

Magnet Programs Frequently Asked Questions

Updated Oct 10th

2018

1. Is there a cost to attend the Magnet Program?

Answer: No. Magnet Programs are a part of Montgomery Public Schools.

2. How do you get a State ID number?

Answer: Only current MPS students will have a state ID number. The codes will be on your child's report card if they are a Montgomery Public School student. If it is not on the report card contact the counselor at your child's current school. Non-MPS students do not require a state ID number.

3. Will transportation be provided if my child is accepted into the Magnet Program?

Answer: Magnet students are provided transportation at no cost. Students will be transported from their zoned school. See online Magnet Overview for further information or call Transportation at 284-2085.

4. How and when will I be notified of acceptance into a Magnet school?

Answer: Notification will be sent to the email address that you provide us as well as a letter from Montgomery Public Schools. Notification of status via email/letter will be sent out tentatively late April. If there are open slots following the first random selection, notifications will be sent to students that are awarded a slot leading up to the first day of school.

5. Will I automatically be registered at the Magnet School after I am accepted into the program?

Answer: No. You must register at the school following acceptance into the Magnet Program. Upon acceptance schools will send registration information indicating details regarding the registration period. All students must register during that time period to guarantee a spot in the program.

6. If my child is currently enrolled in a Magnet School, do they need to reapply?

Answer: Current Magnet students do not need to apply in order to remain in the current program. However, Magnet students must meet the criteria to remain in the program each year. They must **re-apply** if they want to consider attending another Magnet school in a different feeder pattern.

7. If my child is currently attending a Magnet Program in another county or state, are they automatically transferred into Montgomery Public Schools Magnet Program?

Answer: No. You will need to complete an online application by the appropriate deadline date for your child to be considered for a Magnet Program. Placement will then be based on space availability along with other program criteria. **IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO BE A RESIDENT OF THE MPS ATTENDANCE ZONE WHEN APPLYING FOR A MAGNET PROGRAM. HOWEVER, ALL ACCEPTED STUDENTS MUST PROVE THEY LIVE IN THE MONTGOMERY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.**

8. How is a student selected for a Magnet School?

Answer: Each school has different entrance criteria. If a student meets the criteria they are then considered eligible for the random selection process. Failure to maintain the GPA and discipline for the current school year will result in loss of eligibility. For final determination schools will use the final report card for the 2018-2019 school year.

9. If I select my second or third choice school am I removed from future selections?

Answer: Yes, if you accept an offer for any of your choices you will not be considered for any other choices.

10. How long will you have to accept a slot once notified?

Answer: 5 working days

11. If you get accepted to your 2nd choice and you decline, what happens? Are you still on the lists for your other choices?

Answer: If you receive an offer for any school other than your first choice you will have the option to accept the offer, decline the offer or be waitlisted for a higher choice or decline all offers.

12. If I have a student in a Magnet School, is his sibling automatically accepted into the same school?

Answer: No. Each individual must apply and meet eligibility requirements to be considered for the random selection process.

13. If my child does not make the GPA or discipline requirement to remain in the magnet program, what are my options?

Answer: All discrepancies in student grades, attendance and discipline should be handled within the 9 week period of the occurrence. To report a complaint you must adhere to the guidelines in the Montgomery Public Schools Grading, Promotion and Retention Procedures 2018-2019 and the Montgomery Public Schools Student Conduct Manual 2018-2019.

14. I am homeschooling my child. Will she be able to apply for your Magnet Programs?

Answer: Yes, as long as he/she meets all of the MPS admissions and eligibility requirements into the program.

Procedures for Homeschoolers

Homeschool applicants will be evaluated individually based on the official documents that are submitted with the magnet school application. Homeschool applicants must meet the Alabama State Department of Education's guidelines for homeschooling.

Transfers from Non-accredited Schools (State, Regional or Home)

A student entering Montgomery Public Schools from a non-accredited school should be evaluated for grade/course placement by the school principal or his/her designee. Placement will be determined by using a variety of data sources including transcripts and standardized test scores. For students in grades 9-12, academic core courses will be validated by the student passing a content-based, course specific test developed by the school system. The validation test may be administered in the school setting. Guidelines are listed in the MPS Policy JBCD (April 22, 2008) (See Appendix 1) and the Alabama Administrative Code (AAC) 290-3-1-.02(7) (k) (See Appendix 2).