

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS **(About Public & Catholic High Schools)-Fall 2019**

Q. How do I apply to a public high school?

A. Only one application needs to be completed in order to apply to up to 12 non-specialized public high schools in New York City. Parents can access the application through: <https://www.myschools.nyc> in October. Starting September 9th families will be able to search and add “favorite” schools to their list. For families that prefer a paper application, you can ask Jessica McInnis for a copy of application.

The deadline for families to submit their high school application in the myschools site and is December 2nd. Additionally, all paper application are due back to Jessica December 2nd as well

Q. How do I go about scheduling school tours or finding out about public high school open houses?

A. Most public high schools host open houses and some may schedule school tours. You should visit their websites if you are interested in attending any events. It is up to the families to schedule their own appointments directly with the schools, if it is required. There is a list of open houses at: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enroll-grade-by-grade/high-school> . School Finder NYC is another great tool: <http://schoolfinder.nyc.gov/> . Furthermore, the website used to apply to high school (myschools.nyc) is a wonderful search. Jessica will distribute any information that is received or collected about any schools’ events as quickly as possible.

IMPORTANT: The NYCDOE offers high school fairs in all boroughs. They are scheduled on September 21st - 22nd from 10:00-3:00 and on October 5th- 6th from 10:00-3:00. Please visit: schools.nyc.gov/High for details.

Q. When is the Specialized High School Admissions Test and how do I sign up to take the test?

- **Jessica will email a student survey where students must indicate their interest in the SHSAT and/or LGA. This must be completed by each student. Due September 16th.**

A. The Specialized High School Admissions Test (SHSAT) for the 2019-2020 school year for 8th grade general education students- 10/26/19 & 10/27/19. Dates for students with IEP’s and 504’s- 11/2/19 & 11/17/19.

Families will be able to register their child for the SHSAT the week of September 9th, using the application website <https://www.myschools.nyc>. **The registration deadline for the SHSAT is October 10th.**

If you prefer to have Jessica register your child for the SHSAT, please complete the student survey indicating this.

In order to take the exam, students must have an admission ticket to enter the test site. **Students will get their admission tickets a week or so before the exam. They will be available on the myschools website for families to print.**

Please use the following link to access the Specialized School Handbook:

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/2020-shs-handbook---english73ede72622e242c9b65d68bcf7c5df68>

Q. When are the auditions for LaGuardia High School and how to I sign up?

A. LaGuardia audition dates are located on page 7 in the specialized hand book.

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/2020-shs-handbook---english73ede72622e242c9b65d68bcf7c5df68>

Families will be able to register their child for LaGuardia auditions the week of September 9th, using the application website <https://www.myschools.nyc>. **The registration deadline for LaGuardia is October 10th.**

If you prefer to have Jessica register your child for LaGuardia auditions, please indicate this on the student survey.

In order to take the exam, students must have an admission ticket to enter the test site. **Students will get their auditions tickets in October. They will also be available on the myschools website for families to print.**

Q. How do I sign-up for the auditions at Performing and Visual Arts Public High Schools ?

A. Information regarding auditions, portfolios, etc, is located on each schools website. Not every performing arts school requires pre-registration for auditions. There are no tickets for pre-registration audition schools. It is your responsibility to attend the scheduled audition based on the information on each schools website.

Q. How do I apply to Catholic/Parochial schools? What test do I need to take for admission into these schools?

A. In order to be considered for admission into a Catholic High School, students must take the **TACHS exam** (Test for Admission into Catholic High Schools), which is designed to measure school aptitude & scholastic achievement in reading, math and language. Students must register to take the TACHS and can do so by *applying on-line* at www.tachsinfo.com .

To apply to a Catholic/parochial school, you must complete an application form, known as the **TACHS Applicant Record**. A copy of the application can be found inside the *TACHS Student Handbook*, which you can receive by calling 1-866-61-TACHS or visit www.tachsinfo.com and download a printable version. The *TACHS Student Handbook* also contains other important information (e.g., practice items, test taking tips, list of high school information fairs and open house dates, etc).

***The TACHS exam will be given in November.**

To learn more about a Catholic School and its offerings, school tours or Open Houses are a good starting point. To find dates for these events, please refer to www.tachsinfo.com where you will find a link that lists Open House dates for many of the Catholic High Schools. As an alternative or in addition to attending a catholic school's open house, families can learn more about catholic schools and speak with school representatives by attending a Catholic High School Fair.

*Please note, if a Catholic High School does not have a TACHS code listed, this means that it does NOT require the TACHS exam as part of their admissions process. Please contact that high school directly for info on their application process.