

Understanding the Magnet School Board Policy 2370

Magnet Schools Application Process

As per School Board Policy 2370, parents interested in enrolling their child(ren) in a **Magnet School Program (MSP)** must complete the Magnet Schools application.

- Accessible exclusively through the Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) Parent Portal at www.dadeschools.net.
- Log in using a Google or Apple ID, regardless of whether children are currently enrolled within M-DCPS.
- Apply to up to FIVE schools with ONE Magnet Schools application.

Application Period:

As per School Board Policy 2370, Magnet Schools applications **OPEN** annually from **October 1st** through **January 15th**.

Deadline:

As per School Board Policy 2370, all applications and required documents for admission to Magnet Schools must be received by January 15th.

Agreement:

As per School Board Policy 2370, by submitting a Magnet Schools application, parents/guardians agree to the terms outlined in the Agreement of Understanding provided in the Magnet Schools application. A Magnet Schools application **DOES NOT** guarantee placement.

Random Selection Process:

As per School Board Policy 2370, once eligibility criteria are met and applications are submitted, admission into MSPs is based on space availability through a random selection process.

If a child is eligible to attend a District school or is in a grade served by a Magnet School Program (MSP), they may apply to an MSP. Admission to MSPs is based on different factors like skills, talents, grades, behavior, essays, language abilities, and interests.

Application Priorities and Benefits:

As per School Board Policy 2370, admission priorities and benefits are assigned to applicants in the following order:

1. F.S. 1003.05 - Assistance to transitioning students from military families

Dependent children of active-duty military personnel receive priority admission. Families will need to provide active military orders at the time of application.

2. 20 U.S.C. 7231 & 34 CFR Part 280 - Minority Group Isolation

For certain Magnet programs, admission priority is given to certain applicants based on specific criteria that ensure socio-economic diversity, integration, and inclusivity in our learning environments.

3. 5 U.S. Code § 2108 - Veteran; disabled veteran; preference eligible

Priority is given to children of veterans. To qualify, Veteran families will need to provide discharge papers (DD-214) showing service dates and an honorable discharge. If a parent has a service-connected disability, they will also need a letter from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

4. Sibling/Multiple-Birth

Priority is given to applicants with siblings attending the same MSP. Sibling priority does not apply to programs that require auditions or language proficiency tests.

Sibling Attending: Priority is provided during the initial lottery for applicants with siblings already attending the same MSP. To be considered for Sibling Attending status, families must provide the correct District Student Identification Number for sibling(s).

Sibling Applying: Priority is granted once one of the siblings accepts an offer, provided that both siblings applied to the same school/program. For this priority, both siblings must reside at the same address, and the same registering parent must complete the application for both students under the same guardian account.

Multiples: Parents can choose to link the application results for multiples. If one twin or multiple is selected, the other(s) will receive priority at the time the first student is offered a seat. An application must be submitted separately for each student.

5. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Priority admission may be granted based on agreements with municipalities and/or organizations, contingent upon space availability and specific criteria.

Employee Benefit

Five percent of seats are reserved at each MSP for children of M-DCPS employees, excluding any audition-based Fine Arts Magnet programs.

Notification

As per School Board Policy 2370, initial application outcomes will be communicated by the Office of School Choice & Parental Options on March 15th, following the format chosen by the applicant (email or text message).

Acceptance

As per School Board Policy 2370, parents must accept or decline admission offers by the specified deadline. Failure to respond forfeits all acceptance offers.

Second Opportunity to Apply to Magnet Schools

Applications may reopen for programs with available capacity through the Magnet application on April 15th. Available seats are filled with eligible applications on a first-come, first-served basis.