

Don't Miss Out!

JUNIOR K/KINDERGARTEN LOTTERY

Register your child for school by January 31 for the best chance of getting into the school of your choice for September 2020!

Registration Requirements

Provide in person or through our website:

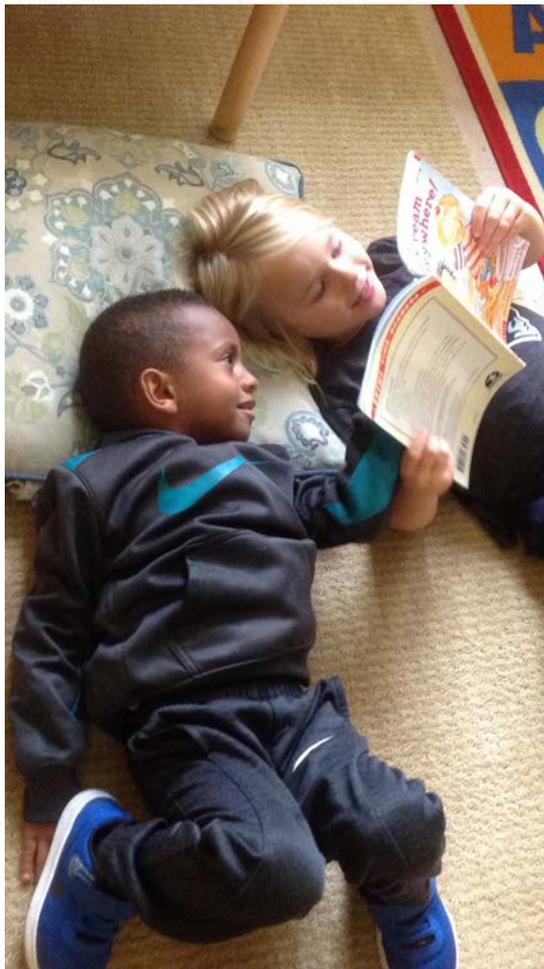
- Registration forms
- Child's birth certificate or passport
- Lease, mortgage, or other approved proof of address
- Utility bill dated within 30 days
- Immunization (shots) record

All registrations must be completed in person at the SRC.

Child's Birth Date	Eligible for Sept. 2020	When to Register
Sept. 1, 2015 – Mar. 31, 2016	Junior Kindergarten	Jan. 2020: JK/K Lottery
Sept. 1, 2014 – Aug. 31, 2015	Kindergarten	Jan. 2020: JK/K Lottery



CAMBRIDGE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



How to Register for School

1) Gather your required documents.

The checklist on the front of the application can help you organize your paperwork

2) Fill out the forms:

Save time by using the online pre-registration system, or fill out a paper packet, available in PDF form online or at the Student Registration Center (SRC)

3) Come see us in January!

4^{PM} on January 31 is the deadline to participate in the First Cycle Jr. K/ Kindergarten Lottery. This is the time when you will have the best chance of getting one of your school choices.

- If you are registering using paper forms, you must provide all of your documents in person at the time of registration.
- If you are pre-registering online, many of your documents can be uploaded, but you must bring any documents you did not upload to the SRC to complete the process.
- If a language test is required to determine eligibility to receive program language bonus points in the JK/K Lottery for Amigos, the Chinese Immersion Program and the Ola Program, families must schedule the language test in order to ensure that it is completed by 4^{PM} on January 31.

Important

Your child can not be entered into the lottery unless you complete their registration by 4^{PM} on January 31st.

Visit bit.ly/2Vfzgoz to get started!

About Controlled Choice

Controlled Choice has two parts: *Parent/Guardian Choice and Balancing Schools*

Controlled Choice is an equity-driven school assignment process that takes into account parent/guardian preferences and the goal of creating balanced schools.

How does Parent/Guardian Choice influence assignments?

When registering, you are asked to list three school choices, which will be matched to openings at schools through a computerized system. The system penalizes applications with only 1 or 2 choices.

What is “Controlled” about assignments?

The Controlled Choice assignment process seeks to manage the socio-economic (SES) balance of school communities, as measured by the percentage of students who do or do not qualify for the Federal Free and Reduced Price Meals Program. The goal is for each school to reflect the demographics of the school district as a whole.

How is SES balance determined?

During the lottery, a portion of open seats at each school are designated as either “Paid Lunch” seats or “Free/Reduced Lunch” seats.

When you apply, you are asked to voluntarily disclose which of the two categories applies to your family. The Controlled Choice Form is required, but families may choose to select, “I decline to provide this information.” If you decline, the application becomes a “Paid Lunch” application.

How does Balancing affect Parent/Guardian Choice?

The Lottery is designed to provide as many students as possible with one of their choices while managing the balance between the two assignment categories. Students in the “Paid Lunch” assignment category may only be assigned to “Paid Lunch” seats, and students in the “Free/Reduced Lunch” assignment category may only be assigned to “Free/Reduced Lunch” seats.

The system will assign as many students as possible to their First Choice of school before moving on to Second Choices, and finally to Third Choices. It’s a lottery, so the system will create a random order for making these assignments (explained further on the next page, and on our website). At the end of this process, most students will receive one of their school choices.

The Student Registration Center will contact families who did not receive one of their choices to discuss where seats are still available in their assignment category. Families will also receive information about the waitlist process.

What's Special about the January Jr. K/Kindergarten Lottery?

January is the time when future Jr. K /Kindergarten students will have the best opportunity to be matched to a school of their choice.

You must register in person at the SRC and bring in all of your required documents by 4PM on the last business day in January in order to participate in the January Jr. K/ Kindergarten Lottery.

After the January Jr. K/Kindergarten Lottery closes, there may be no seats left at some of our schools. All children will receive a school assignment, but choices will be more limited.

Families may register any time during the month of January. All January registrations are grouped together, so there is no special benefit for registering early in the month. All applications that are completed in January will be included in the lottery.

Random Number:

Applications received during the month of January are assigned a random number. Some applications have additional “bonus points” added to give certain groups of students priority.

Sibling Bonus Points:

If you choose a school where a sister or brother will be attending grades K-5 (K-8 for Amigos) next year, your child will get 2 million “sibling bonus points.”

Proximity Bonus Points:

The two schools that are within closest walking distance to your home, with the exception of Tobin Montessori, Amigos School, Olá, and Mandarin Immersion, will each offer 1 million “proximity bonus points.” Please utilize our *Find a School* tool located on our website or contact the SRC to learn which two schools are your proximity schools.

Program Language Bonus Points:

Amigos, Olá, and Mandarin Immersion:

Students who choose a dual immersion program and speak the program language must take a friendly and brief test to determine whether or not they are eligible for the program language bonus points. (This test must be scheduled and completed by 4PM on January 31.) Program language bonus points add 1 million points to a student's random number. Dual immersion programs do not offer proximity bonus points, but do offer sibling bonus points.

More Points = Better Chances

The maximum number of bonus points an application may receive is 3 million. Each child's random number and bonus points are added together to create a point total for each choice. Because many schools fill up with students who selected them as their #1 choice, the more points your #1 choice receives the better your chances in the Lottery.

How Assignments are Made

A computer assigns students to schools by starting with the highest point score for #1 School Choices.

Moving from highest to lowest points, the computer matches as many #1 Choices as possible before moving on. Then, the computer seeks to match unassigned students with available seats at their #2 Choice schools. Finally, the computer seeks to match students with #3 Choices.

Sometimes all seats at a school will fill up with #1 School Choices. Therefore, your #1 choice is most important. Keep in mind that students may only be assigned if the percentage of students who do and do not qualify for Free or Reduced meals remains in balance as defined by the Controlled Choice Policy.

A more detailed explanation of the lottery and waitlists can be found on our website along with assignment data from past lotteries.



Example: *These students all registered for the same choice of school, and were randomly assigned 572, 301, 175, and 84 points. Only one more seat is available. Who will get in?*



proximity
1,000,572 points



sibling + proximity
3,000,301 points



proximity
1,000,175 points



no bonus points
84 points



Making Your Choices

How do I choose?

Every family's needs and preferences are different, so it's important to make the choices that seem right to you.



- Research your options and visit as many schools as you can.
- Consider start and end times, location, and whether you can walk or ride the bus.
- Consider whether a unique program such as Montessori or Two-Way Immersion would be a good fit for your child.
- Some schools provide more time for fine arts, humanities, or technology education.
- Two schools have an extended, 8-hour school day.
- Some classes offer mixed-grade classrooms or looping (where the same teacher works with students for two consecutive years).



Can I increase my odds of getting into a school I choose?

Some families feel confident that multiple schools would be a good fit. A few factors to consider, if you're considering more than three schools and trying to decide between them:

- At most - but not all - schools, having a sibling at the school will nearly guarantee your child will get into the school.
- Learn about your "Proximity School," and consider listing a proximity school as one of your choices.
- The most popular schools may fill up before all proximity students can be assigned.



- Keep in mind that there are more seats available on the east side of the city, so it's worthwhile to learn about the great programs these schools offer.
- Review the choice rates from past lotteries and consider selecting a traditionally less highly-chosen school as one of your choices. You can find this information on our website. Schools change and improve all the time, and other people's 4th choice could be a perfect school for your child!

What if I have my heart set on one school in particular?

List it as your first choice to make sure you have the best chance of getting in. If you don't get in, you'll automatically be placed on the waitlist. While the waitlist process takes time, many families are able to transfer into one of their three choice schools before or soon after the start of the school year. For others, it may take longer.

How do students get placed on waitlists?

Students who are assigned to their second choice school are automatically placed on the waitlist for their first choice school. Students assigned to their third choice school are automatically placed on the waitlist for their first and second choice schools. Students who receive none of their choices after the lottery closes are placed on the wait lists at all three schools.

What if I get none of my choices?

SRC staff members will contact unassigned families to discuss options for a "mandatory assignment." Some families may be able to choose between a few options - schools that still have open seats after the lottery. Although many mandatorily assigned families will choose to transfer when a seat becomes available at one of their three choices, others discover that their assignment is a great match for their family. Whatever you decide, the Student Registration Center is here to help you through the process.



Other Considerations

Late Registration

Registrations received during the month of February and up until the January lottery results are mailed will be grouped into a second cycle lottery for remaining available seats. After that date, families will be notified where there is a seat available and may additionally request that their child be placed on up to 3 waitlists.

Re-Entering the Lottery

Please keep in mind that you may re-enter your child in the Jr. K/Kindergarten Lottery only if your child has never attended a Cambridge Public School. Once a child attends a school, he or she may not re-enter the lottery and must instead file a transfer request to change schools.

Special Note about Tobin Montessori

The lottery for all programs with a 3-year-old age of entry, including Tobin Montessori, took place during the month of October. You may choose Tobin Montessori for your 4- or 5-year-old, however there will be as few as one or even zero openings for that age level.



Schedule a school tour online!

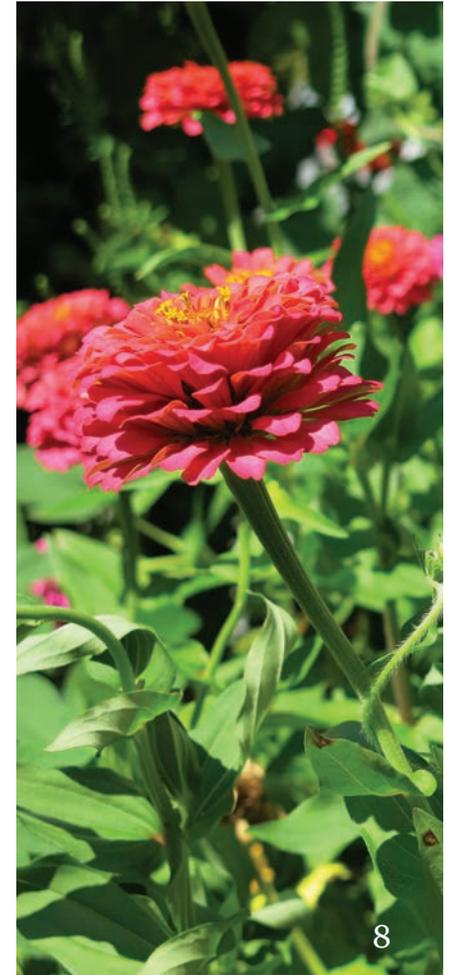
School tours may be scheduled with individual family liaisons, and most schools are now offering the option of signing up for tours online. Learn more:

https://secure2.cpsd.us/school_tours/

Important Contact Information

SCHOOLS	FAMILY LIAISON	TELEPHONE
Amigos School	Lillian Rater	617.349.6315
Baldwin School	Susan Tiersch	617.349.6525 x105
Cambridgeport School	Kristen Emack	617.349.6587 x111
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School	Marguerite Hicks-Gyewu	617.349.6454
Fletcher Maynard Academy	Daniel Skeritt	617.349.6589
Graham & Parks Alternative School	Lauren Morse	617.349.6577 x115
Haggerty School	Lissa Galluccio	617.349.6555 x208
Kennedy-Longfellow School	Nancy Wyse	617.349.4865
King Open School	Neusa DaCosta	617.349.6540 x101
Morse School	Denise Sullivan	617.349.6575 x108
Peabody School	Nicole M. Sullivan	617.349.6530 x1141
Tobin/Tobin Montessori School	Mary Frawley	617.349.6600 x153

RESOURCES	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
Special Education Parent Support	617.593.4402	zqueen-postell@cpsd.us
Amharic: Aboma Dirbaba	857.331.1199	adirbaba@cpsd.us
Haitian Creole: Jardine Jerome	617.201.6039	jjerome@cpsd.us
Spanish: Joseph Rivera	617.999.8472	jriviera@cpsd.us
Sheltered English Immersion: Mildred Gédéon	617.349.6577 x120	mgedeon@cpsd.us
Special Needs - Office of Student Services	617.349.6500	
For Health Related Inquires, Immunizations	617.665.3776	jumurray@challiance.org



What Happens After You Register

Students with Disabilities/Special Needs

Student IEPs (Individualized Education Program documents) will be reviewed to ensure that your child receives appropriate supports. This will not delay your child's participation in the lottery. If your child has special needs but does not have an IEP, 504 Accommodation Plan, or Individualized Health Plan (for instance, because the disability is new or you are moving from outside of the country), please notify us so that we can connect you with the Office of Student Services.

Waitlisted Students

We will contact waitlisted students as soon as a seat becomes available. To keep the process moving quickly, we are only able to provide you with 48 hours to respond. Please keep us informed of the best way to reach you.

Getting Ready for Jr. K / Kindergarten

Your child's school will reach out to you in the spring to invite you to events that will help your family get to know the school and transition to Jr. K / Kindergarten. Teacher assignments are not usually available until late summer. During the first 2 days of school, your child will not attend for a full day, and will instead come for an orientation with your child's teacher.

LANGUAGE TESTING

If your child speaks the program language of an immersion school or program, they must have their language level assessed in order to determine whether or not they will receive bonus points. We strongly encourage you to register earlier in the month of January to leave enough time for you to schedule the test and ensure that it takes place by 4PM on January 31.



Jr. K/Kindergarten Lottery Timeline for Families

FALL	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL – JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	NEXT JAN.
Jr. K/K Info Sessions	Registration at SRC	Watch for a letter confirming your application information	School Assignments	Jr. K/Kindergarten Transition Events	School Bus, School Meals, and other CPS Mailings	Jr. K/K Orientation: First 2 Days of School	Waitlist Renewals - Deadline: March 1
School tours	Language Tests		Waitlists Established	SRC Resource Fair (for new families)		Free/Reduced Meals Applications Due	
Gather documents	IEP Review						

January 2020 Registration Location & Schedule

Student Registration Center (SRC)
 Cambridge Rindge & Latin School
 459 Broadway
 Cambridge, MA 02138

More Information:
 617.349.6551
 Fax: 617.349.6552
www.cpsd.us
welcome@cpsd.us



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Closed	2 First Day to Register 8:30AM - 3:30PM	3 8:30AM-3:30PM	4
5	6 8:30AM-3:30PM	7 8:30AM-3:30PM	8 8:30AM-3:30PM	9 8:30AM-3:30PM	10 8:30AM-3:30PM	11
12	13 8:30AM-3:30PM	14 8:30AM-3:30PM	15 8:30AM-3:30PM	16 8:30AM-3:30PM	17 8:30AM-3:30PM	18
19	20 Closed	21 Extended Hours 8:30AM - 7PM	22 Extended Hours 8:30AM - 7PM	23 Extended Hours 8:30AM - 7PM	24 8:30AM-3:30PM	25 Extended Hours 9AM - 12NOON
26	27 8:30AM-3:30PM	28 8:30AM-3:30PM	29 8:30AM-3:30PM	30 Extended Hours 8:30AM - 7PM	31 Last Day to Register Extended Hrs: 8:30AM - 4PM	



Student Registration Center

Cambridge Rindge & Latin School
459 Broadway • Cambridge, MA 02138
617.349.6551 • Fax 617.349.6552
welcome@cpsd.us • www.cpsd.us



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