



# NEWS

Connecticut State Department of Education and the Regional School Choice Office

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**February 24, 2015**

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## **RSCO Lottery On-Time Application Deadline Friday, February 27, 2015**

(HARTFORD, CT) – February 24, 2015 – The Connecticut Department of Education’s Regional School Choice Office (RSCO) would like to remind parents, grandparents, and guardians of children entering prekindergarten to Grade 12 that this is the final week to submit an on-time application for the 2015-16 RSCO lottery.

Families should also note that the largest numbers of available seats tend to be in the entry-level grades for each school or program, particularly prekindergarten, kindergarten, grade 6 and grade 9.

The RSCO lottery offers Hartford and suburban students an opportunity to apply to two, high-quality public school choice options: 1) the Hartford Region Open Choice Program – where Hartford students can attend a suburban, non-magnet public school and suburban students can attend select Hartford district schools; and 2) interdistrict magnet schools, which are theme-based and located in and around Hartford.

On the RSCO lottery application, you may apply to the Hartford Region Open Choice Program and/or up to five magnet schools. Families are encouraged to make an informed decision, and options depend on the grade to which you are applying. A good place to start is RSCO’s Web site, which includes information on all programming offered through the RSCO lottery, as well as lottery policies.

To submit an online application, parents should visit RSCO’s website at <http://choiceeducation.org> and click on ‘Apply Now’ in the orange box on the site’s main page. On-time applications must be received no later than Friday, February 27, 2015.

For additional information and to learn more, visit RSCO’s Web site at <http://www.choiceeducation.org> or call or visit RSCO’s Parent Information Center at 860-713-6990 weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. On Friday, Feb. 27 the Parent Information Center – located in Room 360 at the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue in Hartford – will be open for extended hours, until 6:00 p.m.

Computers and free assistance are also available at RSCO satellite sites, including RSCO's primary satellite based at Hartford Public Library's Downtown Branch at 500 Main Street. During the week of Feb. 23 the Downtown Branch satellite will be open, weather permitting, on Tuesday, Feb. 24 from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 25 from 4:30 - 8:00 p.m., and Thursday, Feb. 26 from 3:00 - 8:00 p.m.

A list of other community-based RSCO satellite sites can be found on RSCO's Web site, under 'RSCO Satellite Sites and Information Centers.' Families should call these organizations first before visiting.

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