

**Office of Access and Enrollment**  
**Information for the 2020-2021 School Year Notification Process – High School**

### **First-Round Results**

First-round results will be released on March 27th. Online applicants will receive their results via their online GoCPS account between 5 pm and 11:59 pm. Paper applicants will receive a results letter sent via U.S. mail to the primary address on their application. In addition, paper applicants can view their results between 5 pm and 11:59 pm on the online GoCPS account that has been opened on the family's behalf by the Office of Access and Enrollment. Prior to the release of the results, all applicants will receive more information on this process via email and robocall. Selective Enrollment scores and points for schools with a points-based selection system will also be posted on March 27th.

Students are guaranteed a seat in the general education program at their designated neighborhood high school. In addition, they can receive, *at most*, one Choice offer and one Selective Enrollment offer, depending on the programs to which they applied and whether or not they qualify for an offer. If students are currently enrolled in a school that also serves grades 9-12 (known as a "continuing" school), they will receive an offer from this school as well. When registering the student for enrollment, the family must give the school proof of the address on the application. If the family moved to a different address after the application deadline, proof of the new address must be provided as well. Offers are contingent upon this proof.

### **Accept/Decline Offers**

Online applicants will accept or decline offers via their online GoCPS account. Paper applicants can accept or decline offers by submitting a paper confirmation form or via the online GoCPS account that was opened for them by the Office of Access and Enrollment. The deadline to accept or decline offers is April 14th. Applicants should be sure to carefully consider offers before accepting or declining.

### **Waitlists**

If an applicant was eligible to be considered for a Choice Program, but they did not receive an offer, they will be waitlisted for the program. (Selective Enrollment schools do not have waitlists.) Students will be waitlisted for any Choice Program for which they are eligible that is ranked higher than the program from which they received an offer, if applicable. If a student is waitlisted, they can either remain on the waitlist or they can withdraw from the waitlist, if they no longer wish to be considered for the program. (Withdrawal from a waitlist can only be done via the online GoCPS account.) If the student wants to remain on the waitlist, there is no action to take. If the school has a seat available, and the student's number on the waitlist is reached, the school will call to extend the offer. The next morning, the offer will appear in the GoCPS account. The family will have 48 business hours to accept or decline. The first-round waitlist process will open on April 17th. Online applicants will accept or decline waitlist offers via their online GoCPS account. Paper applicants can accept or decline waitlist offers over the phone or via their online GoCPS account. Note that declining a first- or second-round offer will not impact the student's likelihood of receiving a waitlist offer.

If a student accepts a first-round offer, and later receives an offer from a program where they were waitlisted, they can accept the waitlist offer. This will automatically decline the first-round offer they accepted. If a student accepts a waitlist offer, they will no longer be on the waitlist for any programs ranked *lower* than the program from which they accepted the offer. They will remain on the waitlist for any programs ranked *higher* than the program from which they accepted the offer.

### **Second-Round Application Process**

A second application round will consist of Choice Programs that still have seats available. Students will be able to apply to up to 20 Choice programs, as long as they meet the programs' eligibility requirements, if applicable. Students can also apply again to programs for which they are eligible and to which they applied in the first round, but received a status of "Not Offered." (NOTE: A program cannot be offered during the second round unless it has exhausted all waitlists, or anticipates that it will exhaust all waitlists. Accordingly, a student cannot apply in the second round to a program where they are on the waitlist.) Finally, if a student was not eligible in the first round for a program because they did not participate in the required admission screening (audition, essay, information session, or interview only), they can apply for the program in the second round and participate in the admission screening at that time. The second round will also consist of Selective Enrollment Schools that still have seats available, if any. Students can only apply to Selective Enrollment Schools in the second round if they have taken the Selective Enrollment admissions exam. **IMPORTANT NOTE: if a student accepts a first-round offer, and then receives a second-round offer, the first-round offer will be automatically forfeited. Therefore, students should ONLY apply to second-round programs if they want them MORE than the first-round offer they accepted.**

Applying to programs in the second round does not impact waitlist offers or acceptances. For example, if a student accepts a waitlist offer and later receives an offer in the second round, the waitlist offer is NOT automatically forfeited. At that point, the student would decide whether to accept the second round offer or keep the waitlist offer. The second-round waitlist process will open on June 12th.

### **Transfer Process**

After the second round, students still seeking school options can transfer to programs with remaining seats, if they are eligible. Students can only transfer during a designated transfer window; the first window opens July 1st and closes on the 20th day of school. Beginning July 1st, a list of Choice Programs that still have available seats will be posted on the GoCPS website and will be available upon request from the Office of Access and Enrollment. To receive a transfer application, parents will directly contact any schools in which they are interested.

**Questions?** Contact the Office of Access and Enrollment at 773-553-2060 or [gocps@cps.edu](mailto:gocps@cps.edu).