



Chesterfield County Public Schools

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Specialty Center & Governor's Schools Acceptance Process FAQs Chesterfield County Public Schools

- **Why did the email subject line say lottery? Did Chesterfield County Public Schools (CCPS) run a lottery?**
 - No, CCPS did not run a lottery. Students were placed on eligibility lists as they have been in the past. Different centers use different criteria, so eligibility is determined using a mix of middle school grades, teacher recommendations, interviews, and tests. Unfortunately, the online program that we use had fixed subject lines for emails, and the word "lottery" was used by the program. We since have been able to change the system's default messaging to "selection."
- **Can I accept more than one placement offer?**
 - No. Once you accept one offer, you need to decline all other placement offers. It has no impact on wait-list offers.
- **Can I accept a placement offer and remain on a waitlist?**
 - You can accept a placement offer and remain on one or more waitlists. You may not accept more than one placement offer.
- **Do I have to accept any of the waitlist offers I received?**
 - If you do not want to remain on any waitlist, you must decline them individually. Accepting one does not accept or decline other waitlist offers.
- **Can I accept multiple waitlist offers?**
 - If you want to remain on multiple waitlists, accept each waitlist individually.
- **How many students are on the waitlist for a specific specialty center or Governor's school?**
 - This number changes daily as students accept/decline offers and waitlist offers.
- **Why was my student placed on the waitlist?**
 - The specialty center coordinator or Governor school's team evaluates each student's application based on the criteria and requirements for the particular

center/school. Offers are made based upon the seat allocations per middle school and the total number of seats each specialty center or Governor's school has. If you have specific questions regarding your student's application, please contact the center coordinator or the Coordinator of Gifted Education. Contact information can be found below.

- **How do I know what spot I have on a waitlist?**
 - We are unable to provide specific positions on program waitlists, since those positions will change frequently with offers being made and students accepting/declining offers across our programs daily. It would be best to take one placement offer at this time and accept any waitlist offers for programs in which your student is interested to keep options open.

- **How are students selected for specialty centers and Maggie L. Walker Governor's School?**
 - Students are selected by composite score, with students' middle schools used in Phase One of selection. The number of available slots for rising freshmen in specialty centers are dependent upon the individual center's programming. The number of available slots for rising freshmen in Governor's schools varies annually due to movement of students within the region, graduating seniors, and other factors. The allocation of available slots occurred in two phases with the following guidelines:
 - **Phase One:** Top candidates above a determined threshold from each middle school will be offered admission; number of potential offers at this phase will be determined by the total number of available slots and the eighth-grade class size at each middle school:
 - Greater than 500 students = 5 slots
 - Between 400 and 499 students = 4 slots
 - Between 300 and 399 students = 3 slots
 - Less than 300 students = 2 slots
 - **Phase Two:** Top candidates from the division not selected in Phase One will be offered admission; any remaining slots, including any unfilled allocations from phase one, will be filled.

- **How are students selected for Appomattox Regional Governor's School?**
 - The number of available slots for incoming freshmen from CCPS determines the number of students selected to attend Appomattox Regional Governor's School. Applicants are ranked by composite score in each focus area. Students are chosen for admission based upon focus area openings at ARGGS and composite score.

- **What happens if I get moved from a waiting list to a placement offer?**
 - Congratulations! At that point you can accept or decline that offer. If you accept the new offer we ask that you decline any previous placement offers. You will still be able to remain upon any waitlists that you have accepted.

- **How often are new placement offers being sent out?**
 - Students will be accepting/declining offers across the program until the deadline of March 19. We will be moving students from waitlists to placement offers as often as there are available seats.

- **When do I have to decide?**
 - Offers will be automatically declined if you do not respond by the March 19 deadline.
- **Do I have to wait until March 19 to decide?**
 - No, please accept or decline placement offers as soon as you have made a decision so that the specialty centers and/or Governor's schools can continue to build their freshman classes by offering to students on the waitlist.
- **When should I anticipate knowing for sure whether I will be accepted and moved from the waitlist? When do these moves usually stop taking place?**
 - In the past, there has been some movement from the waitlists through the summer into fall due to families moving, students deciding to attend their home high school, etc.
 - Most of the movement from a waitlist occurs prior to May.
 - Specialty centers fill any open slots from the waitlist through the start of the school year.
 - Governor's schools fill any open slots from the waitlist through the end of December.
- **Who can I contact if I have additional questions?**
 - General Specialty Center questions
 - ccps_opportunities@ccpsnet.net | (804) 639-8639

 - Specific Specialty Center questions
Please see the contact information listed in this [Specialty Center Directory](#).

 - Governor's School questions
gifted@ccpsnet.net | (804) 639-8620