

# RSCO School Choice Family Guide

Your future,  
*your choice.*



## Language Interpretation and Translation Assistance

Assistance with the RSCO online school choice application is available at RSCO's Parent Resource Center, a Hartford Public Library branch, or at satellite sites located throughout Hartford.

**Spanish language assistance with the RSCO online application:** By phone at **860-713-6990**; Schedule an appointment for in-person assistance at the **Parent Resource Center**, 450 Columbus Blvd., Hartford, CT 06103.

RSCO provides assistance in the following languages through a translation/interpretation service: Arabic, Chinese, French, Haitian Creole, Hindi, Korean, Pashto, Polish, Portuguese, Nepalese, Spanish, Serbian, and Vietnamese. Language assistance is available using interpretation services at **860-713-6990**.

المساعدة باللغات التالية عبر خدمات الترجمة التحريرية RSCO تقدم الفورية: العربية، الصينية، الفرنسية، الكريولية الهايتية، الهندية، الكورية، الباشتو، البولندية، البرتغالية، النيبالية، الإسبانية، الصربية الكرواتية، الفيتنامية. تتوفر المساعدة اللغوية باستخدام خدمات الترجمة الفورية عبر الاتصال بهذا الرقم: 860-713-6990.

RSCO 通过笔译/口译服务提供以下语言的援助: 阿拉伯语、汉语、法语、海地克里奥尔语、印地语、韩语、普什图语、波兰语、葡萄牙语、尼泊尔语、西班牙语、塞尔维亚-克罗地亚语和越南语 通过口译服务提供语言协助, 电话: 860-713-6990.

Le RSCO offre de l'aide dans les langues suivantes au moyen d'un service de traduction/d'interprétation : Arabe, chinois, français, créole haïtien, hindi, coréen, pachto, polonais, portugais, népalais, espagnol, serbo-croate et vietnamien. L'assistance linguistique est disponible par le biais de services d'interprétation au 860-713-6990.

RSCO ofri asistans nan lang sa yo gras a yon sèvis tradiksyon/entèpretasyon: Arab, Chinwa, Fransè, Kreyòl Ayisyen, Hindi, Koreyen, Pachto, Polonè, Pòtigè, Nepalè, Panyòl, Sèbo-Kwowat, ak Vyetnamyen Asistans nan lang nan disponib gras a sèvis entèpretasyon nan 860-713-6990.

RSCO निम्नलिखित भाषाओं में अनुवाद/व्याख्या सेवा के माध्यम से सहायता प्रदान करता है: अरबी, चीनी, फ्रेंच, हाईटियन क्रियोल, हिन्दी, कोरियाई, पश्तो, पोलिश, पुर्तगाली, नेपाली, स्पैनिश, सर्बो-क्रोएशन और वियतनामी भाषा सहायता 860-713-6990 पर व्याख्या सेवाओं का उपयोग करके उपलब्ध है।

په لاندې ژبو کې د ژباړې/ترجماني خدمت له لارې مرسته چمتو کوي: عربي، چينايي، فرانسوي، هايټي کريول، هندي، کورايي، پښتو، پولندي، پرتگالي، نيبالي، هسپانوي، سربو-کروشن، او ويتنامي ژبه، مرستې 860-713-6990 په ډايل کولو د ترجماني خدماتو په کارولو سره شتون لري

RSCO oferuje usługi w zakresie tłumaczeń ustnych i pisemnych w następujących językach: arabskim, chińskim, francuskim, kreolskim z Haiti, hindi, koreańskim, pasztańskim, polskim, portugalskim, nepalskim, hiszpańskim, serbskim, chorwackim oraz wietnamskim. Pomoc językową w tłumaczeniu ustnym można uzyskać telefonując pod numer 860-713-6990.

O RSCO presta assistència nos seguintes idiomas através de um serviço de tradução/interpretação: árabe, chinês, francês, crioulo haitiano, hindi, coreano, pashto, polonês, português, nepalês, espanhol, servo-croata, e vietnamita. Os serviços de interpretação estão disponíveis pelo telefone 860-713-6990.

RSCO ले निम्न भाषाहरूमा अनुवाद/दोभासे सेवा मार्फत् सहायता प्रदान गर्दछ: अरबी, चीनियाँ, फ्रेंच, हाइसियन क्रियोले, हिन्दी, कोरियाली, पास्तो, पोलिस, पोर्तुगाली, नेपाली, स्पेनी, सर्बो-क्रोएसियन र मियतनामी भाषा सहायता उपलब्ध छ, 860-713-6990 मा फोन गरेर दोभासे सेवाहरू लिनुहोस् ।

RSCO provee ayuda en los siguientes idiomas a través de un servicio de traducción e interpretación: árabe, chino, francés, haitiano, creole, coreano, pastun, polaco, portugués, nepalés, español, serbio-croata, vietnamese. Ayuda del leguaje está disponible utilizando los servicios de interpretación en el número 860-713-6990.

RRR pruža podršku putem usluga pisanog i usmenog prevodenja na sledećim jezicima: arapski, francuski, haicanski kreolski, hinderski, hrvatski, kineski, korejski, nepalski, paštunski, poljski, portugalski, srpski, španski i vijetnamski. Usluga usmenog prevodenja dostupna je na tel. 860-713-6990.

RSCO cung cấp dịch vụ biên dịch/phiên dịch sang các ngôn ngữ sau: Ả Rập, Trung Quốc, Pháp, Haiti Creole, Hindi, Hàn Quốc, Pashto, Ba Lan, Bồ Đào Nha, Nepal, Tây Ban Nha, Serbo-Croatian và tiếng Việt. Để sử dụng dịch vụ phiên dịch, vui lòng gọi 860-713-6990.

Greater Hartford Region  
**RSCO School Choice**  
Family Reference Guide

Prekindergarten to Grade 12  
School Year 2024–2025

[ChooseYourSchool.org](https://ChooseYourSchool.org)







Get a vibrant future  
growing for your student.



# RSCO School Choice Family Reference Guide

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***Due to production schedules, information included in this catalog may change or be updated. If you have questions, please visit RSCO’s website at [ChooseYourSchool.org](http://ChooseYourSchool.org) or call 860-713-6990.***

# Key Dates and Events

## RSCO Application Periods

Mark your calendar so that you know exactly what is happening, and when.

### On-Time Application Period

**Magnet Schools, Open Choice Program, and CTECS**

- **Opens:** December 4, 2023
- **CTECS Early Application Deadline:** February 1, 2024
- **Closes:** March 15, 2024

### Extended Application Period

**Magnet Schools, Open Choice Program, and CTECS**

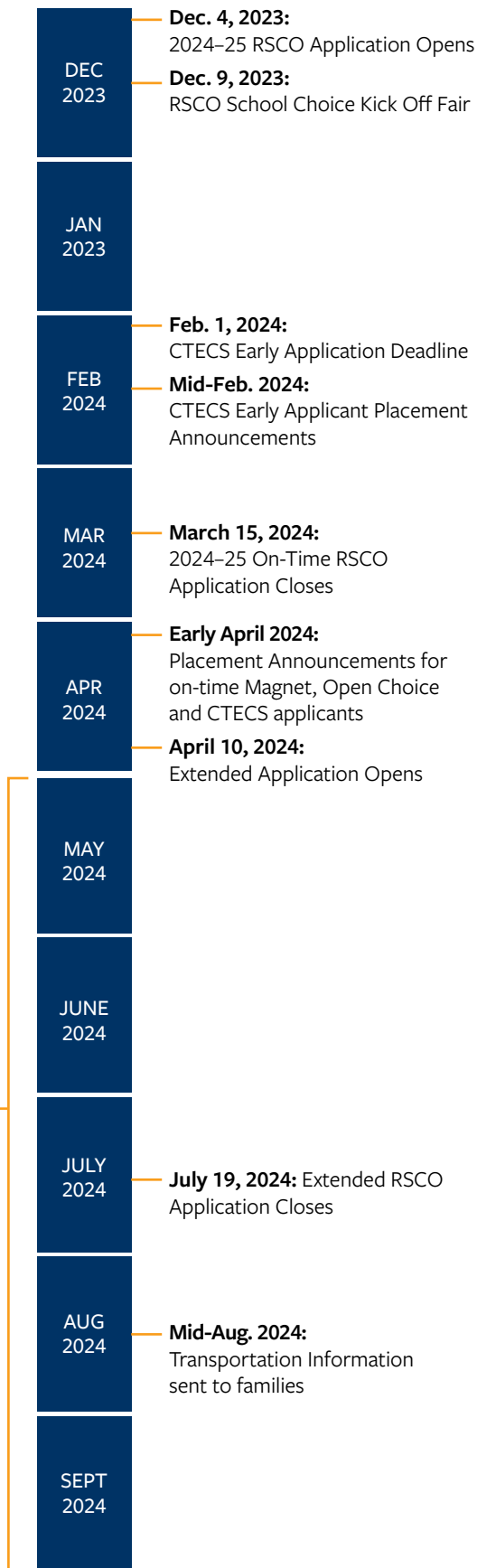
- **Opens:** April 10, 2024
- **Closes:** July 19, 2024

## RSCO Placement Offers

Placements continue through the spring and summer and will begin as follows:

- **February 2024:** CTECS early placements begin in February 2024. CTECS applicants must submit their CTECS application by February 1, 2024, to be included in the early round of placement offers.
- **April 2024:** CTECS, Magnet Schools, and Open Choice Program on-time applicants.

**Mid-May to Mid-Sept. 2024:**  
Placements made every other week by program



## RSCO School Choice Fairs

Attend a RSCO school choice fair to meet with representatives from RSCO's network of choice schools — magnet schools, open choice districts, and technical high schools — and learn about classes, sports, clubs, and transportation, while participating in fun activities! This free event is the perfect time for prospective families to learn more, ask questions, and discover exactly what RSCO School Choice is all about.

### RSCO School Choice Kick Off Fair (Grades PK–12)

**Date:** Saturday, December 9, 2023

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Location:** Academy of Aerospace & Engineering  
1101 Kennedy Road, Windsor

**Snow/Weather Date:** December 16, 2023

### Winter RSCO School Choice Fair (Grades PK–12)

**Date:** Saturday, March 2, 2024

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Location:** Connecticut River Academy at  
Goodwin University  
9 Riverside Drive, East Hartford

**Snow/Weather Date:** March 9, 2024

### Spring RSCO School Choice Fair (Grades PK–12)

**Date:** April 20, 2024

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Location:** Sport and Medical Sciences Academy  
280 Huyshope Avenue, Hartford

## Family Fun Nights

Join RSCO staff for a night out at a RSCO Family Fun Night, where you can find information about your school choice options, receive help with the RSCO application, and enjoy fun activities for the whole family!

### Family Fun Night #1:

**Date:** January 24, 2024

**Time:** 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** Breakthrough Magnet School South  
290 Brookfield Street, Hartford

**Snow/Weather Date:** February 6, 2024

### Family Fun Night #2:

**Date:** February 15, 2024

**Time:** 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** Riverside Magnet School at  
Goodwin University  
29 Willowbrook Road, East Hartford

**Snow/Weather Date:** February 29, 2024

### Family Fun Night #3:

**Date:** March 7, 2024

**Time:** 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** Ana Grace Academy of the Arts  
129 Griffin Road North, Bloomfield

**Snow/Weather Date:** March 12, 2024

Visit [ChooseYourSchool.org](https://ChooseYourSchool.org) for more information and stay up to date with RSCO events and announcements.

## Contact RSCO



**Website:** [ChooseYourSchool.org](https://ChooseYourSchool.org)



**Phone:** 860-713-6990



**Email:** [rscs.sde@ct.gov](mailto:rscs.sde@ct.gov)



**Visit:** 450 Columbus Boulevard  
Hartford, CT 06103-1841

*Call RSCO to make an appointment*



# School Choice in the Greater Hartford Region

## About RSCO

**The Greater Hartford Regional School Choice System** offers families the power to choose a school or program outside their home district for their child to attend.

The Regional School Choice Office, also known as RSCO, is the office established by the Connecticut State Department of Education to serve as a centralized resource for information about these unique, high-quality public school choice options for prekindergarten through grade 12.

In partnership with Bloomfield Public Schools, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC), East Hartford Public Schools, Goodwin University Educational Services (GUES), and Hartford Public Schools, the RSCO school choice system brings together families from over 80 towns in diverse and engaging learning environments. We invite families to explore this Guide and discover the broad variety of public school options that are available to them through school choice.



**Your future, your choice.** | [ChooseYourSchool.org](http://ChooseYourSchool.org)

## Did You Know?

- Colleges look for applicants who have experience learning in diverse schools.
- Choice schools give students the opportunity to drive their learning and pursue their passions!
- Research shows that diverse classrooms lead to increased creativity, problem-solving, and critical thinking.
- Choice schools offer small class sizes and project-based learning to keep students engaged and motivated to learn!

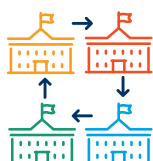


# RSCO's School Choice Programs

You have a choice about where your child attends school! School choice options extend beyond your home district and offer Connecticut families FREE\* public school educational options in the Greater Hartford Region. The four RSCO School Choice Programs are described on this page and throughout the Guide.



**Interdistrict Magnet Schools (PK3–Grade 12)** Magnet schools are unique public schools that offer innovative, hands-on learning environments through specific themes or specialized instructional programming to fit the talents and interests of students. Students still learn the core subjects, but the unique theme is integrated throughout the curriculum to engage students in topics that interest them the most, including such themes as Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), visual and performing arts, International Baccalaureate, and Montessori.



## The Hartford Region Open Choice Program

### Hartford Residents: PK4–Grade 12

The Open Choice Program for Hartford residents is a public school program that allows Hartford resident students to attend non-magnet public schools in grades PK4–12 in nearby suburban school districts. This program offers a great opportunity for students to access quality academic programming in high-performing schools outside of their home district and take advantage of the enriching extracurricular options offered in Open Choice districts.

### Non-Hartford Residents: KG–Grade 8

The Open Choice Program for non-Hartford residents is a public school program that allows students living outside of Hartford to attend certain non-magnet public schools in grades kindergarten–8 in Hartford with specialized programming.



## Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS) Technical High Schools (Grades 9–12)

RSCO offers students entering the 9th grade the opportunity to apply to three Hartford region technical high schools (A.I. Prince Technical High School, E.C. Goodwin Technical High School, and Howell Cheney Technical High School) as a group. Technical high schools combine core academics and career/technical education to prepare students for immediate employment, apprenticeship programs, and college and career opportunities.



## Agricultural Science and Technology Education Schools (ASTE) (Grades 9–12)

ASTE schools prepare students for college and careers in the fields of animal science, aquaculture, biotechnology, food science, environmental science, plant science, marine technology, agricultural mechanics technology, and agriculture business as part of their high school program. Students entering 9th grade may apply to an ASTE school.

\* Magnet Schools operated by the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) and Goodwin University Educational Services (GUES) charge prekindergarten tuition on a sliding scale based on family income. Go to page 12 for more information on tuition costs for prekindergarten enrollment.

# Top 5 Things You Need to Know

1

**Only parents/guardians who reside in Connecticut** at the time of application are eligible to submit a RSCO application. **Please note** that a post office box (P.O. Box) cannot be used to prove Connecticut residency and applications submitted by anyone other than a legal guardian may be deleted.

2

**You may only submit ONE completed application for each child for the 2024-25 school year**, either during the on-time application period or extended application period. Duplicate applications will be deleted.



3

**Only apply to schools and programs that you would accept if your child were to receive an offer.** Applying to multiple schools and programs may increase the chance of a placement, but applicants are only eligible to receive one placement offer with a few exceptions (listed below). This means that once your child receives an offer, they are removed from all other waitlists. **Exceptions to this one offer rule are listed below:**

- Hartford residents can decline their first Open Choice offer and remain eligible for a second Open Choice offer.
- If siblings in the same grade range are placed in separate schools or programs during the same offer round, parents may decline the offer for one child and request to keep that child on the waitlist for a placement in the sibling's school. If only one sibling receives a placement, the sibling(s) on the waitlist will have placed sibling priority at that school. If the other sibling is placed in a different school in a later round, they may decline that placement and stay on the waitlist for the school where they have sibling priority. **Families must contact RSCO to exercise this exception to the one offer rule for sibling placements.**

4

**Choice order matters!** Families should be sure to rank their school/district selections by preference. Choice order is important for placements and priorities.

- The placement protocol **prioritizes choice order** and seeks to fill open seats based on family preference. This means that when a school has available seats, the system tries to place applicants who ranked the school first, then second, and then continues to move through choice order. **While the first-choice school is typically the best chance at placement, you could receive a placement for any school, depending on the number of open seats and other first-choice applications. For example, if your first-choice school does not have open seats and your second-choice school has open seats but no first-choice applicants, you could get an offer for the second-choice school.**
- **Most placement priorities apply only to the first-choice school or district.** Make sure to rank the school/district with a priority as your first choice.

5

**Applying early for CTECS or on-time for magnets and Open Choice** is one of the best ways to increase your chance of a placement offer.

- **Apply by February 1, 2024, for CTECS Early Application Deadline**
- **Apply by March 15, 2024, for CTECS, magnet schools, and the Open Choice Program On-Time Deadline**

**Important Note:** *We have more applicants than available seats. Submitting an application does not guarantee a placement offer.*





# Special Considerations for Prekindergarten and Kindergarten Applicants

**New! Updated age requirements for PK3, PK4, and kindergarten beginning in the 2024–25 school year:** Beginning with the 2024–25 school year, Connecticut law requires children to turn 5 years old on or before September 1 to be automatically eligible for kindergarten. This is a change from the current kindergarten cutoff date of January 1. RSCO has updated the prekindergarten age requirements to align with the new kindergarten requirements.

## Updated Age Requirements

- **PK3 (Prekindergarten Age 3):** Child turns 3 on or before September 1, 2024 (born on or between September 2, 2020, and September 1, 2021)
- **PK4 (Prekindergarten Age 4):** Child turns 4 on or before September 1, 2024 (born on or between September 2, 2019, and September 1, 2020)
- **Kindergarten:** Child must turn 5 on or before September 1, 2024\* (born on or between September 2, 2018, and September 1, 2019, **OR** child was born between September 2, 2017, and September 1, 2018, and has no previous schooling)

\* **Exceptions to the new age requirements for kindergarten:** A child who has not reached the age of 5 on or before September 1 may be admitted to kindergarten if (1) the parent submits a written request to the principal of the school to admit their child to kindergarten; and (2) the principal of the school determines that the child is developmentally appropriate for kindergarten based on an assessment.

**Application to kindergarten for students who do not meet the new age requirement:** To submit a kindergarten application for a child turning 5 years old in September, October, November, or December, parents must contact RSCO for assistance. Kindergarten placement offers made to students who have not reached the age of 5 on or before September 1 will be conditional, pending the results of the assessment. The student's application is considered a written request for the school to admit the child to kindergarten. If the school determines that the student is not developmentally appropriate for kindergarten, the student will be placed back on the waiting list for PK4.

**Please Note:** *There are no exceptions to the age requirements for PK3 or PK4.*

## Questions? We are here to help!

Contact the **RSCO Parent Resource Center** at 860-713-6990 for application assistance to be sure you are maximizing your options!

## Tuition for Prekindergarten Students

- Magnet schools operated by the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) and Goodwin University Educational Services (GUES) charge prekindergarten tuition on a sliding scale based on family income. The fee for prekindergarten is determined annually.
- Magnet schools operated by the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC): The PK tuition fee for 2023–24 for one child was \$3,828 and did not exceed \$5,145 per family.
- Magnet schools operated by Goodwin University Educational Services (GUES): The PK tuition fee will not exceed \$4,000 per child.

**Note:** Updated prekindergarten tuition rates for the 2024–25 school year will be published in spring 2024. Please check with the school for specific details.

## Transportation for PK3 & PK4 Students

### Hartford residents:

- **RSCO provides transportation** for PK3 and PK4 Hartford resident students who attend magnet schools or Open Choice schools located **outside of Hartford**.
- Transportation **is not provided** for PK3 and PK4 Hartford residents attending a magnet school located in Hartford. Hartford families must transport their students to and from a magnet school located in Hartford. The transportation reimbursement stipend is not available to families who transport students to a magnet school located in their town of residence per statute.

### Non-Hartford residents:

- **RSCO does not provide transportation** for PK3 and PK4 non-Hartford resident students who attend a magnet school located outside of their town of residence. Non-Hartford families who transport their PK child to and from a magnet school outside of their town of residence are eligible for a reimbursement stipend. Complete an online reimbursement form, available at [crec.org/transportation/forms.php](http://crec.org/transportation/forms.php) before June 15, 2025.
- Transportation **is not provided** for PK3 and PK4 non-Hartford residents who attend a magnet school located in their town of residence. The transportation reimbursement stipend is not available to families who transport students to a magnet school located in their town of residence per statute.



# Strategies to Make the Most of Your RSCO School Choice Application

There are certain tips and strategies to keep in mind to help ensure you submit your application with the best chance of a placement you want. Here are some tips to think about as you explore your options.

## Pay Attention to Deadlines

- **Apply early for CTECS** (by February 1, 2024) to take advantage of CTECS early placements.
- **Apply on-time for magnet schools and Open Choice** (by March 15, 2024).
- **Respond by the deadline dates** in placement notifications, including for student registration.

## Maximize Your Priorities

- The information **in your RSCO account** is used to identify priorities, including enrolled sibling, staff, pathways, and other priorities. Check the priorities on each Student Profile to ensure that all your priorities are listed.
- Most priorities apply only to the **first-choice school**. Make the school with a placement priority your first choice for the best chance of a placement.
- If you are applying for twins or siblings in the same grade range, select the **same schools in the same choice order** on every application to increase the chance that they will be placed together in the same school.
- **CTECS Only:** Apply to CTECS only to receive a **CTECS Only** priority if you are most interested in a CTECS placement. Families can add the other programs (magnets and/or Open Choice) to their application if they don't receive a CTECS placement.
- **Open Choice Only:** Apply to **Open Choice only** to receive an Open Choice Only priority if you are most interested in an Open Choice placement. Families can add the other programs (CTECS and/or magnets) to their application if they don't receive an Open Choice placement.

To learn more about placement priorities and how they are applied to a school or district, go to [ChooseYourSchool.org](https://ChooseYourSchool.org).



## Questions? We are here to help!

Contact the **RSCO Parent Resource Center** at 860-713-6990 for application assistance to be sure you are maximizing your options!



## Know the Placement Rules

- Most applicants are **eligible for only one** placement offer. Be sure to select only schools or districts your child would like to attend.
- Generally, your best chance of a placement offer is to the school or district you select as your first choice, but your child could receive placement at any school or district on your child's application.
- Keep in mind that if you apply to CTECS, magnet schools, and/or Open Choice, **you are not able** to indicate which program you prefer.
- If you receive a **magnet offer**, your child is no longer eligible for another offer, including a magnet, Open Choice, or CTECS placement.
- If you receive an **Open Choice offer**, your child is no longer eligible for a magnet or CTECS placement. Hartford residents who decline the placement are eligible for a second Open Choice offer.
- **New for 2024–25:** If you receive a **CTECS offer**, your child is no longer eligible for another offer, including a magnet, Open Choice, or CTECS placement.
- You have the option to apply to one or all school choice programs that best fit the interest of your child and needs of your family. You should **apply only to schools and programs** you would like your child to attend.
- You **do not have to** apply to all programs available to you.
- You **do not have to** apply to the maximum number of schools/districts.

## Make an Informed Decision

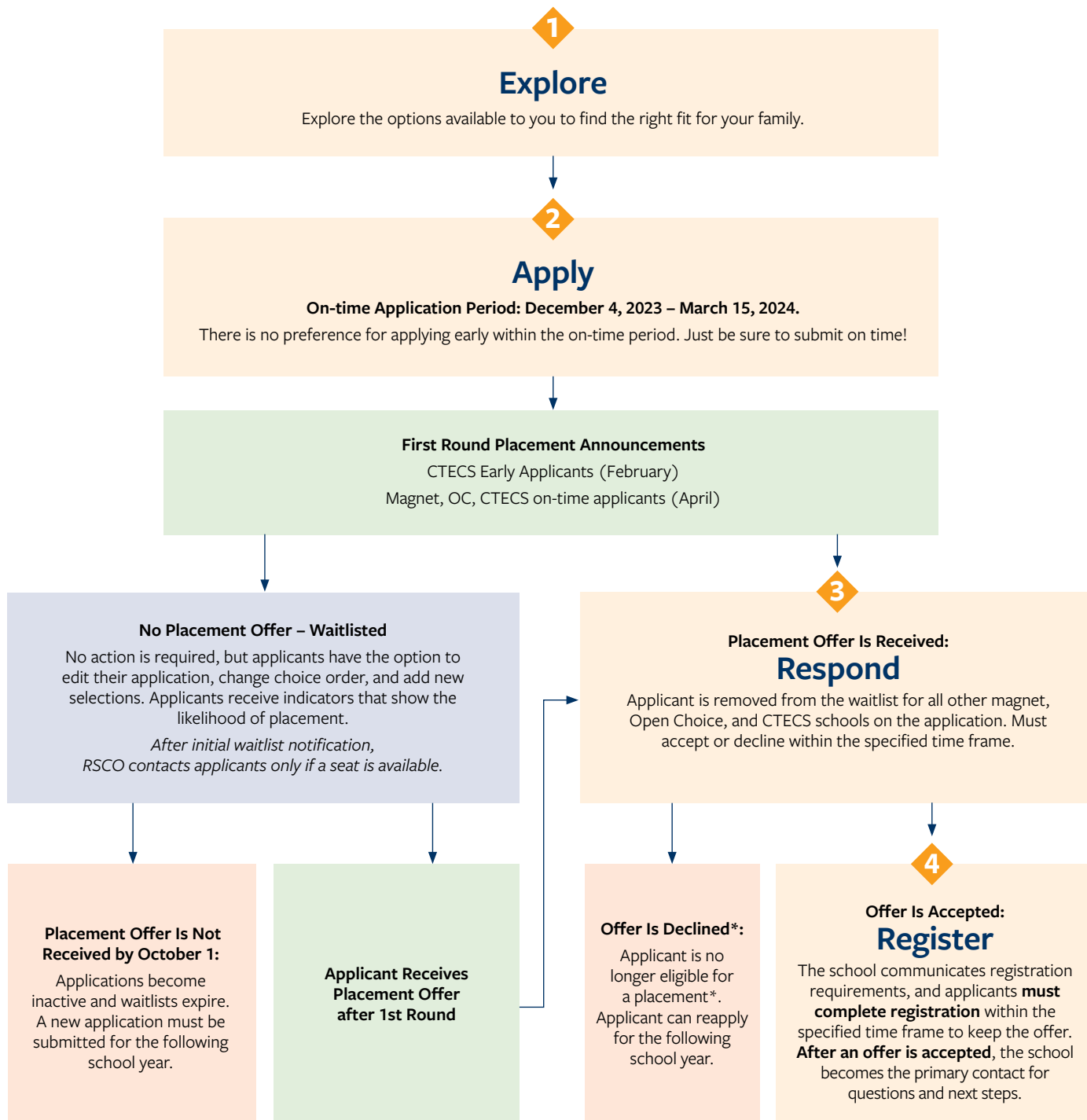
- Before selecting a school or program, make sure it is a good fit for your family and **consider the location and hours**. For example, some schools charge tuition for preschool on a sliding scale based on family income, and some schools offer only half-day programming for PK3.
- Take advantage of the **special feature** in the RSCO School Choice application that allows you to view the previous year's number of applications compared to seat availability to assist you in your school and/or district selections. In general, the most seats available are at the entry grade of a school, but applicants can apply to non-entry grades as well based on eligibility.



## Monitor Your Waitlists

- If you do not receive a placement offer in the first round, you will have the chance to add more schools to your application and reorder your original selections to increase your chance of a placement.
- For original selections and newly added schools, a waitlist indicator will update in real time to show your chance of receiving an offer.
- Be sure to check back often to monitor the waitlist size.

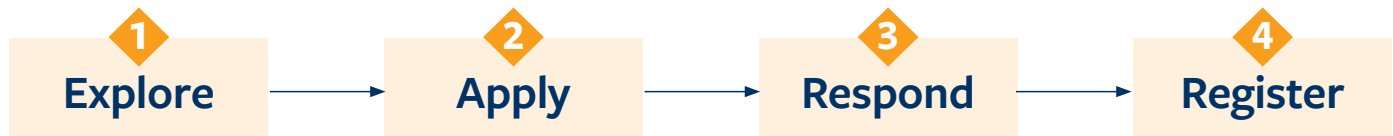
# RSCO School Choice Application Timeline and Placement Process



\* Hartford residents can decline their first Open Choice offer and remain eligible for a second Open Choice offer.

# Getting Started on Your Way to a School Choice Opportunity

It is awesome that families have so many choices for their children’s education, but it can be overwhelming to navigate what is available to you and understand how likely it is you will receive an offer for a school choice option. As you consider school choice as an option for your family, follow these four important steps to make an informed choice.



## 1 Explore Your Options

Explore the options available to you to find the right fit for your family.

### Identify Your Child’s Interests and Talents and What is Important to Your Family

- What makes your child unique? How does your child learn? What motivates your child? What are your child’s talents?
- Consider things that are important to you, such as school themes, distance from home, transportation options, school and classroom size, extracurricular activities, before/after school programs, or prekindergarten tuition.

### Do Your Research

- Explore RSCO’s comprehensive online school choice directory at [ChooseYourSchool.org](https://ChooseYourSchool.org) for detailed information about magnet schools, Open Choice, and Hartford Region technical high schools.
- Attend RSCO events: School Choice Fairs, RSCO Family Fun Nights, and school open houses.
- Go to [ChooseYourSchool.org](https://ChooseYourSchool.org) to stay up to date about RSCO event dates and times.
- Review past seat availability in the school directory to get a sense of the best options for a placement (generally, most seats are available at the entry grades: prekindergarten, kindergarten, 6th grade, and 9th grade).
- Check to see if placement priorities are available to you and may increase your chance of receiving a placement offer.
- Contact the RSCO Parent Resource Center, RSCO Partner Welcome Centers, Hartford Public Library, or a RSCO satellite site to discuss the options and ask questions. Go to page 37 for additional information.



## 2 Apply to Your Choices

RSCO has an easy-to-use online application platform that allows families to manage applications for all their children. Once your RSCO account is created, be sure to **use the same account every year** to submit applications. The placement process prioritizes applicants who have applied for multiple years without an offer. **It is important to use the same account** to be flagged for this priority.

The **on-time application period** is December 4, 2023, to March 15, 2024. There are **NO** placement advantages to applying early **except for 9th graders applying for early placement to CTECS** by the February 1, 2024, early deadline!

1. Go to [ChooseYourSchool.org](https://ChooseYourSchool.org).
2. **Create** a RSCO account or log in to your existing account if you are a returning applicant.
3. **Create or modify** your Guardian Profile.
4. **Create or update** Student Profiles for all of the children in your household.
5. **Answer** the staff and alumni priorities questions.
6. **Select** schools and programs that fit your child's interests and skills.
7. **Submit your application for each child and for each program** you are interested in (magnet, Open Choice, CTECS). Remember, you are **NOT** required to submit applications for all available programs. **Apply only to programs you would accept** if you received an offer.
8. **Keep your information updated** so that you receive time-sensitive communications.

**Important Note:** *You may create only one RSCO account. Duplicate RSCO accounts and applications will be deleted.*

## 3 Respond to Placement Offer

The RSCO placement process will begin in February 2024 for CTECS early applicants and April 2024 for magnet schools, the Open Choice Program, and CTECS, and continue to run through September 30, 2024. Families are notified by email or text message of a placement offer. The placement schedule will be posted at [ChooseYourSchool.org](https://ChooseYourSchool.org) to keep families informed about the process.

1. Go to [ChooseYourSchool.org](https://ChooseYourSchool.org).
2. Go to **Your Dashboard** and download your notification letter from the Documents section under Tools.
3. Select **“View Offer”** on the **student** card.
4. Select **“View Offer”** on the **application** card for the program with the placement offer (magnet, CTECS or Open Choice).
5. Select **Accept or Decline** by the deadline. You will receive a confirmation email after you make your selection.

**Important Note:** *If you do not respond by the deadline, **your placement offer will be automatically declined**. The seat at the school will then be offered to an applicant on the waitlist.*

## 4 Register Your Child

Once you accept your offer, start the registration process immediately.

Refer to your offer letter for school contact information to begin the process. **Failure to register by the deadline may result in the removal of your child's placement offer.** Go to [ChooseYourSchool.org](https://www.chooseyourschool.org) for general information on the registration processes.



### Questions? We are here to help!

**Phone:** 860-713-6990 | **Email:** [rscs.sde@ct.gov](mailto:rscs.sde@ct.gov)

Send us a message through your RSCO application message feature or schedule an in-person appointment with our RSCO Parent Resource Center Staff!

# Placement Rules:

## Understanding How It Works

It is important to understand how the placement process affects your application and your chance of receiving a placement offer so that you can apply in a way that maximizes your chance of an offer.

**Listed below are scenarios related to the Placement Process.** Review them carefully, especially if you are applying for more than one program (e.g., magnets plus Open Choice, magnets plus CTECS, Open Choice plus CTECS, or magnets plus Open Choice plus CTECS), to help inform your application decisions.

### I received a magnet offer

#### Impact on Magnet, Open Choice, and CTECS

**Selections:** The application is removed from all other magnet, Open Choice, and CTECS waitlists. Receiving a magnet school placement makes the applicant ineligible for any other offers for magnet schools, the Open Choice program, or a CTECS technical high school (A.I. Prince, E.C. Goodwin, Howell Cheney).

### I received a CTECS offer

#### Impact on CTECS, Magnet, and Open Choice

**Selections:** The application is removed from all other CTECS, magnet, and Open Choice waitlists. Receiving an offer for a CTECS school makes an applicant ineligible for any other offers for CTECS, magnet, or Open Choice.

### I received a Non-Hartford Resident Open Choice offer

**Impact on Magnet and Open Choice Selections:** The application is removed from all other magnet and Open Choice waitlists. Receiving an Open Choice offer makes the applicant ineligible for any other offers for magnet schools or the Open Choice program.

### I received a Hartford Resident Open Choice offer

- **Impact on Magnet and CTECS Selections:** The application is removed from all magnet school and CTECS waitlists. Receiving an Open Choice placement makes the applicant ineligible for any other offers for a magnet school or a CTECS technical high school (A.I. Prince, E.C. Goodwin, Howell Cheney).
- **Impact on Open Choice Selections:** If the Open Choice placement offer is accepted, the applicant is ineligible for any other placements and the application is removed from all waitlists.
  - **If the first Open Choice placement offer is declined:** The applicant is eligible for a second Open Choice placement and the application remains on the waitlist for other Open Choice selections.
  - **If the second Open Choice placement offer is declined:** The applicant is ineligible for any other Open Choice placements and the application is removed from all Open Choice waitlists.

**Important Note:** *If siblings in the same grade range are placed in separate schools or programs during the same offer round, parents may decline the offer for one child and request to keep that child on the waitlist for a placement in the sibling's school. If only one sibling receives a placement, the sibling(s) on the waitlist will have placed sibling priority at that school. If the other sibling is placed in a different school in a later round, they may decline that placement and stay on the waitlist for the school where they have placed sibling priority. You must contact RSCO to exercise this exception to the one offer rule for sibling placements.*



# Placement Protocol:

## Understanding How It Works

The placement process involves a complex protocol that considers a variety of factors that can vary by school, program, and operator. Key factors in assigning placements are the number of seats available, the grade level, and the applicants' choice order, along with socioeconomic factors and priorities (such as sibling, staff, pathways, and neighborhood). To maximize opportunities for students, the placement process also prioritizes applicants who are **not** currently enrolled in a choice program and applicants who have applied for multiple years without an offer.

### Placement Priorities

Many of the schools and programs have “priorities” that are used in the placement process based upon an applicant’s connection to a school or program. It is important for families to know their priorities and check that they are included in the Family Profile on the application because they can increase the likelihood of a placement. Placement priorities vary by school and seat availability. Most placement priorities apply only to the first-choice school or district. Even if you are eligible for a priority at more than one school or district, you will generally receive priority only for the school or district you rank as your first choice. **Be sure to double-check the priority information for each child on the family profile of your application to ensure that it is correct and all expected priorities are listed.**

### Placement Priorities by Program

These priorities listed below do not guarantee placement at a school or program, but they may increase your chance of a placement offer for your child. Not all programs/schools offer the same priorities. The RSCO placement protocol orders priorities for each program based on the priority order in the lists below. Applicants without priorities are ordered after priority applicants.

Magnet School Applicant	Open Choice Applicant	CTECS Technical High School Applicant
1. Direct Pathway	1. Former Resident	1. Enrolled Siblings
2. Enrolled Siblings	2. Enrolled Siblings	2. Placed Siblings
3. Placed Siblings	3. Placed Siblings	3. Employee/Staff
4. Employee/Staff	4. Open Choice Only	4. CTECS Only + Alumni
5. Partner College/University Staff	5. Pathway School	5. CTECS Only
6. Partner College/University Student		6. Alumni/Graduate
7. Pathway School		
8. Residential Neighborhood		
9. Residential Zone		

*Go to RSCO’s online school directory, available at [ChooseYourSchool.org](http://ChooseYourSchool.org), to review the school program descriptions to determine which priorities may apply to your child’s application.*

# Placement Protocol:

## Priority Definitions

### CTECS Alumni/Graduate

Priority is given to 9th grade applicants applying to a Hartford Region Technical High School (A.I. Prince, E.C. Goodwin or Howell Cheney) from which a parent/legal guardian, sibling, or grandparent has graduated.

### CTECS Only

Applicants applying to the three Hartford Region Technical High Schools (A.I. Prince, E.C. Goodwin and Howell Cheney) as their only school choice option may receive priority based on available seats.

### Direct Pathway

Some magnet schools offer a prekindergarten to grade 12 continuum experience through a shared theme and curriculum. Students attending an elementary or middle school with a direct pathway will receive the highest priority for placement at the direct pathway school's entry grade. **To be considered for this direct pathway placement, you must submit an on-time RSCO online application with your direct pathway school as your first choice.**

### Employee/Staff or Partner College/University

Employees of a CTECS or magnet school may receive priority for their children when applying to the school where they work. Employees of Goodwin University, University of Hartford, Manchester Community College, Capital Community College, and Trinity College as well as students of Goodwin University may receive priority for their children when applying to their partner magnet school.

### Former Resident Priority (Open Choice Program Only)

Priority may be given to applicants who move in or out of Hartford and apply to continue attending their Open Choice school district or school.

### Open Choice Only

Applicants who only apply to the Open Choice program may receive priority based on available seats.

### Neighborhood

Priority may be given to an applicant based on how close the applicant lives to a nearby magnet school that uses a neighborhood priority.

### Pathway School

For a limited number of seats, priority may be given to students coming from one magnet school at the end grade to another magnet school at the entry grade. This increases a family's chance of remaining in the magnet system as students transition from elementary to middle and middle to high school. For example, a student in 5th grade of a PK–5th grade school may have multiple pathway school options for 6th grade. In addition, Hartford resident students enrolled in PK4 at Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet may receive a pathway priority to the Open Choice districts associated with their zone.

## Partner District

Some schools have partnership agreements with specific towns. In these cases, a set number of seats are reserved for residents from the partner town at specific grades. Once these seats are filled, there is no advantage to residing in the partner town.

## Sibling(s)

RSCO has a policy of trying to keep families together in school and district placements. These priorities apply to siblings to accomplish that policy:

- **Enrolled siblings:** RSCO tries to place siblings in the same school as a sibling who is already enrolled in the school or district. Therefore, priority may be given to a child who is applying to the same school that their sibling currently attends. The siblings must share at least one biological parent or legal guardian. The sibling that is already enrolled in the school must continue to attend the school or district in the following school year or be in the final grade of that school or district. You must select the enrolled sibling's school as your first choice to take advantage of this priority
- **Placed siblings:** RSCO tries to place siblings together who share at least one biological parent or legal guardian and are in the same grade range. The siblings must submit an application during the same application period (either on-time or extended) to the same schools/Open Choice districts in the exact same order of preference. If siblings in the same grade range are placed in separate schools or programs during the same offer round, parents may decline the offer for one child and request to keep that child on the waitlist for a placement in the sibling's school. If only one sibling receives a placement, the sibling(s) on the waitlist will have placed sibling priority at that school. If a sibling is placed in a different school in a later round, they may decline that placement and stay on the waitlist for the school where they have placed sibling priority.
- **Twins/multiples:** Twins and multiples work just like placed siblings. Efforts are made to link applications where two or more children share the same date of birth and at least one biological parent or legal guardian. The siblings must submit an application during the same application period to the same schools/Open Choice districts in the exact same order of preference during the same application period.

## Zone

Priority may be given to Hartford resident students living in specific residential zones and applying to certain schools located in Hartford:

- **Zone 1** and applying to Montessori Magnet at Fisher School, STEM Magnet at Annie Fisher School, Webster Micro Society Magnet School, or Breakthrough Magnet School North.
- **Zone 2** and applying to Capital Preparatory Magnet School (Grades PK3–Grade 8 only) or Hartford Prekindergarten Magnet School, North.
- **Zone 3** and applying to Breakthrough Magnet School South, Environmental Sciences Magnet at Hooker School, Hartford Prekindergarten Magnet School, South or, Montessori Magnet at Batchelder School.
- **Zone 4** and applying to Kinsella Magnet School of Performing Arts: PK–8 Campus, Betances Learning Lab Magnet School, or Dwight-Bellizzi Dual Language Academy (Grades PK4, kindergarten, and first grade only).

# The Waitlist Process: Placements & Applications after the First Round of Placement Offers

RSCO will send out the first round of magnet and Open Choice placement notifications to on-time applicants in April 2024. Families who do not receive a placement offer are sent a notice through text messaging and/or email to inform them that their child's application is on the waitlist for the schools and programs they selected on their application. Applicants who apply during the extended application period are automatically added to the waitlist of the schools and programs they select on their application.

The waitlist process is designed to increase the chance of a placement for:

- **On-time applicants who did not receive a placement** in the first round of placement offers in April 2024; and
- **Applicants who apply during the extended application period** – April 10, 2024, through July 19, 2024.

## Adjusting Your On-Time Application or Applying During the Extended Application Period

RSCO's waitlist process allows:

- **On-time applicants** to add new schools to their application and change the choice order of their original selections; and
- **New applicants** to apply to schools and programs during the extended application period.

The features listed below will help families with their decision process:

After the first round of placements in April 2024, all schools and programs are categorized by large (red), medium (yellow), and small (green) waitlists.

- This information will update on a real-time basis with every change, so families know the size of the waitlist at any given time.
- Choosing schools with a small (green) waitlist increases your likelihood of a placement!

**Families will be able to indicate their order of preference for their school/district selections per program type (magnet schools, Open Choice, CTECS).** Based on your choice order, the system will attempt to place you in your preferred schools or districts first before moving to the other selections. Since the placement algorithm prioritizes choice order, adjusting the order of your selections could change your waitlist size.

## Waitlist Indicators: Your Likelihood of a Placement

Families can view the size of the waitlist for each of their school and program selections.

In general, the waitlist indicator provides information on the likelihood of receiving an offer if seats become available.

**Please note** that seats become available when other applicants decline a placement offer or a current student withdraws.

**SMALL**

**Small (green)** indicator means a good chance of an offer if seats are available

**MEDIUM**

**Medium (yellow)** indicator means an offer is unlikely in the next round of placements

**LARGE**

**Large (red)** indicator means a placement is unlikely



**There are no set numbers for small, medium, and large waitlists. The cutoff can vary by grade and the number of available seats.**

It is important to keep in mind that **indicators can change** over time. For example, as offers are made or people remove themselves from the waitlist, the applicant pool could get smaller. A medium waitlist can turn to small, and a large waitlist can become medium. Be sure to monitor your RSCO account often for updates.

## Waitlist Offers

**Starting in May, RSCO makes magnet and Open Choice placement offers on a regular basis, typically every other week.** For each waitlist round, offers are made on a limited basis, depending on seat availability. Not every magnet school or Open Choice district offers seats in each round. In addition, schools that do make offers often do not include all grades.

- **Entry grades:** Seats become available when an applicant who received an offer in an earlier round declines the offer.
- **Non-entry grades:** Seats typically become available only when a current student withdraws.

For waitlist rounds, applicants are **notified only** if they have a placement offer.

## All Waitlists for the 2024–25 School Year Expire on September 30, 2024

**The waitlists do not carry over from year to year;** therefore, a placement on a waitlist in one school year does not impact the placement process in another school year. **Most of the seat availability tends to be at the entry grades, with limited seats available at the non-entry grade.**

**Questions? We are here to help!**

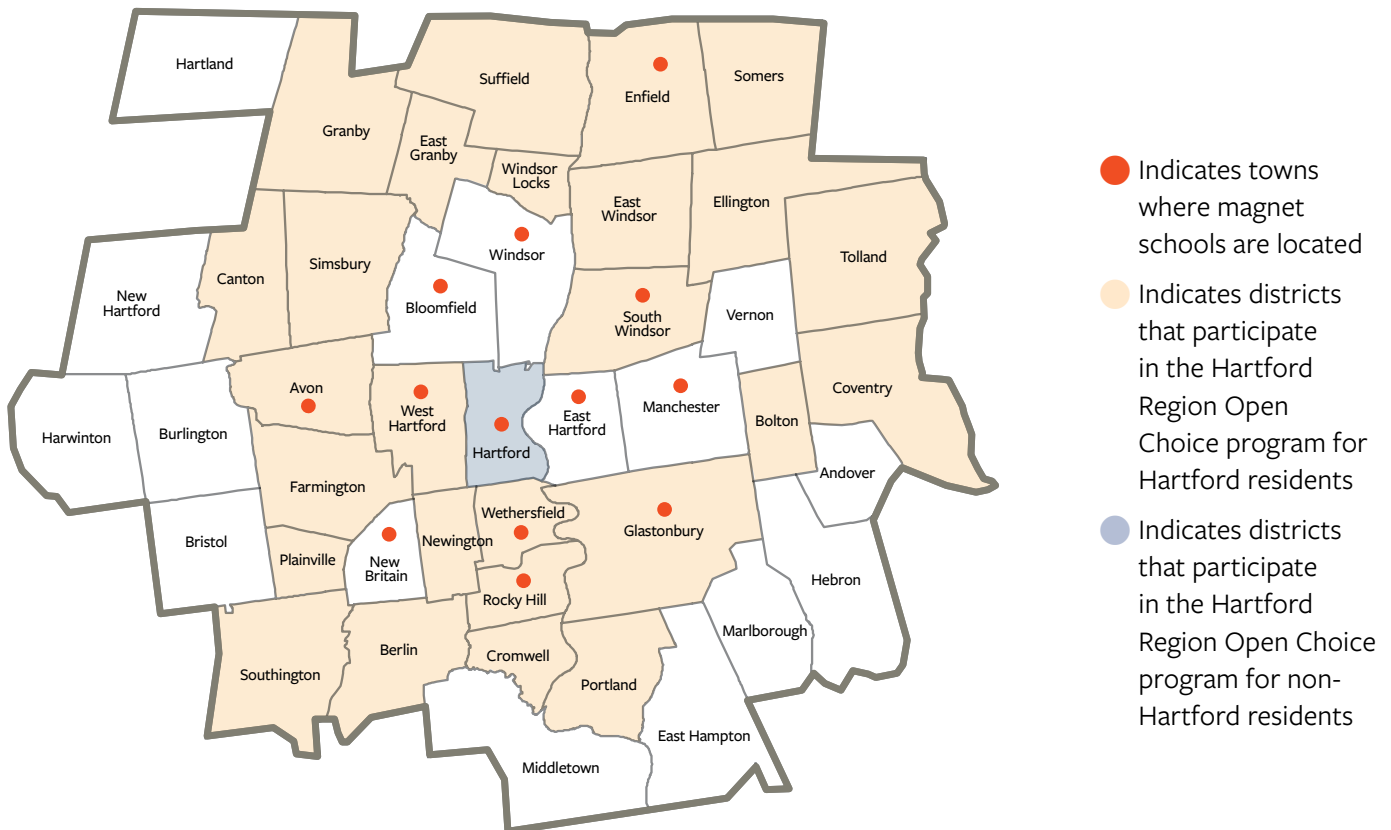
Call RSCO at **860-713-6990** for help with application strategies!



# Transportation Information

The RSCO Transportation Zone establishes borders for transporting students to RSCO School Choice schools and programs within the Greater Hartford Region.

For additional information, contact the RSCO Transportation Office by email at [rscotransportation@crec.org](mailto:rscotransportation@crec.org), by telephone at **860-524-4077**, or visit its website at [crec.org/transportation/rsco.php](http://crec.org/transportation/rsco.php).



## Transportation Zone Towns

- Andover
- Avon
- Berlin
- Bloomfield
- Bolton
- Bristol
- Burlington
- Canton
- Coventry
- Cromwell
- East Granby
- East Hampton
- East Hartford
- East Windsor
- Ellington
- Enfield
- Farmington
- Glastonbury
- Hartford
- Hartland
- Harwinton
- Hebron
- Granby
- Middletown
- New Britain
- New Hartford
- Manchester
- Newington
- Marlborough
- Plainville
- Portland
- Rocky Hill
- Simsbury
- Somers
- Southington
- South Windsor
- Suffield
- Tolland
- Vernon
- West Hartford
- Wethersfield
- Windsor
- Windsor Locks

## Magnet (PK3 & PK4) and Open Choice (PK4)

### Hartford residents:

- **RSCO provides transportation** for PK3 and PK4 Hartford resident students who attend magnet schools or Open Choice schools located **outside of Hartford**.
- Transportation **is not provided** for PK3 and PK4 Hartford residents attending a magnet school located in Hartford. Hartford families must transport their students to and from a magnet school located in Hartford. The transportation reimbursement stipend is not available to families who transport students to a magnet school located in their town of residence per statute.

### Non-Hartford residents:

- **RSCO does not provide transportation** for PK3 and PK4 non-Hartford resident students who attend a magnet school located outside of their town of residence. Non-Hartford families who transport their PK child to and from a magnet school located outside of their town of residence are eligible for a reimbursement stipend. Complete an online reimbursement form, available at [crec.org/transportation/forms.php](http://crec.org/transportation/forms.php) before June 15, 2025.
- Transportation **is not provided** for PK3 and PK4 Non-Hartford residents who attend a magnet school located in their town of residence. The transportation reimbursement stipend is not available to families who transport students to a magnet school located in their town of residence per statute.

## Magnet (K–12)

### Students who reside **INSIDE** the transportation zone:

Transportation is provided to students **who live in** one of the towns within the transportation zone, **but the type of transportation may vary** depending on student's residence and bus routing as follows:

- **Neighborhood stop** is located in or near the student's neighborhood.
- **Centralized bus stop** in or near the student's resident town, often located in a public place.
- **Students who enroll in a magnet school within their local district will receive in-district transportation.** For additional information, contact your district's transportation office.

### Students who reside **OUTSIDE** the transportation zone:

Students **who do not live** in one of the towns in the transportation zone should pursue the following options:

- **Contact RSCO Transportation** to discuss dropping off and picking up their child from an existing centralized bus stop.
- **Transport student to and from the magnet school.** Parents/guardians that use this option are eligible to receive a \$5 per day reimbursement that is based on the student's attendance and is mailed during the summer months. To receive the reimbursement, parents/guardians must:
  1. **Transport their child** for the entire school year; and
  2. **Complete an online reimbursement form**, available at [crec.org/transportation/forms.php](http://crec.org/transportation/forms.php), **before June 15, 2024.**

# Transportation Information *continued*

## Open Choice Program (K–12)

Transportation is provided but may vary depending on the Open Choice District and bus routing as follows:

- **Neighborhood stop** is located in or near the student's neighborhood.
- **Centralized bus stop** in or near the student's resident town, often located in a public place.
- The towns of Plainville and Wethersfield provide transportation services for Hartford Open Choice students attending their schools.

## Agricultural Science and Technology Education (ASTE) Centers (9–12)

Transportation is provided to Hartford residents.

## Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS) (9–12)

### A.I. Prince Technical High School

#### Hartford residents:

- **Transportation is provided by Hartford Public Schools.** Neighborhood bus stop is located in or near the student's neighborhood.

#### Non-Hartford residents:

- **RSCO transportation is provided** for students who live in the RSCO transportation zone.

### E.C. Goodwin and Howell Cheney Technical High School

#### Hartford residents:

- **Transportation is provided by RSCO.** Centralized bus stop is located in or near the student's resident town, often located in a public place.

#### Non-Hartford residents:

- **A student's resident town provides transportation.** Towns do not provide transportation to all technical high schools. Please contact your local school district to determine if transportation is provided.

**Important Note:** RSCO does not provide door-to-door transportation. Generally, neighborhood or centralized bus stops are not within walking distance of a student's home.





If your student could select their future, what would they choose?



# RSCO Schools by Program: **Magnet Schools**

There are 43 interdistrict magnet schools in the Hartford Region, operated by either Bloomfield Public Schools, the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC), East Hartford Public Schools, Goodwin University Educational Services (GUES), or Hartford Public Schools.

Visit the online school directory at [ChooseYourSchool.org](https://www.chooseyourschool.org) for complete details on each school’s offerings, including theme descriptions for each school under “Specialization” in the Full School Details section.



## Strategies for Your Magnet School Application

- **Apply only to schools you would like your child to attend.** You may receive only one magnet offer, so make sure you consider whether you would accept an offer to each school you select. You do not have to apply to the maximum number of schools.
- **If you are interested only in a magnet school,** you do not have to apply to the other program options (Open Choice, CTECS). Apply only to programs you would like your child to attend.
- **Make the school with a placement priority your first choice** for the best chance of a placement.

Prekindergarten (PK) Only Schools	Grades	Town	Theme	Operator
CREC Prekindergarten at Progress Drive <b>PK\$</b> (With direct pathways to Academy of Aerospace and Engineering Elementary, Glastonbury/East Hartford Magnet School, and University of Hartford Magnet School)	PK3–PK4	Wethersfield	STEM/ Multiple Intelligence	CREC
Hartford Prekindergarten Magnet School – North Campus	PK3–PK4	Hartford	STREAM	Hartford Public Schools
Hartford Prekindergarten Magnet School – South Campus	PK3–PK4	Hartford	STREAM	Hartford Public Schools
Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School	PK3–PK4	Bloomfield	Early Childhood	Bloomfield Public Schools

\* Magnet schools managed by the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) and Goodwin University Educational Services (GUES) charge PK tuition on a sliding scale, based on family income.

**PK\$ indicates schools that charge prekindergarten tuition based on a sliding scale.**

Elementary and Elementary-Middle Schools	Grades	Town	Theme	Operator
Academy of Aerospace & Engineering Elementary <b>PK\$</b>	PK3-5	Rocky Hill	STEM	CREC
Academy of International Studies Elementary School <b>PK\$</b>	PK3-5	South Windsor	International Baccalaureate (IB)	CREC
Ana Grace Academy of the Arts School <b>PK\$</b>	PK3-8	Bloomfield	Arts	CREC
Betances Learning Lab Magnet School	PK3-4	Hartford	Early Reading	Hartford Public Schools
Breakthrough Magnet School, North	PK3-5	Hartford	Character Education	Hartford Public Schools
Breakthrough Magnet School, South	PK3-8	Hartford	Character Education	Hartford Public Schools
Discovery Academy <b>PK\$</b>	PK3-5	Wethersfield	STEM	CREC
Dwight-Bellizzi Dual Language Academy PK4, KG and grade 1	PK4-8	Hartford	Dual Language	Hartford Public Schools
Environmental Sciences Magnet at Hooker School	PK4-8	Hartford	Environmental Sciences	Hartford Public Schools
Glastonbury/East Hartford Magnet School <b>PK\$</b>	PK3-5	Glastonbury	STEM	CREC
Kinsella Magnet School of Performing Arts: PK-8 Campus	PK4-8	Hartford	Performing Arts	Hartford Public Schools
Montessori Magnet at Batchelder School	PK3-6 (PK3 is half-day)	Hartford	Montessori	Hartford Public Schools
Montessori Magnet at Fisher School	PK3-8 (PK3 is half-day)	Hartford	Montessori	Hartford Public Schools
Montessori Magnet School (CREC) <b>PK\$</b>	PK3-6	Hartford	Montessori	CREC
Museum Academy <b>PK\$</b>	PK3-5	Bloomfield	Museum Studies	CREC
Reggio Magnet School of the Arts <b>PK\$</b>	PK3-5	Avon	Reggio Emilia	CREC
Riverside Magnet School at Goodwin University <b>PK\$</b>	PK3-5	East Hartford	Reggio Emilia	Goodwin University
STEM Magnet at Annie Fisher School	K-8	Hartford	STEM	Hartford Public Schools
University of Hartford Magnet School <b>PK\$</b>	PK3-5	West Hartford	Multiple Intelligences	CREC
Webster Micro Society Magnet School	PK3-8	Hartford	Micro Society	Hartford Public Schools

Elementary-Middle-High Schools PK-12	Grades	Town	Theme	Operator
Capital Preparatory Magnet School	PK3-12	Hartford	Social Justice	Hartford Public Schools

Middle Schools	Grades	Town	Theme	Operator
Academy of Computer Science & Engineering Middle School	6-8	East Hartford	Computer Science and Engineering	CREC
Betances STEM Magnet School	5-8	Hartford	STEM	Hartford Public Schools

\* For the 2024-25 school year, **Dwight-Bellizzi Dual Language Academy** is accepting applications for grades PK4, kindergarten, and 1st grade.

**PK\$ indicates schools that charge prekindergarten tuition based on a sliding scale.**

<b>Middle–High Schools</b>	<b>Grades</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Operator</b>
Academy of Aerospace and Engineering	6–12	Windsor	STEM	CREC
Academy of International Studies	6–12	Bloomfield	International Baccalaureate (IB)	CREC
Academy of Science and Innovation	6–12	New Britain	STEM	CREC
Classical Magnet School	6–12	Hartford	College Prep	Hartford Public Schools
Connecticut River Academy at Goodwin University	6–12	East Hartford	Advanced Manufacturing, Early College, Environmental Studies	Goodwin University
Global Experience Magnet School	6–12	Bloomfield	Global Studies & World Travel	Bloomfield Public Schools
Hartford Magnet Trinity College Academy	6–12	Hartford	Arts, STEM, College Prep	Hartford Public Schools
Sport and Medical Sciences Academy	6–12	Hartford	Sport & Medical Sciences	Hartford Public Schools

<b>High Schools</b>	<b>Grades</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Operator</b>
Academy of Computer Science and Engineering	9–12	Enfield	Computer Science and Engineering	CREC
Connecticut IB Academy	9–12	East Hartford	International Baccalaureate (IB)	East Hartford Public Schools
Great Path Academy at MCC	9–12	Manchester	College Prep	Hartford Public Schools
Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts High School — Full Day	9–12	Hartford	Arts	CREC
Kinsella Magnet School of Performing Arts: High School Campus	9–12	Hartford	Performing Arts	Hartford Public Schools
Pathways Academy of Technology and Design	9–12	East Hartford	Technology & College Prep	Hartford Public Schools
University High School of Science & Engineering	9–12	Hartford	STEM	Hartford Public Schools

<b>High Schools — Half Day, Dual Enrollment</b>	<b>Grades</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Operator</b>
ECAMP Magnet School at Goodwin University	12	East Hartford	Advanced Manufacturing, Early College	Goodwin University
Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts High School — Half Day	9–12	Hartford	Arts	CREC

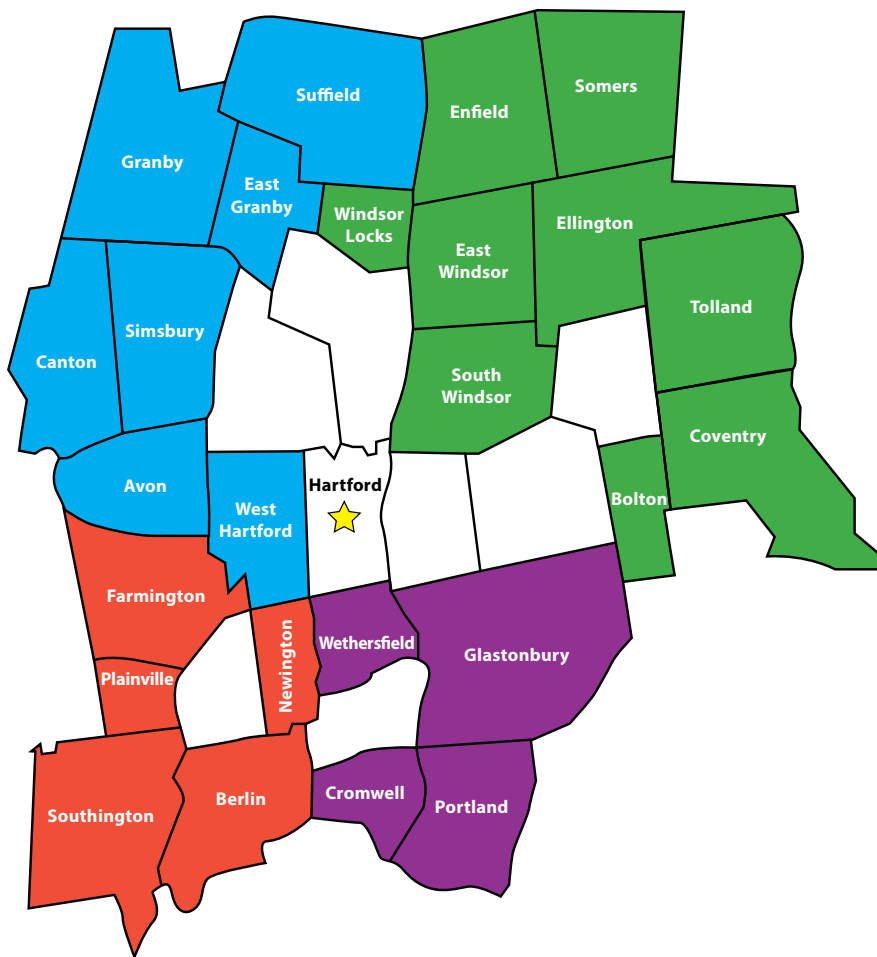




In our schools,  
your student's future  
takes center stage.

# RSCO Schools by Program: The Hartford Region Open Choice Program

The Open Choice Program is a free public school program that allows Hartford resident students to attend public schools in nearby suburban school districts (**Open Choice for Hartford residents**) and non-Hartford resident students to attend certain public schools in Hartford with special programming (**Open Choice for non-Hartford residents**).



## Open Choice Districts

- **Residential Zone 1**  
Avon, Canton, East Granby, Granby, Simsbury, Suffield, West Hartford
- **Residential Zone 2**  
Bolton, Coventry, East Windsor, Ellington, Enfield, Somers, South Windsor, Tolland, Windsor Locks
- **Residential Zone 3**  
Berlin, Farmington, Newington, Plainville, Southington
- **Residential Zone 4**  
Cromwell, Glastonbury, Portland, Rocky Hill, Wethersfield

**Important Note:** Once a student is enrolled in an Open Choice school, there is no need to reapply each year. Your child is enrolled through high school graduation but must remain a Hartford resident.

An applicant who moves out of Hartford is no longer eligible to apply to Open Choice districts outside of Hartford.



## Hartford Residents:

### Strategies for your Open Choice application

- **Who can apply:** Students entering PK4 through 10th grade.
- **Apply to Open Choice only to receive an Open Choice Only priority** if you are most interested in an Open Choice placement.
- Keep in mind **most seats are available at the lower grades**, especially PK4, kindergarten, and 1st grade. Consider adding other program options (magnet schools and CTECS for applying 9th graders) to your application if you are applying to an upper grade level.
- **Apply only to districts you would like your child to attend.**

## Non-Hartford Residents:

### Strategies for your Open Choice application

Non-Hartford residents entering kindergarten through grade 8 apply using the RSCO application to attend these public schools located in Hartford with special programming.

- **Who can apply:** Students entering kindergarten through 8th grade depending on the school's grade offerings.
- **Apply to Open Choice only to receive an Open Choice Only priority** if you are most interested in an Open Choice placement.

## Open Choice Hartford Public Schools

### Expeditionary Learning Academy at Moylan School

K-5 Expeditionary Learning, Hartford

### Global Communications Academy

K-8 International Baccalaureate, Hartford

### Renzulli Gifted and Talented Academy\*

4-8 Gifted and Talented, Hartford

\* *Interested non-Hartford resident families must complete a **separate application** with Hartford Public Schools for this school. Please find at <https://www.hartfordschools.org/o/renzulli/page/admissions-process>*



# RSCO Schools by Program: **Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS)**

Families with students entering grade 9 apply using the RSCO application for the three Hartford Region Technical High Schools (A.I. Prince Technical High School, E.C. Goodwin Technical High School, and Howell Cheney Technical High) as a region and rank the schools in order of preference.

## Strategies for Your CTECS Application

- **Who can apply:** Students entering 9th grade may apply.  
**Note:** *Students entering 10th grade should contact the school directly.*
- **Apply early for CTECS (by February 1, 2024)** to take advantage of early CTECS placements. Most CTECS offers are made in February during the early round and in April during the on-time round. Throughout the summer, a limited number of offers are made as seats become available.
- **Families must apply** to all three schools as a region.
- **Make sure to rank the schools** in order of preference. Even though the technical schools are grouped as a region, you can and should rank the three schools.
- **NEW for 2024–25:** If an applicant receives a CTECS offer, they are no longer eligible for another offer, including a magnet, Open Choice, or CTECS placement. There is also no longer a Hold option for CTECS early round offers.
- **Apply to CTECS only to receive a CTECS Only priority** if you are most interested in a CTECS placement. Families can add the other programs (magnets and/or Open Choice) to their application later in the placement process if they don't receive a CTECS placement.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs	A.I. Prince	E.C. Goodwin	Howell Cheney
Aerospace Component Manufacturing	X		
Architecture	X		
Automotive Collision, Repair, and Refinishing	X		
Automotive Technology	X	X	X
Bio-Science and Environmental Technology	X		
Carpentry	X	X	X
Criminal Justice and Protective Services	X		
Culinary Arts	X	X	X
Diesel and Heavy-duty Equipment Repair			X
Digital Media	X		X
Electrical	X	X	X
Graphic Design	X		
Hairdressing and Cosmetology	X	X	
Health Technology	X	X	
Heating, Ventilation, & Air Conditioning (HVAC)		X	X
Landscape Design, Installation, and Equipment		X	
Information Systems Technology	X	X	X
Masonry	X		
Mechanical Design and Engineering		X	X
Plumbing and Heating	X	X	
Precision Machining		X	X
Welding and Metal Fabrication			X



# RSCO Schools by Program: **Agricultural Science and Technology Education (ASTE)**

The ASTE schools are an option for students entering 9th grade. Families apply using the ASTE Application, available at [portal.ct.gov/SDE/School-Choice/CT-School-Choice/Agricultural-Science-and-Technology-Education](https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/School-Choice/CT-School-Choice/Agricultural-Science-and-Technology-Education). Students must submit a separate application to each ASTE school.

The application deadline for ASTE programs varies by school. Please refer to the ASTE application website for specific dates.

## **ASTE Centers (9–12)**

**D.F. Harris Sr. Agriscience Center at Bloomfield High School**

Phone: 860-286-2630 x1520

Website: <https://bhs.bloomfieldschools.org/page/agriscience>

**Glastonbury Regional Agriscience and Technology Center at Glastonbury High School**

Phone: 860-652-7961

Website: <https://sites.google.com/a/glastonburyus.org/cte/cte-at-ghs/agricultural-science>

**Suffield Regional Agriscience Center at Suffield High School**

Phone: 860-668-3817

Website: <https://shs.suffield.org/agriscience-center>



**Note:** Students **do not** apply to an ASTE school through the RSCO Application.

# Application Assistance

## through RSCO and Other Support Organizations

You are not alone in this process! RSCO and the other organizations listed below offer RSCO School Choice application assistance and general information about School Choice and your options. Reach out to talk through your options, get the information you need, and select schools and programs that work best for your family and give your child the best chance for a placement. Hours of operation vary among sites. Please call ahead to schedule an appointment (in person or virtual).

### RSCO Parent Resource Center

Contact or visit the RSCO Parent Resource Center

**Operating Hours:** Mon–Fri, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Phone:** 860-713-6990

**Email:** [rscosde@ct.gov](mailto:rscosde@ct.gov)

**Web:** [ChooseYourSchool.org](http://ChooseYourSchool.org)

#### In-Person Assistance:

**Hours:** Mon–Thurs, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment

**Address:** 450 Columbus Blvd., Hartford

**Parking:** On-street parking on Columbus Blvd. is available only in 2-hour intervals on a paid basis from 6:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Parking is strictly prohibited from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. due to rush hour traffic.

Municipal parking is available for a fee at the Morgan Street Garage, located on Morgan Street. After parking in the Morgan Street Garage, take the elevator down to the street level and use the crosswalk to walk across the street to the public entrance at 450 Columbus Blvd.

### Primary RSCO School Choice Application Assistance Sites

#### CREC Welcome Center

**Address:** 111 Charter Oak Ave., Hartford, CT

**Email:** [schoolchoice@crec.org](mailto:schoolchoice@crec.org)

**Phone:** 860-509-3700

**Web:** [choosecrec.org](http://choosecrec.org)

**Hours:** Mon–Fri, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. or by appointment

#### Hartford Public Schools Office of Enrollment and School Choice

**Address:** 280 Trumbull St., Ground Level, Hartford, CT

**Phone:** 860-695-8876

**Web:** [hartfordschools.org](http://hartfordschools.org)

**Hours:** Mon–Fri, 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

## Hartford Public Library Locations

Hartford Public Library (HPL) Downtown Branch is temporarily closed for renovations.

Go to [hplct.org](http://hplct.org) for updates.

**Address:** 500 Main St., Children's Room, Hartford

**Email:** [schoolchoiceoffice@hplct.org](mailto:schoolchoiceoffice@hplct.org)

**Phone:** 860-695-6325

**Web:** [hplct.org/library-services/parents/school-choice-assistance](http://hplct.org/library-services/parents/school-choice-assistance)

**Hours:** Mon–Thurs, 12–6 p.m.; Fri & Sat, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

### HPL Albany Branch:

**Address:** 1250 Albany Ave., Hartford

**Phone:** 860-695-7380

**Hours:** Mon–Thurs, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Fri, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

### HPL Barbour Branch:

**Address:** 261 Barbour St., Hartford

**Phone:** 860-695-7400

**Hours:** Mon–Thurs, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Fri, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

### HPL Campfield Branch:

**Address:** 30 Campfield Ave., Hartford

**Phone:** 860-695-7440

**Hours:** Mon–Thurs, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Fri, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

### HPL Dwight Branch:

**Address:** 7 New Park Ave., Hartford

**Phone:** 860-695-7460

**Hours:** Mon–Thurs, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Fri, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

### HPL Park Branch:

**Address:** 603 Park St., Hartford

**Phone:** 860-695-7500

**Hours:** Mon–Thurs, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Fri, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

## RSCO Satellite Sites Offering Application Assistance

### CRT (Community Renewal Team) Early Care and Education Centers

**Hours for all CRTs:** Mon–Thurs, 7:30 a.m.–4 p.m.; Fri, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

- **CRT-Douglas St.**

**Address:** 170 Douglas St., Hartford

**Phone:** 860-560-5460

- **CRT-Job Corps**

**Address:** 100 William Shorty Campbell Blvd., Hartford

**Phone:** 860-952-1790

- **CRT-Thomas T D Ritter**

**Address:** 555 Windsor St., Hartford

**Phone:** 959-230-0742

### Imagineers, LLC

**Address:** 635 Farmington Ave., Hartford

**Phone:** 860-768-3353

**Hours:** Mon–Fri, 9 a.m.–8 p.m.

### Institute for the Hispanic Family/ Catholic Charities

**Address:** 45 Wadsworth St., Hartford

**Phone:** 860-524-6853 ext. 221/222

**Hours:** Mon–Fri, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

### Hartford Communities That Care

**Address:** 2550 Main St., Hartford

**Phone:** 860-580-6831

**Hours:** Mon–Fri, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

### Literacy Volunteers of Greater Hartford

**Address:** 30 Arbor St., Hartford

**Phone:** 860-233-3853

**Hours:** Mon–Thurs, 9 a.m.–8 p.m.; Fri, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

### The Village for Families & Children, Inc.

**Address:** 1680 Albany Ave., Hartford

**Phone:** 860-236-4511, ext. 3416

**Hours:** 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

**Important Note:** Sites and information are subject to change. Go to [ChooseYourSchool.org/application-assistance](http://ChooseYourSchool.org/application-assistance) for updated information.



**Your future, your choice.**

450 Columbus Blvd., Hartford, CT 06103-1841 | 860-713-6990 | [ChooseYourSchool.org](http://ChooseYourSchool.org)

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