School Year 2027–2028

RSCO PK-12 School Choice Family Guide

RSCO
Greater Hartford Regional School Choice Office

ChooseYourSchool.org











September 2026 Edition | **Your future, your choice.**

Open this page to journey through the timeline and road map of our school placement process.

Meet your guides, the Axolotls.



Lottie will be your guide through your RSCO school choice journey.



Xavier will be your school choice guide alongside Lottie.



Ax'l is here to show you magnet schools.



Ziggy can tell you all about Open Choice districts for Hartford residents.



Phoenix is an expert on Open Choice schools for non-Hartford residents.



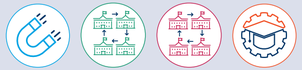
Xiomara knows the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS).

Timeline and road map of your School Choice options.

Follow Lottie and Xavier on their journey through RSCO's School Choice application and placement process.

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER

Go to **ChooseYourSchool.org** and use the **School Finder** to explore your options.





Explore & Choose

Check out our Events Calendar, with fairs, open houses, and more!

Scan for events and learning sessions

EARLY DECEMBER–EARLY FEBRUARY

Submit your application.

Apply by the posted deadline in early February!

Scan to apply online



Apply

LATE FEBRUARY

CTECS placements

EARLY MARCH

Magnet schools and Open Choice placements

Placements Begin

There are multiple rounds of offers as seats become available.

Be sure to check back!

This is your only offer.

Receive Offer

Waitlisted

Late application opens on a limited basis.

No Offer

Apply again next year

Act



Decline Offer

Accept Offer

Register





If you don't receive a placement offer by September 30:

Applications become inactive and waitlists expire.

Plan to reapply for the next school year.

APRIL-SEPTEMBER

There are multiple rounds of offers between April and early September as seats become available.

Register within the specified time frame to keep your spot! The school will communicate registration requirements.

OCTOBER

Applications become inactive and waitlists expire on September 30. Plan to re-apply for the next school year.

Language Interpretation Services

RSCO Parent Resource Center

RSCO Parent Resource Center staff provides assistance with the school choice application in both English and Spanish.

Mon–Fri, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

860-713-6990

RSCO.SDE@ct.gov

In-person assistance: Mon–Thurs, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., by appointment

Para asistencia en español, póngase en contacto con RSCO por teléfono llamando al 860-713-6990 o pida una cita para ayuda en persona con el Centro de Recursos para Padres, 450 Columbus Blvd., Hartford, CT 06103.

Language assistance is available for over 300 languages and dialects using over-the-phone interpretation services at 860-713-6990.

Albanian
Shërbimi i asistencës gjuhësore ofrohet në mbi 300 gjuhë dhe dialekte, nëpërmjet interpretimit telefonik, në numrin 860-713-6990.

Arabic
تتوافر خدمات المساعدة اللغوية فيما يزيد عن ٣٠٠ لغة ولهجة وذلك من خلال خدمات الترجمة الفورية عبر الهاتف على الرقم ٦٩٩٠-٧١٣-٨٦٠.

Dari
کمک زبانی به بیش از 300 زبان و لهجه با استفاده از خدمات ترجمه شفاهی تلیفونی از طریق شماره 6990-713-860 قابل دسترس میباشد.

French
Une assistance linguistique est disponible dans plus de 300 langues et dialectes grâce à des services d'interprétation par téléphone au 860-713-6990.

Haitian/Creole
Ou ka jwenn èd nan plis pase 300 lang ak dyalèk atravè sèvis entèpretasyon pa telefòn nan nan 860-713-6990.

Hindi
860-713-6990 पर फ़ोन दुभाषिया सेवाओं का उपयोग करके 300 से अधिक भाषाओं और बोलियों में भाषा सहायता उपलब्ध है।

Karen
ကျိုတ်တိ်မၤစၢၤအံၤ ဘဉ်တ်မၤနှ်အီၤသ့ အါန့် ၃၀၀ကျိုဒီး တ်ကတိၤသီဉ်ထိဉ်တဖဉ်လၢ စူးကါတ်ကတိၤကျိုးထံတ်ဆီဉ် ထွဲမၤစၢၤတဖဉ်လၢလီတဲစိ ဖဲ 860–713–6990 နှဉ်လီၤ.

Mandarin
通过电话口译服务，您可以使用超过 300 **种**语言和方言的语言协助服务，电话：860–713–6990。

Pashto
د ژبې د مرستې خدمتونه د تلیفون د ژباړې له لارې په ۸۶۰-۷۱۳-۶۹۹۰ په ۳۰۰ له ډیر ژبو او لهجو کې د خپګ زیاتو شمیره تر السه کولی شئ.

Polish
Pomoc językowa jest dostępna w ponad 300 językach i dialektach. Świadczymy usługi tłumaczenia przez telefon pod numerem 860 713 69 90.

Portuguese
Assistência linguística está disponível em mais de 300 idiomas e dialetos usando serviços de interpretação por telefone no número 860-713-6990.

Ukrainian
Підтримка доступна більш ніж на 300 мовах та діалектах, завдяки послугам з перекладу за телефоном 860-713-6990



September 2026 Edition

Greater Hartford Region School Choice Family Guide

Prekindergarten to Grade 12 | School Year 2027-2028

CONNECTICUT Department of Education

RSCO Greater Hartford Regional School Choice Office

Checklist

Apply by the deadline of February 5, 2027.

Apply on time to increase your chance of a placement offer.

Limited applications will be available in mid-March to schools with open seats.

Before You Apply:

- [ ] **Know your school choice options.** Compare magnet schools, Open Choice, and CTECS.
- [ ] **Explore schools.** Go to ChooseYourSchool.org.
- [ ] **Consider transportation.** Review options by program, age, and town.
- [ ] **Learn application and placement rules.** Understand priorities, placement rules, and eligibility.

Apply:

- [ ] **Create or update your RSCO account.**
- [ ] **Add or update profiles for each student.**
- [ ] **Check your priorities.** Make sure they are flagged as expected.
- [ ] **Choose your schools.** Rank by order of preference.
- [ ] **Submit your application by February 5, 2027.**

After You Apply:

- [ ] **Monitor your account for communications from RSCO.**
- [ ] **Accept your offer if you receive one, and register by the deadline.**
- [ ] **Manage your waitlist if you do not receive an offer.** Offers continue through September.

Top 5 Things to Know

1 You Must Be a Connecticut Resident & the Student's Legal Guardian to Apply

Applications submitted by anyone other than a legal guardian may be deleted.

2 The Application Deadline Is Early February

Submit one application per student for the upcoming school year. Duplicate applications will be deleted.

3 We Have a One-Offer Rule

If your student receives an offer from any school, they will be removed from all other waitlists and will no longer be eligible for another placement for the upcoming school year, regardless of whether you accept or decline the placement.

Apply only to schools from which you would accept an offer.

4 Choice Order Counts

Rank school/district selections by preference, since the placement protocol assigns offers based on choice order.

Most placement priorities apply only to your first-choice selection.

5 Receiving an Offer Is Not Guaranteed

Every year, we have more applicants than available seats. Submitting an application does not guarantee a placement offer. Families who do not receive a placement offer and are still interested in a choice program must reapply each year.

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Information in this catalog is subject to change and may be updated periodically. For the most up-to-date information, visit **ChooseYourSchool.org** or call the RSCO Parent Resource Center at **860-713-6990**.

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About RSCO

Your future, your choice

The Greater Hartford Regional School Choice Office, or RSCO, has a motto: Your future, your choice. This means that you have a choice about where your child attends school! Through RSCO, families in the Greater Hartford Region can choose to apply to a free public school outside their home district that provides the academic challenge and specialized instruction to set students up for success for the future.

Who RSCO is: RSCO is the office established by the Connecticut State Department of Education to help families access school choice opportunities in the Greater Hartford region.

What RSCO does: RSCO manages the application and placement process for magnet schools, the Open Choice Program, and technical high schools in the Greater Hartford region.

How RSCO helps families: RSCO is the centralized resource for information to support families as they explore and apply to a variety of free prekindergarten through grade 12 public school choice options in the Greater Hartford Region.

The RSCO System

OVER **40** Towns Represented	**40+** Magnet Schools
26 Open Choice School Districts	**3** Regional Technical High Schools

RSCO Greater Hartford Regional School Choice Office

Your future, your choice. | ChooseYourSchool.org

Why RSCO School Choice?

Find your child's path, shape their tomorrow

Find a school that fits. Unlock your student's potential at a school that matches their interests and passions.

Participate in a dynamic, enriching learning environment. Inspire and motivate your student through smaller school communities and project-based learning.

Get immersed in diverse, inclusive school communities. Open your student's eyes to a rich range of cultures, perspectives, and experiences.

Think beyond borders. Join students from over 40 towns across Connecticut.

Engage in academics and extracurriculars. Access engaging academics and a wide array of clubs, sports, arts, and community activities.

Get future ready. Discover a wide range of courses that teach students valuable skills and knowledge to prepare them for their choice of college or career.

Experience more choice. Let your student take charge of their learning and choose a school where they can pursue their passions.





Did you know?

Students in diverse learning environments:

- Think creatively and develop problem-solving and critical thinking skills.
- Build confidence and leadership skills.
- Become active and responsible citizens.
- Excel at teamwork and collaboration.
- Stand out in college and career opportunities.

Understanding Public School Choice Options

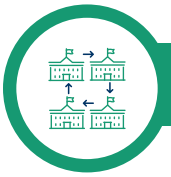
Connecticut is home to great public schools! In the Greater Hartford Region, families can choose from several types of public schools, not just those in their town.



Interdistrict Magnet Schools

PK3-Grade 12

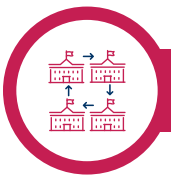
These schools have a special focus incorporated into the curriculum, like science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); performing arts; global studies; Montessori; computer programming; and more. Students get hands-on learning and unique experiences that match their interests.



The Hartford Region Open Choice Program for Hartford Residents

PK4-Grade 12

Students who live in Hartford have an opportunity to attend public schools in nearby school districts, with full access to challenging academic programming, extracurriculars, and athletics.



The Hartford Region Open Choice Program for Non-Hartford Residents

KG-Grade 8

Students who live outside of Hartford have an opportunity to attend select Hartford public schools that offer specialized curricula and themes.



Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS): Technical High Schools

Grades 9-12

These high schools combine core academic and career/technical education courses that prepare students for immediate employment, apprenticeship programs, and college and career opportunities.

Neighborhood or Resident Town Schools

Every family in Connecticut can enroll their child in a free public school starting in kindergarten. Families register with their local district to enroll in their town's schools.

Explore Your Options and Choose the Right Fit

Take some time to explore the choices available to your family and find the school that feels like the best fit for your child. Whether you take advantage of RSCO's unique opportunities or enroll in your home district, you can feel confident knowing your child will learn in an environment that supports their interests, growth, and passions.











Step 1: Explore

In this section:

Eligibility Requirements | Considerations for Prekindergarten and Kindergarten Applicants | Magnet Schools | The Open Choice Program | Technical High Schools

Explore Schools and Programs

Do your research

1. Browse ChooseYourSchool.org

Use the School Finder Tool to view the programs and schools your student is eligible to apply to based on grade and town of residence. Or access the School Directory to filter by grade, theme, location, and more to find schools and programs that fit your student and family. Take advantage of the interactive map to locate schools relative to your residential address.

Knowing where seats tend to be available can help you prioritize schools for the best chance of an offer. Most open seats are in the entry grades:

- PK/KG for elementary schools
- 6th grade for middle/middle-high schools
- 9th grade for high schools

Note: Seats in other grades are available but are limited.

More seats = More opportunity for placement

For information on seat availability, check the Previous Application Cycle Data on the school card before submitting your application. Applying to schools with more seats and fewer applications increases your chances of placement.

2. Attend RSCO events

Visit school choice fairs, open houses, and application assistance nights to learn more and connect with schools. View the Event Calendar at ChooseYourSchool.org/events.

RSCO Events, School Tours, and Open Houses!

Visit schools in person! Find open houses, tours, and more listed on each school's card in the School Choice Directory.



3. Contact us

Have questions? We're here to help! Reach out to the RSCO Parent Resource Center; CREC, Goodwin University Education Services, or Hartford Public Schools Welcome Centers; the Hartford Public Library; or a RSCO satellite site. Go to ***page 52*** to learn more about the resources available to you.

RSCO Parent Resource Center

450 Columbus Blvd., Hartford, CT 06103-1841 | 860-713-6990 | ChooseYourSchool.org

Eligibility Requirements

As you explore our schools and programs, it is important to understand the eligibility requirements so you know which options are available to your family. For example, some schools only accept students from certain towns or specific grade levels. Knowing these details early on can help you focus on the schools that are a better fit for your student.





Note:

A P.O. box cannot be used to prove residency, and applications submitted by anyone other than a legal guardian may be deleted.

Who Can Apply?	Residency	Application Grades	Callouts
Magnet Schools	Connecticut Residents Only	PK3-12	An applicant must be at least 3 years old by September 1 to submit an application.
Open Choice for Hartford Residents	Hartford Residents Only	PK4-10	An applicant must be at least 4* years old by September 1 to submit an application. Applications are accepted only through grade 10, though students remain enrolled through high school graduation. * PK4 seats are limited and may not be available in all districts.
Open Choice for Non-Hartford Residents	Non-Hartford Residents Only	KG-5	Applications accepted up to grade 5, though students may remain enrolled through the end grade of the school (which is either 5th grade or 8th grade, depending on the school).
CT Technical Education and Career System (CTECS) High Schools	Connecticut Residents Only	Grade 9 Only	Applications to A.I. Prince, E.C. Goodwin, and Howell Cheney Technical High Schools accepted for grade 9 only. **Applying to grade 10?** Contact the school directly to apply.

Considerations for Prekindergarten and Kindergarten Applicants

Age eligibility requirements

PK3 (prekindergarten age 3): Child must turn 3 on or before September 1.

PK4 (prekindergarten age 4): Child must turn 4 on or before September 1.

Kindergarten age requirements: Child must turn 5 on or before September 1.

Prekindergarten Tuition

Magnet schools operated by the CREC and Goodwin University Educational Services (GUES) charge prekindergarten tuition on a sliding scale based on your family's income. The fee for prekindergarten is determined annually but will not exceed $2,320 per student, in accordance with Connecticut law. Some schools provide a discount for multiple-student enrollment. Please check with the school for specific details.

Prekindergarten Transportation

Transportation is provided for Hartford resident PK students attending an Open Choice school or magnet school located outside of Hartford. Non-Hartford PK families may be eligible for a transportation stipend for transporting PK students to their magnet school. Go to ***page 39*** for more information.

Magnet PK3 and PK4 and Open Choice PK4	
Hartford residents attending a magnet or Open Choice schools outside of Hartford.	**Bus Transportation Provided by RSCO Transportation**
Hartford residents attending a magnet school located in Hartford.	**No Bus Transportation Provided**
Non-Hartford residents attending a magnet school *outside* of their town. *Reimbursement stipend available. Go to* ***page 39*** *for details.*	**No Bus Transportation Provided**
Non-Hartford residents attending a magnet school in their town.	**No Bus Transportation Provided**

Magnet Schools

Grades: PK3-12

These unique public schools offer hands-on, collaborative learning experiences built around specialized themes like STEM, visual and performing arts, International Baccalaureate (IB), and Montessori. The specialized theme is incorporated into core classes and electives to spark engagement and inspire a lifelong love for learning.

Magnet schools are a great choice for curious students who are already drawn to a particular subject and want a more purpose-driven school experience that goes beyond traditional classroom learning.

There are over 40 interdistrict magnet schools in the Hartford region, operated by either Bloomfield Public Schools (BPS), the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC), East Hartford Public Schools (EHPS), Goodwin University Educational Services (GUES), or Hartford Public Schools (HPS).

Important tips about how placements work:



- The RSCO application process is different from a traditional application process. While families can apply to multiple options, a student is eligible for only one placement offer. If a placement offer is made, the student's application is automatically removed from all other waitlists.
- We try to place students in one of their top choices, but this is not always possible.





Magnet School Application Tips

Who can apply: Students entering grades PK3 through Grade 12.

Apply only to schools that are a fit for your family. You are eligible for only one placement offer, so apply only to schools from which you would accept an offer. There is no requirement to use all your choices—just focus on the options that are the right fit.

If you're interested only in magnet schools, apply only to magnet schools. You do not have to apply to the other program options (Open Choice, CTECS).*

*Something to consider when applying to multiple programs: CTECS placements begin in February, before magnet school and Open Choice placements. If you apply to CTECS and receive a placement, you are no longer eligible for a magnet or Open Choice placement based on the one-offer rule.

Have a placement priority? Make the school with a priority your first choice for the best chance of getting a placement.

Applicable placement priorities:

- Direct Pathway
- Enrolled Siblings
- Employee/Staff
- Placed Siblings
- Pathway School
- Residential Neighborhood
- Residential Zone



Learn more about placement priorities on ***page 32***.

Other Things to Know

When families are exploring magnet schools, we know they may also be thinking ahead to what happens when their student reaches the final grade and it's time to move to the next school. Each magnet school is connected to at least one school in the next grade band, called a pathway school. When students apply to their pathway school(s), they get priority. This gives them a better chance of getting a seat and helps them stay connected with their classmates.

Prekindergarten Tuition

Magnet schools operated by the CREC and GUES charge prekindergarten tuition on a sliding scale based on family income.

Go to ***page 15*** for more information.

Magnet Schools PK-12

Prekindergarten (PK) Only Schools	Grades	Town	Theme	Operator [a]
CREC Preschool at Progress Drive PK$ (With direct pathways to Academy of Aerospace and Engineering Elementary, Glastonbury-East Hartford Magnet School, and University of Hartford Magnet School)	PK3-PK4	Wethersfield	Early Childhood	CREC
Hartford Prekindergarten Magnet School: North Campus	PK3-PK4	Hartford	STREAM	HPS
Hartford Prekindergarten Magnet School: South Campus	PK3-PK4	Hartford	STREAM	HPS
Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School	PK3-PK4	Bloomfield	Early Childhood	BPS

Elementary and Elementary – Middle Schools	Grades	Town	Theme	Operator [a]
Academy of Aerospace & Engineering Elementary PK$	PK3-5	Rocky Hill	STEM	CREC
Academy of International Studies Elementary School PK$	PK3-5	South Windsor	International Baccalaureate (IB)	CREC
Ana Grace Academy of the Arts School PK$	PK3-8	Bloomfield	Arts	CREC
Betances Learning Lab Magnet School	PK3-4	Hartford	Early Reading	HPS
Breakthrough Magnet School, North	PK3-5	Hartford	Character Education	HPS
Breakthrough Magnet School, South	PK3-8	Hartford	Character Education	HPS
Discovery Academy PK$	PK3-5	Wethersfield	STEM	CREC
Dwight-Bellizzi Dual Language Academy PK4 through Grade 4 [b]	PK4-8	Hartford	Dual Language	HPS
Environmental Sciences Magnet at Hooker School	PK4-8	Hartford	Environmental Sciences	HPS
Glastonbury-East Hartford Magnet School PK$	PK3-5	Glastonbury	STEM	CREC

Elementary and Elementary – Middle Schools cont'd	Grades	Town	Theme	Operator [a]
Kinsella Magnet School of Performing Arts: PK-8 Campus	PK4-8	Hartford	Performing Arts	HPS
Montessori Magnet at Batchelder School	PK3-6	Hartford	Montessori	HPS
Montessori Magnet at Fisher School	PK3-8	Hartford	Montessori	HPS
Montessori Magnet School PK$	PK3-6	Hartford	Montessori	CREC
Museum Academy PK$	PK3-5	Bloomfield	Museum Studies	CREC
Reggio Magnet School of the Arts PK$	PK3-5	Avon	Reggio Emilia	CREC
Riverside Magnet School at Goodwin University PK$	PK3-5	East Hartford	Reggio Emilia	GUES
STEM Magnet at Annie Fisher School	KG-8	Hartford	STEM	HPS
University of Hartford Magnet School PK$	PK3-5	West Hartford	Multiple Intelligences	CREC
Webster Micro Society Magnet School	PK3-8	Hartford	Micro Society	HPS

Elementary – Middle – High School	Grades	Town	Theme	Operator [a]
Capital Preparatory Magnet School	PK3-12	Hartford	Social Justice	HPS

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

PK$ Indicates that the school charges prekindergarten tuition based on a sliding scale.

[a] BPS = Bloomfield Public Schools, CREC = Capitol Region Education Council, EHPS = East Hartford Public Schools, HPS = Hartford Public Schools, GUES = Goodwin University Educational Services.

[b] Dwight-Bellizzi Dual Language Academy is accepting applications for PK4 through 4th grade.

Middle – High Schools	Grades	Town	Theme	Operator [a]
Academy of Aerospace & 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	HPS
Connecticut River Academy at Goodwin University	6-12	East Hartford	Early College / College Prep	GUES
Hartford Magnet Trinity College Academy	6-12	Hartford	Arts, STEM, College Prep	HPS
Sport and Medical Sciences Academy	6-12	Hartford	Sport & Medical Sciences	HPS

High Schools	Grades	Town	Theme	Operator [a]
Academy of Computer Science and Engineering	9-12	Enfield	Computer Science & Engineering	CREC
Connecticut IB Academy	9-12	East Hartford	International Baccalaureate (IB)	EHPS
Great Path Academy at CT State Manchester	9-12	Manchester	College Prep	HPS
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	HPS
Pathways Academy of Technology and Design	9-12	East Hartford	Technology & College Prep	HPS
RiverTech at Goodwin University [c]	9-12	East Hartford	Career & Technical Education	GUES
University High School of Science & Engineering	9-12	Hartford	STEM	HPS

High Schools – Half Day, Dual Enrollment	Grades	Town	Theme	Operator [a]
Early College Advanced Manufacturing Pathway (ECAMP)	12	East Hartford	Advanced Manufacturing, Early College	GUES
Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts High School – Half Day	9-12	Hartford	Arts	CREC

[a] BPS = Bloomfield Public Schools, CREC = Capitol Region Education Council, EHPS = East Hartford Public Schools, HPS = Hartford Public Schools, GUES = Goodwin University Educational Services.

[c] RiverTech at Goodwin University is accepting applications for grades 9 through 11.









Open Choice Program for Hartford Residents

Hartford Residents: PK4-Grade 12

The Open Choice Program for Hartford Residents enables Hartford students to attend public schools in nearby suburban districts, offering access to challenging academics, wide-ranging extracurriculars, and an expanded community.

Open Choice for Hartford Residents Application Tips



Who can apply? Hartford students entering PK4 through 10th grade.
Once a student is enrolled in an Open Choice district, they are enrolled through high school graduation as long as they remain a Hartford resident. ***There is no need to reapply each year.***

Find your zone. The city of Hartford is divided into four residential zones, with specific districts assigned to each zone. Families living in a specific residential zone apply to the districts assigned to that zone. Go to ***page 25*** to see which districts are assigned to each zone. You can also go to ChooseYourSchool.org and use the School Finder Tool to determine your zone based on your full street address.

Open Choice your top choice? Apply only to Open Choice to activate the Open Choice Only Priority. Adding other programs such as magnet schools or CTECS cancels this priority.

Apply only to districts from which you would accept an offer. You can decline only one Open Choice offer.

Consider adding other programs to your application if your student is in an upper grade level (magnet schools and CTECS for applying 9th graders)*. Most available seats through Open Choice are at the lower grades, especially PK4, kindergarten, and 1st grade.

***Something to consider when applying to multiple programs: CTECS placements are made first, in February, followed by magnet school placements in March—both before Open Choice placements. Under the one-offer rule, if a student receives a placement in CTECS or a magnet school, they are no longer eligible for an Open Choice placement.**

Have a placement priority?

Make the school with a priority your first choice for the best chance of a placement.

The applicable placement priorities are as follows:

- Former Resident
- Enrolled Siblings
- Placed Siblings
- Open Choice Only
- Pathway School

Learn more about placement priorities on ***page 32***.







Hartford Residential Zone Map

Open Choice Program

Hartford is divided into four residential zones, each linked to specific school districts. Families are eligible to apply to the districts assigned to the zone where they live.

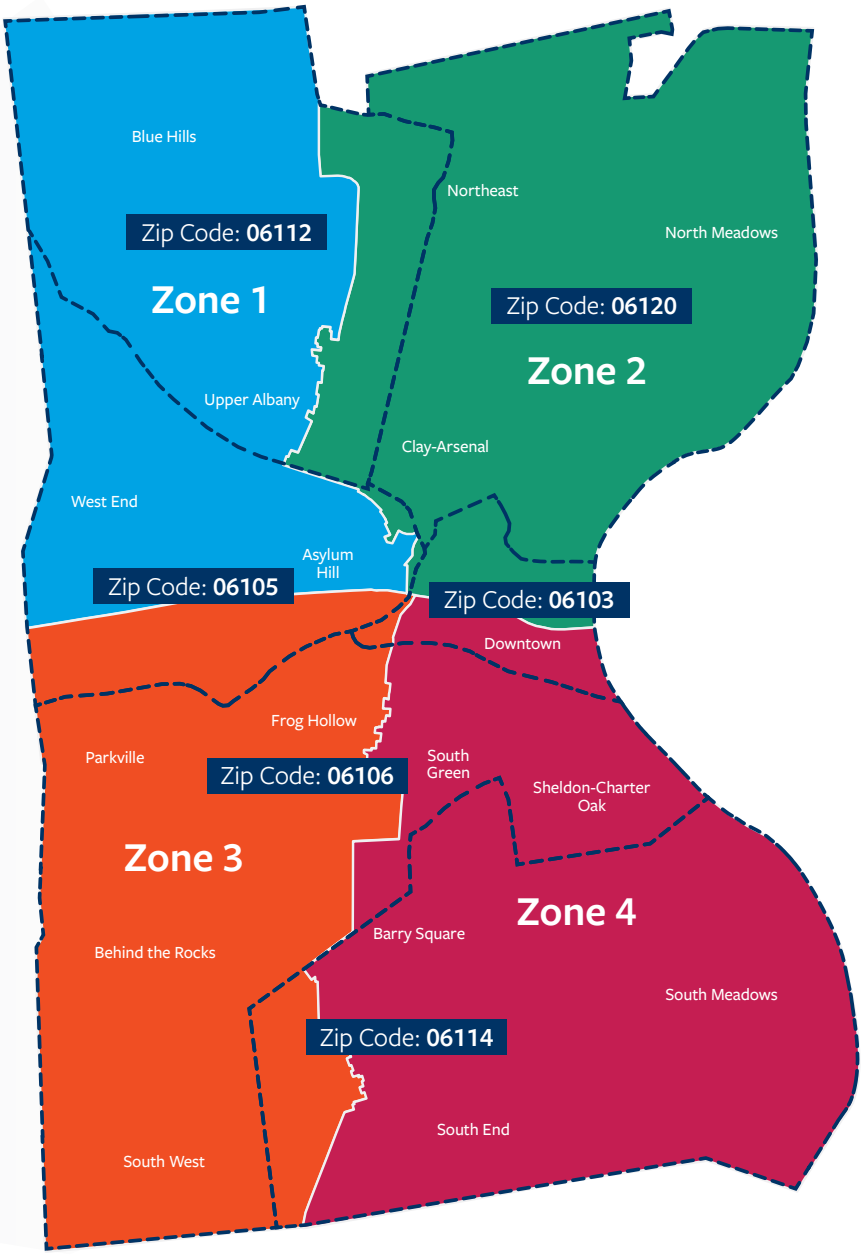




To determine where you can apply:

Go to ChooseYourSchool.org and use the School Finder Tool to determine your zone based on your full street address.

Note: During the late application period, additional districts may be available for a specific zone based on seat availability and waitlist size.



Residential Zone	**Open Choice Districts for Hartford Residents:** All districts accept applications for KG through grade 10. Districts in bold also accept applications for PK4.
Zone 1	**Avon**[*], Canton, East Granby, Granby, **Simsbury**, Suffield, West Hartford[*]
Zone 2	Bolton[**], Coventry[**], **East Windsor**, **Ellington**, **Enfield**, Somers, **South Windsor**, Tolland, Windsor Locks
Zone 3	**Avon**[*], Berlin, **Farmington**, Newington, **Plainville**, Southington, West Hartford[*]
Zone 4	Bolton[**], Coventry[**], **Cromwell**, Glastonbury, Portland, Rocky Hill, Wethersfield

[*] Avon and West Hartford are available for application for families in Zones 1 and 3.
[**] Bolton and Coventry are available for application for families in Zones 2 and 4.

Open Choice Program for Non-Hartford Residents

Non-Hartford Residents: KG-Grade 8

The Open Choice Program for non-Hartford Residents gives students the opportunity to attend select Hartford Public Schools, offering specialized curricula and vibrant, diverse learning environments. This option is well-suited for non-Hartford students who are eager to experience new perspectives, engage in dynamic, community-centered schools, and take advantage of unique academic programs within an urban setting.

Open Choice for Non-Hartford Residents Application Tips



Who can apply? Non-Hartford residents entering kindergarten through 5th grade (depending on the school's grade offerings). Once your student is enrolled in an Open Choice school, they are enrolled through the end grade at the school.

Open Choice your top choice? Apply only to Open Choice to activate the Open Choice Only Priority. Adding other programs such as magnet schools cancels this priority.

Have a placement priority?

Make the school with a priority your first choice for the best chance of a placement.

The applicable placement priorities are as follows:

- Former Resident
- Enrolled Siblings
- Placed Siblings
- Open Choice Only



Learn more about placement priorities on ***page 32***.

Open Choice Hartford Public Schools	Grades	Town	Theme	Operator
Expeditionary Learning Academy at Moylan School	KG-5	Hartford	Expeditionary Learning	HPS
Global Communications Academy	KG-8	Hartford	International Baccalaureate (IB)	HPS
Renzulli Gifted and Talented Academy [a]	4-8	Hartford	Gifted & Talented	HPS

[a] Non-Hartford resident families must complete a separate application with Hartford Public Schools for Renzulli Gifted and Talented Academy. For more information on the application process, go to https://www.hartfordschools.org/o/renzulli/page/admissions-process.



Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS)

Grades 9-12

There are three CTECS high schools in the Greater Hartford region: **A.I. Prince Technical High School, E.C. Goodwin Technical High School, and Howell Cheney Technical High School**. These schools combine traditional academics with hands-on career and technical training, allowing students to explore fields like engineering, healthcare, culinary arts, and skilled trades while earning their diploma. They are a great fit for students who prefer learning by doing, want to build real-world skills, and are interested in gaining certifications or a head start on a career—while still keeping college pathways open.

CTECS Application Tips



Applying 9th graders only. The RSCO application is available only for students entering 9th grade and are interested in attending one of the three Hartford Region technical high schools. Students may select any of the schools, or all three, from the Hartford Region options, but the one-offer rule applies, so only apply to those schools from which you would accept an offer of placement.

Applying 10th graders only. Students entering 10th grade should contact the technical school directly.

CTECS your top choice? Apply only to CTECS technical high schools to activate the CTECS Only Priority. CTECS Only is the only way to express a preference for a CTECS placement. Adding other programs such as magnet schools or Open Choice cancels this priority. Only apply to other programs (magnets and Open Choice) if you are willing to accept an offer from a magnet school or Open Choice district since you are eligible for only one offer.

Have a placement priority?

Make the school with a priority your first choice for the best chance of a placement.

The applicable placement priorities are as follows:

- Enrolled Siblings
- Employee/Staff
- Placed Siblings
- CTECS Only

Learn more about placement priorities on ***page 32***.

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
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, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)		X	X
Information Technology		X	X
Landscape Design, Installation, and Equipment		X	
Masonry	X		
Mechanical Design and Engineering		X	X
Plumbing and Heating	X	X	
Precision Machining		X	X
Welding and Metal Fabrication			X



Step 2: Choose

In this section:

How Placement Works | Transportation Options

Choose Where to Apply

Refining your selections

Now that you have explored the different options, it's time to focus on the schools and programs that feel like a good fit for your student.

Start by looking at the schools and programs your student is eligible for and think about what matters most to your family, like school themes, school and classroom size, extracurricular activities, before- and after-school programs and other practical factors, like distance from home, transportation options, and prekindergarten tuition.

Understanding the RSCO Placement Process

RSCO uses a computer-based system to match students with schools. Seats are divided between students who live in Hartford and those who live outside of Hartford, with a set number of spots for each group. At most schools, about half of the seats are reserved for Hartford residents.

While not every student will get a placement offer or their top choice, RSCO works hard to place as many students as possible. If your student is not placed in the initial round, they may still receive an offer during a future round if a seat becomes available.

Placement Factors

There is no single factor that determines placement, but it is worth understanding some things that can influence the process. Two of the biggest factors are:

- **The grade level and whether it is an entry grade.** Schools have more seats available in entry grades. For other grades, seats open only when current students withdraw.
- **The number of other applicants and whether they have priority.** Schools with many sibling or pathway applicants may have fewer seats available for other students.

Other factors include:

- The random number assigned to each application;
- Applying for multiple years without an offer;
- Current enrollment in a choice program; and
- The socioeconomic resources of the applicant's community.



Note:

Individual student information like grades, attendance, or discipline history does not affect placement.

How families complete the application also plays a role in placements. Important considerations include:

- **Applying on time.** Applicants who submit a late application are added to the waitlist below those who applied on time.
- **Ordering of school selections.** The placement algorithm prioritizes choice order to try to place students in schools based on their order of preference.
- **Having connections that may give you a placement priority.** A student's priority school must be their first choice to activate the priority.

How Placement Priorities Work

Placement priorities are connections to a school or program that can boost a student's chance of an offer, like having a sibling already enrolled in a program or when your middle school shares a theme with a high school to create a pathway. These priorities do not guarantee placement at a school or program, but they can increase your chance of receiving an offer.

Even if a student qualifies for a priority at multiple schools or in multiple districts, priority is usually given only to the school or district ranked as their first choice. Keep in mind, placement always depends on seat availability and how many other students apply.

Placement Priorities by Program

RSCO orders priorities for each program based on the list below. Some priorities have a higher ranking than others, so it is important to understand which priorities are available to your child and how they are applied in the placement process.

Magnet School Applicant	Open Choice Applicant	CTECS Technical High School Applicant
• Direct Pathway • Enrolled Siblings • Employee/Staff • Placed Siblings • Pathway School • Residential Neighborhood • Residential Zone	• Former Resident • Enrolled Siblings • Placed Siblings • Open Choice Only • Pathway School	• Enrolled Siblings • Employee/Staff • Placed Siblings • CTECS Only



Note:

Go to RSCO's School Directory, available at ChooseYourSchool.org, to review the school descriptions to see which priorities are available for each school.



Factors That May Give You Priority During Placement

Connections to a school make a difference

Where a Guardian Works or Sibling Attends School

Staff Priority

- 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, CT State Community College Manchester, CT State Community College Capital, and Trinity College may receive priority for their students when applying to their partner magnet school.

Sibling Priority

To help keep siblings in the same school or Open Choice district, RSCO gives priority to students who share at least one biological parent, legal guardian, or stepparent. To be eligible, all students must have a profile in RSCO's application platform and be linked as siblings.

- **Enrolled Sibling Priority:** Applicants receive priority when applying to the school or Open Choice district where their sibling is enrolled. The sibling must remain enrolled the following year or be in the school's final grade.

— ***Apply by the deadline and choose the enrolled sibling's school/district as the first choice.***

- **Placed Sibling Priority & Twins/Multiples:** Applicants receive priority at the school where a sibling has accepted a placement. The placement process also works to keep twins or multiples together.

— ***Apply during the same application period, with the same schools and/or districts in the same order for all siblings.***

What Happens if Siblings Receive Different Placements?

- If siblings receive offers for different schools in the same round, a family may decline one and keep that student on the waitlist where the other sibling accepted a placement.
- If a sibling receives an offer for a different school in a later round, they can decline that placement and stay on the waitlist where the other sibling already accepted a placement.

— ***Families must contact RSCO when siblings are placed separately.***

Where a Family Applies

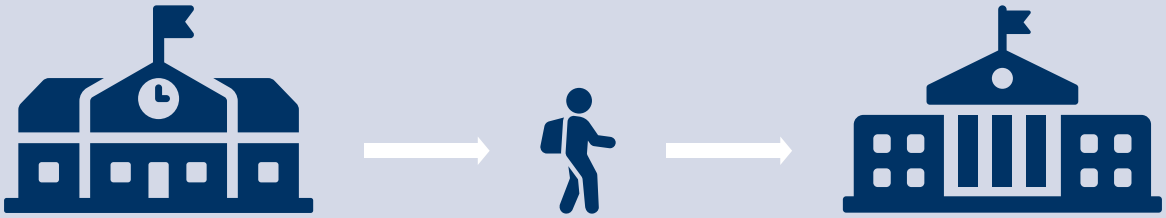
- **CTECS-Only Applicants:** Students who apply only to CTECS.
- **Open Choice-Only Applicants:** Students who apply only to the Open Choice Program.

Where a Student Goes to School

- **Direct Pathway Priority:** Some magnet schools offer a prekindergarten to grade 12 experience through direct pathways between schools. Students attending an elementary or middle school with a direct pathway will receive the highest priority when applying to their direct pathway school if it is selected as their first choice and their application is submitted on time.

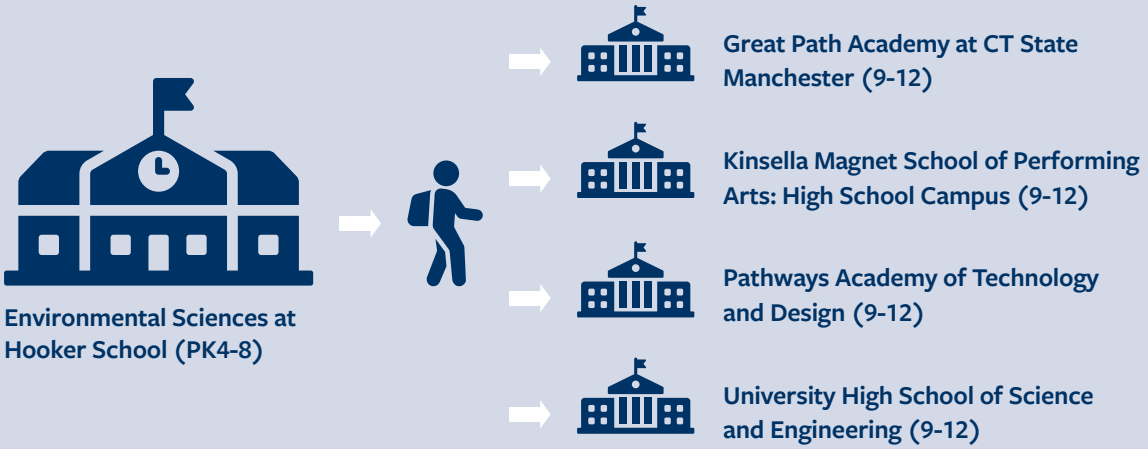
  To be eligible: Submit an on-time RSCO online application with your direct pathway school as your first choice.

Direct Pathway Priority Example



- **Pathway Priority:** Applicants in transition grades have priority when moving between specific magnet schools. This increases a family's chance of remaining in the magnet system as students move from elementary to middle and from middle to high school.

Pathway Priority Example: Students who attend Environmental Sciences at Hooker School and are applying for 9th grade would have a pathway to the schools listed on the right



Where a Student Lives

- **Neighborhood Priority:** Hartford residents applying to elementary schools located within half a mile of their house receive neighborhood priority.
- **Former Residents Priority (Open Choice Program Only):** Applicants receive priority as a former resident if they move from an Open Choice district into Hartford and wish to continue attending school in their Open Choice district or move out of Hartford and wish to continue attending their Open Choice school in Hartford.
- **Partner Districts:** Some schools have partnerships with specific towns in which a set number of seats in specific grades are reserved for residents of the partner town.
- **Residential Zone Priority:** Hartford residents living in specific zones and applying to certain schools receive priority:

Zone 1: Montessori Magnet at Fisher School, STEM Magnet at Annie Fisher School, Webster Micro Society Magnet School, or Breakthrough Magnet School, North.

Zone 2: Capital Preparatory Magnet School (PK3–grade 8 only) or Hartford Prekindergarten Magnet School: North Campus.

Zone 3: Breakthrough Magnet School, South, Environmental Sciences Magnet at Hooker School, Hartford Prekindergarten Magnet School: South Campus, or Montessori Magnet at Batchelder School.

Zone 4: Kinsella Magnet School of Performing Arts – PK–8 Campus, Betances Learning Lab Magnet School, or Dwight-Bellizzi Dual Language Academy.

Unsure about your zone?

Go to ChooseYourSchool.org to access the online school choice directory.



Consider Transportation Options

Understanding how transportation works

Free transportation is generally available for most kindergarten through grade 12 students participating in school choice. Understanding the eligibility requirements and how transportation works is an important part of a family's research.



Note about bus stops:

RSCO does not provide door-to-door transportation but generally uses centralized bus stops. Typically, centralized bus stops are not within walking distance of a student's home but are located a few miles away in a public location, such as a town library or school parking lot. Parents/guardians are responsible for transportation to the bus stop.

Transportation Zone

The RSCO Transportation Zone establishes the list of towns where students receive transportation to RSCO School Choice schools and programs within the Greater Hartford region. Refer to the map below for the towns within the RSCO Transportation Zone.



Transportation Options by Program

Magnet PK3 and PK4 and Open Choice PK4	
Hartford residents attending a magnet or Open Choice schools outside of Hartford.	**Bus Transportation Provided by RSCO Transportation**
Hartford residents attending a magnet school located in Hartford.	**No Bus Transportation Provided**
Non-Hartford residents attending a magnet school outside of their town. *Reimbursement stipend available.* (*go to page 39 for more details*)	**No Bus Transportation Provided**
Non-Hartford residents attending a magnet school in their town.	**No Bus Transportation Provided**

Magnet Schools (KG-12)	
Students Living Inside the Transportation Zone Bus stops vary and may include stops in your neighborhood or at centralized locations in or near your town. Parents/guardians are responsible for transportation to the bus stop.	**Bus Transportation Provided by RSCO Transportation**
Hartford Residents Attending a Magnet School in Hartford and Non-Hartford Residents Attending a Magnet School in Their Town Students receive in-district transportation. Contact your district's transportation office for more information.	**Bus Transportation Provided by Resident's Town**
Students Living *Outside* the Transportation Zone Families can pursue two options: • Transport their student to an existing bus stop near you (contact RSCO Transportation for information). • Bring their student to and from the magnet school (reimbursement stipend available).	**No Bus Transportation Provided**



Transportation Options by Program cont'd

Open Choice Program (KG-12)

Students Living Inside the Transportation Zone
Bus stops vary and may include stops in your neighborhood or at centralized locations in or near your town. Parents/guardians are responsible for transportation to the bus stop.



Bus Transportation Provided by RSCO Transportation

Hartford Resident Students Attending Plainville and Wethersfield Schools
The town provides transportation services. Contact the district's transportation office for more information.



Bus Transportation Provided by District

A.I. Prince Technical High School Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS) (9-12)

Hartford Residents
Transportation provided by Hartford Public Schools. Neighborhood bus stops are in or near the student's neighborhood.



Bus Transportation Provided by District

Non-Hartford Residents Inside the Transportation Zone
Bus stops vary and may include stops in your neighborhood or at centralized locations in or near your town. Parents/guardians are responsible for transportation to the bus stop.



Bus Transportation Provided by Student's Resident Town or RSCO Transportation

Non-Hartford Residents Outside the Transportation Zone
Families can pursue two options:

- Transport their student to an existing bus stop near you (contact RSCO Transportation for information); or
- Bring their student to and from A.I. Prince Tech (reimbursement stipend available).



No Bus Transportation Provided

E.C. Goodwin and Howell Cheney Technical High School Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS) (9-12)

Hartford Residents
Centralized bus stops are located in or near Hartford, often in a public place. Parents/guardians are responsible for transportation to the bus stop.



Bus Transportation Provided by RSCO Transportation

Non-Hartford Residents
Resident towns provide transportation, but not all towns provide transportation to all technical high schools. Please contact your local school district for more information.



Bus Transportation Provided by Resident Town



RSCO Transportation reimbursement stipend

If bus transportation isn't provided and you are responsible for taking your student to school outside your town of residence, you may be eligible to receive a $5-per-day reimbursement, based on your student's attendance, depending on the school choice program and school location. The transportation reimbursement stipend is not available to families who transport students to a magnet school located in their town of residence.

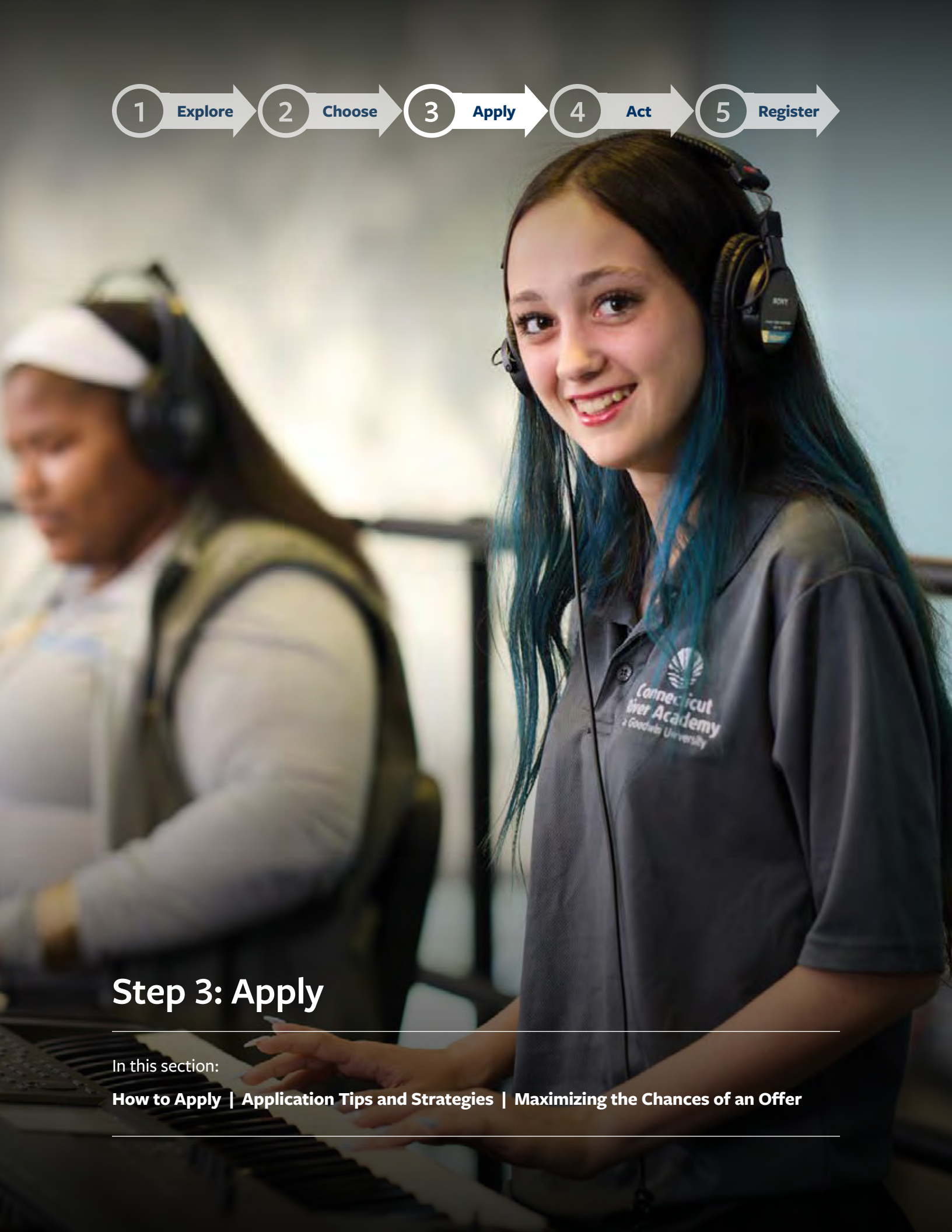
To receive the reimbursement, parents/guardians must:

A. Meet the eligibility requirements;

B. Transport their student for the entire school year; and

C. Complete an online reimbursement form, available at crec.org/transportation/forms.php, before June 15.





Step 3: Apply

In this section:

How to Apply | Application Tips and Strategies | Maximizing the Chances of an Offer

How to Apply

Application process overview

RSCO's user-friendly online application platform makes it easy for families to manage applications for all their children.

After creating your RSCO account, be sure to use the same account every year to submit applications. The placement process gives priority to applicants who have applied for multiple years without an offer. To be identified for this priority, the same account must be used each year. Remember, you are NOT required to submit applications for all available programs (Magnet, Open Choice, or CTECS).

To apply:

- Go to ChooseYourSchool.org.
- Create a RSCO account or log in to your existing account if you are a returning applicant.
- Create or update your Guardian Profile.
- Create or update Student Profiles for all children in your household, including students who are not applying to a choice program, to be sure to access any potential sibling priorities.
- Select schools and programs that fit your student's interests, and rank them in order of preference.
- Apply only to programs and schools you would accept an offer from.
- Keep your information updated so that you receive time-sensitive communications.

Important note about duplicate accounts:



- You may create only one RSCO account.
- Duplicate RSCO accounts and applications will be deleted.



Be strategic!

If your student wants to attend a specific program—such as Magnet, CTECS, or Open Choice—apply only to that program.

Application Tips and Strategies

Helpful hints for a successful application

As you explore school choice options and complete the RSCO application, here are a few helpful tips to consider.

Pay Attention to Deadlines

Don't miss out on an opportunity because of a late application or missed deadline:

- **Apply by the posted deadline in February.** This is the best way to increase the chance of receiving a placement offer.
- Late application opportunities will be limited based on the waitlist size. If a school has a long waitlist for a specific grade, that grade will not be open to new applicants. Applying by the deadline ensures all schools and programs are available.
- After receiving a placement notification, respond by the deadline, including completing student registration, to hold your seat.

Maximize Your Priorities

- To increase the likelihood of a placement, it is important for you to know your priorities and make sure they are flagged in the Family Profile of your RSCO account. Double-check your family's priorities on ***page 32***.
- Check the priorities on each Student Profile to confirm that all priorities are listed.
- Rank the school with a priority first to activate the priority. This will give you the best chance of a placement.
- Applying for twins or siblings in the same grade range? Choose the same schools in the same choice order on each application to increase the chance that they will be placed together.
- Only interested in CTECS? Apply only to CTECS technical high schools to activate the CTECS-Only Priority.
- Only interested in Open Choice? Apply only to the Open Choice Program to activate the Open Choice Only Priority.

Go to ***page 32*** for detailed information on placement priorities.

Know the Placement Rules

One-Offer Rule

Under the one-offer rule, each applicant is eligible for only one placement offer during the application cycle. If your student receives an offer for any of the schools listed on the application, the student is removed from all other waitlists and is not eligible for any other placement offer for the current application cycle. There are two limited exceptions to the one-offer rule for Open Choice for Hartford Residents and for siblings placed separately. Go to ***page 46*** for details on these limited exceptions and how they work.



Important note:

Only select schools or districts your student would like to attend, because once they receive an offer, they are not eligible for another placement during the current application cycle. You do not have to apply to the maximum number of schools/districts.

Choice order matters with schools and districts. Generally, the best chance of a placement offer is your student's first-choice school or district selection. However, your student could receive placement at **any** school or district on their application. Therefore, it is important to select only schools your student would like to attend.

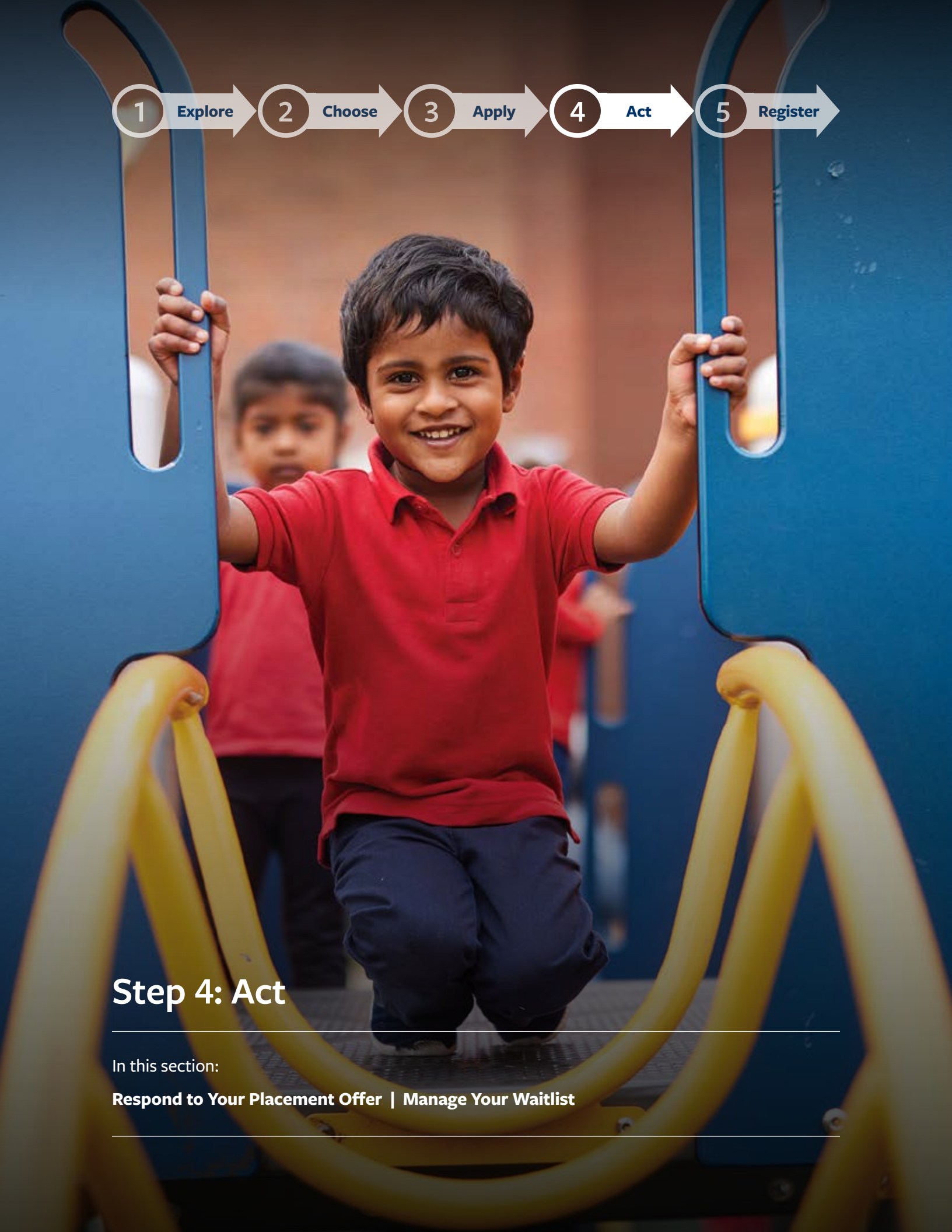
No preference among programs. When you apply to CTECS, magnet schools, and/or Open Choice, families cannot indicate which program they prefer. If there is interest in only one program, selections should be limited to that program.

First-Round Offers

In the first round of placements, RSCO makes offers only for the school or district you list as your first choice. This means you can add options to your application without missing a chance at your top choice. After the first round, you'll be able to see your likelihood of getting into each school. If you don't receive an offer at your first-choice school and placement seems unlikely, you can adjust your choice order to try to boost your chance at placement in future rounds. On the other hand, if your student has a good chance of getting into your preferred school, you can remove the other options and stay on the waitlist for your top choice.

Remember, placement is never guaranteed, even with a small waitlist indicator.
For more information about the waitlist process, go to ***page 47***.





Step 4: Act

In this section:

Respond to Your Placement Offer | Manage Your Waitlist

Respond to Your Placement Offer

What to expect during placement

The RSCO placement process begins in February for CTECS and March for magnet schools and the Open Choice Program, and continues through September 30. RSCO will notify families by email or text message if their student receives a placement offer or is on the waitlist. Read on for specific information about placements and what steps you should take upon receiving an offer.

My Student Received a Placement Offer. What Happens Next?

It's great news when a family receives an offer. It is important to accept the offer by the deadline; otherwise, it expires and is automatically declined.

To accept or decline your offer:

1. **Go to** ChooseYourSchool.org.
2. **Select "View"** on the student card.
3. **Review your placement letter**, which is linked under the offer.
4. **Accept or decline by the deadline.** You will receive a confirmation email and text after you respond. Be sure to register with the new school by the date indicated in the placement notification to keep your seat!





One-Offer Rule

Generally, applicants are eligible to receive only one placement offer. If your student receives an offer, their application will be removed from all other waitlists (Magnet, Open Choice, and CTECS), and they will no longer be eligible for another placement offer during the current application cycle, whether you accept or decline the offer. There are two limited exceptions:

Exception 1

Open Choice for Hartford Residents

Hartford residents can decline their first Open Choice placement offer and remain eligible for a second Open Choice placement offer in a district from their other Open Choice selections if a seat becomes available. If an applicant receives a second Open Choice offer, they are not eligible for any other placement offers during the current application cycle, whether they accept or decline the second offer.

Exception 2

Siblings Placed Separately

If siblings in the same grade range (e.g., PK3-5 or 6-12) are placed in separate schools or programs during the same offer round, a family can decline the offer for one student and request to keep that student on the waitlist for the school from which the other sibling received and accepted a placement:

- If only one sibling receives a placement, the waitlisted sibling(s) gets placed-sibling priority at that school.
- If the sibling is placed in a different school in a later round, they can decline that placement and stay on the waitlist for the school at which they have placed-sibling priority.

Note: ***Families must contact RSCO to request this exception to the one-offer rule for sibling placements.***





Managing the Waitlist

The waitlist process

For the first round of placements, RSCO makes offers only for a family's first-choice school or district. Even if you don't receive an offer in the first round, your student still has a chance for an offer in later rounds. The RSCO waitlist process provides information about your student's likelihood of a placement and the opportunity to adjust to increase the chance of receiving an offer.

My Student Didn't Receive a Placement Offer. What Happens Next?

If your student does not receive a placement offer in the first round, we will notify you by text and email that your student's application is on the waitlist for the schools and programs you selected on their application. The late application period also begins at this time, during which you can add up to five additional selections to your application, but options will be limited to select grades and schools based on the waitlist size and number of seats available.

Magnet and Open Choice placements continue throughout the spring and summer. 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. **Keep in mind that after the first round, your student could receive an offer from any school or district on their application.**





What Are My Chances of Receiving an Offer?

RSCO assigns all schools and programs on your application an indicator based on your student's position on the waitlist. Log in to your RSCO account to view the indicators for each of your school and program selections. Review the waitlist indicators below:

SMALL Small (Green): **Good chance of receiving an offer if seats are available**

What it means: Your student is among a small number of applicants who are likely to receive a placement if seats become available. If seats are declined in a round or a current student withdraws, you have a good chance of receiving an offer. **Note:** A green indicator does not guarantee a placement—it all depends on whether seats become available.

What you should do: If you are still interested in this school, think about moving it to your top choice. If you are not interested in receiving a placement, move it down your list or remove it from the application.

MEDIUM Medium (Yellow): **Offer unlikely in the next round of placements**

What it means: There are other applicants who are likely to be placed before your student, and an offer is unlikely in the next round of placements. If seats are declined throughout the placement process, there is a possibility you may receive an offer in a later round.

What you should do: Review your school selections, and consider changing your choice order or adding schools that have a green indicator to boost your chances of a placement.

LARGE Large (Red): **Offer unlikely**

What it means: There are a large number of applicants who are likely to receive a placement before your student. While the waitlist can change, it is unlikely your student will receive a placement offer at this school.

What you should do: Review your school selections and consider changing your choice order or adding schools that have a green indicator to boost your chances of a placement.

Submit a late application:

Missed the on-time application deadline? The late application period will open on a limited basis for select grades and schools based on the size of the waitlist and number of seats available. As seats are filled, schools will continue to close for new applications.

Log in to your account to see which schools are still accepting applications. New applicants are generally added to the waitlist after those who applied by the posted deadline in February, so be sure to use the waitlist indicator to inform your selections.

Maximize Your Chance of Receiving an Offer in the Next Round

Now that you have a better idea of how likely your student is to receive a placement offer, you have the option to update your application to increase the chance of a placement.

Add New Schools

On-time applicants can add up to five additional selections to their application based on the grades and schools available. Your student will be placed on the waitlist after on-time applicants at each of the new schools/districts added. Options with a **green** waitlist indicator give you the best chance for placement. Once you add schools or programs to your application, the indicator will refresh in real time to show how likely it is that your student will receive a placement if a seat becomes available. The indicator may change depending on choice order and the number of other applicants also adding the school to their applications.

Change the Choice Order of Your Original Selections

The placement protocol attempts to place students in their preferred schools or districts first before moving on to the other selections. Families may adjust the order of their school and district selections to best position their application for a placement. Since the placement protocol prioritizes choice order, adjusting your choice order could change your waitlist size and increase the likelihood of receiving an offer.

Helpful Tip: ***Moving a school or district with a yellow indicator to the top of your list could change it to green.***

Other Things to Know

- **The one-offer rule**. If your student receives an offer from any school, they will be removed from all other waitlists and will no longer be eligible for another placement, regardless of whether you accept or decline the placement.
- **Waitlist** indicators are updated on a real-time basis and can change depending on choice order and the number of other applicants also adding the school to their applications. **Monitor your RSCO account to check current waitlists.**
- RSCO will contact applicants by email and text if a placement is made. **Make sure your contact information is up to date.**
- **There are no set numbers for small, medium, and large waitlists.** The cutoff can vary by grade and the number of available seats.
- **Entry grades typically have the most available seats.** Open seats in non-entry grades are more limited.
- **Waitlists expire on September 30.** Waitlists don't carry over from year to year, so you must submit a new application each year if you are interested in a placement for the upcoming school year.



Step 5: Register

In this section:

General Registration Information

The Registration Process

General registration information

Once you accept your offer, it's important to start the registration process with the school immediately. The placement letter provides the registration deadline and contact information to start the process.

The registration deadline shortens throughout the placement cycle. Early rounds typically have a deadline of 14 days, while later rounds may provide five to seven days to complete requirements. It's best to start the process as soon as you accept the placement.

Important note: ***You must register by the deadline or your student will lose their seat.***

Questions About Registering Your Student at Your New School?

RSCO does not manage the school registration process. Your student's new school is your main point of contact, and you must contact the school directly.

Registration Documents

The registration process is handled at the school or in the district your student will attend. During the registration process, families must provide the appropriate documents as directed by the school or district to verify that their student is eligible to attend the school. Listed below are examples of registration documents that schools and districts may request.

Child's Age	Parent/Guardian Identity	Town of Residency
• Photograph of birth certificate • Earlier school records • State-issued identification document • Driver's license, passport, etc. • Parent's affidavit or unsworn statement as to a student's age • Physician's certification verifying a student's age • Immunization records	• A current State of Connecticut photo identification • Passport • Out-of-state driver's license • Out-of-state learner's permit • Out-of-state non-driver photo identification • Military ID • Alien registration card (green card, permanent resident, visa) • National/state/country identification card • Any other form of government-issued ID (national or foreign)	• A current apartment or home lease agreement, mortgage document, property tax record, rent receipt, homeowners' insurance certificate • A current Connecticut driver's license, automobile registration, automobile insurance • A current (within the past 90 days) utility bill (electric, gas, water): cable, home phone or cell phone bill: insurance correspondence • Current (within the past 90 days) proof of government benefits (disability, Medicare, Supplemental Assistance Nutrition Program (SNAP)), or other government correspondence showing an address **Note:** Documents that only list a P.O. box number as an address will not be accepted to verify residency.

Application Assistance

Connect with us to understand your options, ask questions, and talk through strategies for selecting schools and programs that give your student the best chance of placement. We are here for you every step of the way.

RSCO Parent Resource Center

450 Columbus Blvd., Hartford

860-713-6990

rsco.sde@ct.gov

ChooseYourSchool.org

Mon–Fri, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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

On-street on Columbus Blvd.
(***Fee required***)
Available in 2-hour intervals from 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Morgan Street Garage
(***Fee required***)
Take elevator to street level, then use crosswalk to reach entrance.

Primary RSCO School Choice Application Assistance Sites

CREC Welcome Center

111 Charter Oak Ave., Hartford

860-509-3700

schoolchoice@crec.org

choosecrec.org

Mon–Fri, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by appointment

GUES Welcome Center

Goodwin University Education Services (GUES)

417 Riverside Dr., East Hartford

860-929-3807

welcomecenter@goodwinmagnetsystem.org

goodwinmagnetsystem.org

Mon–Thurs, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Fri, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Hartford Public Schools

Office of Enrollment and School Choice

330 Wethersfield Ave., Hartford

860-695-8876

hartfordschools.org

Mon–Fri, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

RSCO School Choice Application Assistance at the Hartford Public Library Sites

Downtown Library

500 Main St., Hartford

860-695-6330

Mon–Thurs, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Fri, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sat, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sun, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Albany Library

1250 Albany Ave., Hartford

860-695-7380

Mon–Thurs, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Fri, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sat, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Barbour Library

261 Barbour St., Hartford

860-695-7400

Mon–Thurs, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Fri, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Campfield Library

30 Campfield Ave., Hartford

860-695-7440

Mon–Thurs, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Fri, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dwight Library

7 New Park Ave., Hartford

860-695-7460

Mon–Thurs, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Fri, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Park Library

603 Park St., Hartford

860-695-7500

Mon–Thurs, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Fri, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sat, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Important note about application assistance resources:

RSCO continues to partner with other sites for information and application assistance. Go to ChooseYourSchool.org/content/application-resources for the latest information on all of the sites available for information and support. Sites and information are subject to change.

Your future, your choice.

450 Columbus Blvd.
Hartford, CT 06103-1841

860-713-6990
ChooseYourSchool.org

CONNECTICUT
Department of Education

RSCO
Greater Hartford Regional
School Choice Office

The Connecticut Department of Education is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.