www.vonsteuben.org) (click 'About' and 'Admissions').

# Application Process

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- 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 you apply to Senn online, you will schedule the audition/review first and THEN apply. (If you need to reschedule, contact David Gregg at Senn, [dgregg@cps.edu](mailto:dgregg@cps.edu) or 773-534-2501.)
- If you apply to Senn via paper application, go to [www.sennarts.org](http://www.sennarts.org) and click 'Admissions' for instructions on how to schedule your audition/portfolio review..

# Selection Process

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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 the 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](http://www.vonsteuben.org) for information – click ‘About’ and ‘Admissions.’)

# Socio-Economic Factors

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- 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 [www.cpsdae.org](http://www.cpsdae.org) under "NEWS."



# Waitlists

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

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# INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE HIGH SCHOOLS

# International Baccalaureate High Schools

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

# Eligibility Requirements

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- Students must pre-qualify for the selection process, based on their NWEA scores and 7<sup>th</sup> grade GPA.
- General education students and students with a 504 Plan must score at the 24<sup>th</sup> percentile or above in reading and math, AND have a minimum 7<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> grade GPA (grade point average) of 2.5, AND attend one Information Session.

# Application Process

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- Apply to up to six schools.
- You must attend one Information Session, even if you are applying to more than one IB school.
- If you are applying online, you will schedule the Information Session first and THEN apply.
- If you submit a paper application, you must contact the school to schedule your Information Session. The application will include IB contact information for each high school and the dates and times of the Information Sessions.
- You can schedule your Information Session at any IB High School that has space at a session, even if you do not plan to apply to that school.

# Selection Process

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- 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 you are enrolled in an IB school's Middle Years Programme partner school or Academic Center, and meet the minimum application requirements and attend an Information Session, you will be automatically accepted to that school.
- If you live in the attendance area or overlay boundary of an IB High School to which you are applying, you will receive 50 additional points.

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# CTE-COLLEGE AND CAREER ACADEMIES

# CTE – College and Career Academies

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- 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

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- 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 Hancock and Jones ONLY:** General education students and students with a 504 Plan must score on the NWEA MAP at the 24<sup>th</sup> 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.

# Selection Process

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- Lottery Academies select students through a computerized lottery, with preference given to students with minimum NWEA MAP scores at the 24<sup>th</sup> 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 – Hancock/Jones

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- 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 schools' overlay boundaries are selected **first**.

# Notification Letters

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Notification letters will be mailed to your home no later than February 26, 2016.

You will receive a letter for each program (e.g., Selective Enrollment, Magnet, etc.) to which you apply.

# Application Tips

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- **IMPORTANT!!!!!!** If you are applying online to schools with admissions screenings (i.e., test, Information Session, audition), you will use a TWO-STEP process: (1) SCHEDULE, then (2) APPLY. Both of these steps **MUST** be completed by the deadline on December 11, 2015, at 11:59 p.m. If you schedule an appointment, but you do not submit an application before the deadline, you will not be considered for any schools in that program.
- If you mail your applications: (1) send the envelope by certified mail so you will have a receipt, (2) have a postal official postmark the envelope in front of you, and (3) include a self-addressed, stamped postcard or envelope. The postcard or envelope will be mailed back to you when your application is received. If you do not receive it within two weeks, contact the Office of Access and Enrollment.

# Application Tips, con't.

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- If you move after you submit your application, you must submit a Contact Information Modification Form to change your address on your file. This form is available at [cpsoae.org](http://cpsoae.org), under 'Apply.' The deadline to submit this form is January 15, 2016.
- Try to attend your Open Houses and do your other school research BEFORE you apply. If you submit your application and you would like to make changes, you must submit an Application Modification Form for the program to which you applied. This form is available at [cpsoae.org](http://cpsoae.org), under 'Apply.' The deadline to submit this form is January 15, 2016.

# Questions? Contact us!

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## Office of Access and Enrollment

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Or

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