



# Montgomery County Board of Education

307 South Decatur Street • P.O. Box 1991 • Montgomery, AL 36102-1991  
Phone (334) 223-6700 • Fax (334) 269-3076 [www.EngageEducateInspire.org](http://www.EngageEducateInspire.org)

## MONTGOMERY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Magnet Programs Frequently Asked Questions

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 state ID number will be on your child's report card, if they are a Montgomery Public Schools student. If the state ID number 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: Transportation will be provided using the hub concept. Hubs will be determined by zones. See the online Magnet Overview for further information or call Transportation at 334-284-2085.

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 provided on the application, as well as a letter from Montgomery Public Schools. Notification of status via email and 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 have to register my student at the Magnet School after I am accepted into the program?**

Answer: Yes. 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 re-apply in order to remain in their current program. However, magnet students must meet the criteria to remain in the program each year.

7. **How do I change magnet programs/feeder patterns?**

Answer: Students currently enrolled in a magnet program must apply if they want to be considered for placement in a magnet school in a different feeder pattern.

8. **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. 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.
9. **How is a student selected for a Magnet School?** Answer: Each school has different eligibility criteria. If a student meets the program's criteria, they are then considered eligible for the random selection process. Failure to maintain the GPA and discipline requirements for the current school year will result in loss of eligibility. For final eligibility schools will use the final report card for the 2019-2020 school year.
10. **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.
11. **How long will you have to accept a slot once notified? (NEW)**  
Answer: Initial offer will be 14 calendar days from the lottery run.  
If I am an existing Magnet Student applying for another magnet school outside of my feeder pattern, the following options will apply:
- Scenario 1: Your child is awarded a seat at the school they applied.** You have 14 calendar days to accept or decline the offer. If you accept the seat at the school applied, then you forfeit the seat at your feeder school.
- Scenario 2: Your child is waitlisted at the school or schools they applied.** If this occurs you will have 14 calendar days to decide if you would like to keep your guaranteed seat at your feeder school or stay on the wait list for the school or schools applied. If during the 14 calendar days you decide you would like to keep your guaranteed seat at your feeder school, you will be removed from the waitlist at the school or schools applied. If you decide to remain on the waitlist on the schools or schools applied, then you forfeit your guaranteed seat at your feeder school.
12. **If you get accepted to your 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 remain in the pool of eligible applicants for a higher choice or decline all offers.

**13. 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.

**14. 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 and the Montgomery Public Schools Student Conduct Manual.

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

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

**Applicants from Non-MPS Schools (State, Regional or Home-Schools)**

A student entering Montgomery Public Schools from a non-MPS 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 Handbook (September 25, 2018) and the Alabama Administrative Code (AAC) 290-3-1-.02(7) (k).

**16. What happens when the application window has closed? *(After the window closes.)***

The Montgomery Public Schools Application period closed as of 1-31-2020, at 12:00 noon CST. We are working to process all of the applications as quickly as possible.

We anticipate the initial magnet lottery run to occur in April.

Any questions or concerns can be submitted via email to: [magnet@mps.k12.al.us](mailto:magnet@mps.k12.al.us). Responses may take up to 24 hours.