Where can I find information about Choice Programs in Palm Beach County?

- On the Choice and Career Options website at www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms
- E-mail: choicequestions@palmbeachschools.org
- At the Showcase of Schools on October 20, 2015
- By visiting school websites

Choice Application Deadlines for the 2016-2017 School Year

- December 4, 2015: Application deadline if either of the two choices is one of the following Arts schools: Bak Middle School of the Arts (all programs), The Conservatory School @ North Palm Beach - Symphony Orchestra program (grades 6-8), Boynton Beach High School Arts programs (Dance, Digital Media, Music-Band, Music-Keyboard/Piano, Music-Vocal, Theatre, and Visual Arts), and A.W. Dreyfoos Jr. School of the Arts (all programs).
- January 29, 2016: Deadline for all Choice programs other than the Arts programs listed above.
- If you are selecting an Art school option listed above along with another choice selection, the deadline of December 4, 2015 still applies and NO CHANGES TO THE APPLICATION FOR EITHER CHOICE CAN BE MADE AFTER THIS DATE.
- Late applications will be accepted after January 29, 2016; however, they will not be included in the March 2016 Choice Lottery and may be entered only after all applicants in the wait pool have been assigned.

Choice Application

- Complete application online at www.mypbchoiceapp.com. This is the preferred method for immediate application submission and processing.
- A hard copy application is also available for download at www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms and at school centers. The original application must be mailed or delivered to the Department of Choice and Career Options with a postmark no later than the published deadline dates. The Department of Choice and Career Options is not responsible for any application not received as a result of an error or delivery delay by the US Postal Service.
- The parent and student must be full-time Palm Beach County residents at the time of application submission.
- Current Palm Beach County School District students must enter their student number when applying online.
- The address on the application must match the address on file at student’s current school or the application will not be processed.
- Only one application per student may be submitted.
- A maximum of two choice preferences per application may be selected.
- Application changes: If applying online, one application selection change will be allowed before the published deadline dates. No changes are allowed after submission of a hard copy application.

Duplicate Programs

- If the student is applying for a Choice program that is also offered at his/her zoned school, the zoned school program must be listed as the first choice or the application will not be processed, with limited exceptions.
- All students may apply for first choice to the following full choice schools: Suncoast HS, A.W. Dreyfoos Jr. School of the Arts, Don Estridge High Tech MS, Bak Middle School of the Arts, Morikami Park ES, Northboro ES, Poinciana ES, SD Spady ES, and Village Academy.
- All students may apply for first choice to Boynton Beach High School Arts programs (Dance, Digital Media, Music-Band, Music-Keyboard/Piano, Music-Vocal, Theatre, and Visual Arts) and The Conservatory School @ North Palm Beach - Symphony Orchestra program (grades 6-8).
- Check the Choice programs booklet on pages 5-7 for eligibility criteria to help determine your choices.

Ranges of Number of Available Seats in Choice Programs

- Please note that the ranges listed for number of available seats in the Choice programs on pages 35, 37, 39, 41 and 43, are approximate.
Auditions: Bak Middle School of the Arts, The Conservatory School @ North Palm Beach Symphony Orchestra Program, A.W. Dreyfoos Jr. School of the Arts and Boynton Beach High School Arts Programs

In order to be eligible for the Choice lottery, the student must receive an eligible audition score for Bak Middle School of the Arts, The Conservatory School @ North Palm Beach - Symphony Orchestra program, A.W. Dreyfoos Jr. School of the Arts, and Boynton Beach High School Arts programs.

After an application is processed by the Department of Choice and Career Options, approved applicants will be scheduled for an audition by the Arts school.

Approved applicants will be notified via e-mail and/or U.S. Mail of the audition procedures and/or the time and date of student audition.

Higher audition eligibility scores are required for ascending grade levels at Bak Middle School of the Arts, The Conservatory School @ North Palm Beach, A.W. Dreyfoos Jr. School of the Arts, and Boynton Beach High School Arts programs. Contact the individual schools for more information.

If a child is ill on the date of the audition, that student may be considered for a new audition date and time upon receipt of a medical doctor’s written verification of illness. This verification must be submitted to the appropriate Arts school within three (3) school days of the student’s scheduled audition. A new audition date and time will be selected by the school only if there are more audition dates available.

Appeals

Parents/Legal Guardians who believe their child was not allowed an equitable opportunity to a Choice program during the audition or eligibility process as a result of a technical problem or inequity, may request an appeal within five (5) days of notification of lottery results sent via email or U.S. Mail.

An application for an appeal of Choice program eligibility must be submitted to the Director of Choice and Career Options within five (5) school days from the date of the lottery notification, indicating the child’s program assignment, wait pool status, or program ineligibility. To download the PBSD 2418 Choice Appeals Application, go to www.palmbeachschools.org/Forms/Documents/2418.pdf.

Transportation

Choice Transportation Zones designate areas where Choice student busing is provided. See the district transportation website: www.palmbeachschools.org/transportation. Bus stops to Choice schools may be limited and located significantly farther from the student’s home than transportation to the student’s zoned school.

Additional bus stops will not be created for students who reside within the choice transportation zone regardless of the student’s proximity to the nearest stop.

Students who live outside of the Choice Transportation Zone may attend the Choice school if they provide their own transportation to and from:

• School
• Nearest school bus pick-up location within the transportation zone

Note: Additional stops will not be created for students who reside outside of the Choice Transportation Zone and who are traveling inside of the zone to access transportation. Students must travel to an established stop to receive transportation.

Eligibility of Applicants

All applicants must meet residency and age requirements.

There are no pre-k or elementary choice program eligibility criteria.

Middle schools with eligibility criteria are listed on page 5 of this booklet.

The eligibility criteria for high school Choice programs are listed on pages 5-7 of this booklet and are based primarily on GPA. For incoming 9th graders, GPA is calculated on the average of all classes for: the 4th quarter of grade 7 and the 1st & 2nd quarters of grade 8. For students in grades 9-11, the GPA listed at the time of eligibility determination from student TERMS (SDPBC student information system) will be considered.

Students not meeting eligibility criteria will be considered ineligible and will not be placed in the Choice lottery for that program.

Current Home Education, Virtual School, and Private School Students

Parents must submit transcripts/portfolio to applicant school(s) for determination of eligibility. Contact the Choice Coordinator at the school for more information. (Check eligibility criteria on pages 5-7).
Lottery Selection Process

The lottery will be conducted during the week of March 7-11, 2016 using software provided by an independent software developer.

If a program has more first choice applicants than available seats, applicants are assigned through the lottery selection process according to approved preferences in the following order (preferences applied to first choice selections only):

1. Principal’s 20% list (optional)
2. Employee (parent works at the school site to which the child is applying)
3. Military (parent is presently serving in the active military or full-time Reserves, documentation is required)
4. Priority SACs (neighborhood designated attendance zones) exist for six schools: Morikami Park Elementary, Northboro Elementary, Poinciana Elementary, S.D. Spady Elementary, Bak Middle School of the Arts, and Suncoast High School- IIT only
5. Sibling (To receive preference, siblings must apply to the same Choice program or school that their sibling is currently attending and will be attending during the 2016-2017 school year)
6. Strand (Elementary students must have completed grades 4-5 of a similar preparatory Choice theme. Middle School students must have completed grades 7-8 of the like program)
   Strand preference for IB MYP students: First choice applicants for the high school continuation of the IB MYP who have satisfactorily completed grades 7 and 8 (MYP Levels 2 and 3) and who meet the IB eligibility requirements will be assigned to the partner high school IB MYP:
   - Carver Middle → Atlantic Community High
   - John F. Kennedy Middle → Suncoast High
   - Conniston Middle → Forest Hill Community High
   - Pahokee Middle → Pahokee High

Post Lottery

Students who applied online or provided an e-mail address on the hard copy application and are selected in the Choice lottery will receive notification from the Department of Choice and Career Options via e-mail by April 1, 2016.

Lottery assignment status will also be posted on the parent dashboard at www.mypbchoiceapp.com.

Students who submitted a hard copy application without providing an e-mail address and are selected in the Choice lottery will receive notification from the assigned school.

Students who were not selected in the Choice lottery will receive notification from the Department of Choice and Career Options via e-mail or U.S. Mail on or about April 1, 2016.

Once a student is selected for one of his/her choices, he/she is immediately removed from the wait pool for the remaining program on the application.

If a student declines his/her first choice assignment, the student must attend their zoned school.

Students assigned to their first choice assignment, the student must attend their zoned school.

If a student declines his/her second choice assignment, he/she may remain in the wait pool for their second choice.

If a student declines his/her second choice assignment, he/she may remain in the wait pool for their first choice. A decline of a second choice lottery assignment will automatically place the student in the wait pool for the first choice. To be considered, eligibility criteria must be met for the first choice program.

Students who are selected and accept placement into a Choice program must agree to participate on a full time basis.

An applicant may not be selected for either one of his/her choices. If this occurs, the student is placed in a wait pool and may be assigned for any openings reported by the schools.

Students may be assigned through the lottery process until 4:00 p.m. on the first day of school.

If a student exits a Choice school program, voluntarily or involuntarily, he/she must return to his/her zoned school, regardless of their grade level.

Any Choice student who commits a Level 3 or 4 incident according to SDPBC Student Code of Conduct, will be immediately removed from the Choice program, and must attend their zoned school if they are an out-of-boundary Choice student per the recommendation of a diverse Committee. Probation is not an option.

If a student exits a Choice school program voluntarily or involuntarily, that student will forfeit the seat and may not apply in any future lottery cycle to the same Choice school program.

Acceptance of a Choice program takes the place of all assignments for other programs, including but not limited to: Reassignment, Opportunity Scholarships, and NCLB.

If a student is not selected to attend a Choice program prior to the start of the 2016-2017 school year, a new application may be submitted for the 2017-2018 school year.
## Eligibility Criteria

### Elementary School Eligibility Criteria

**All Pre-K and Elementary School Programs**

There are no Pre-K or Elementary choice program eligibility criteria.

### Middle Schools with Eligibility Criteria

#### Bak Middle School of the Arts—All Programs

Eligibility Criteria: Eligible Audition Score

#### Lake Worth Middle – Biomedical Sciences | Roosevelt Middle – Biomedical Sciences

Eligibility Criteria: **3.0** GPA + Passing score on an internal assessment conducted by FAU College of Medicine

#### Okeeheelee Middle—International Spanish Academy (ISA)

Eligibility Criteria: Passing Score on Spanish Assessment Test

#### The Conservatory School @ North Palm Beach – Symphony Orchestra

Eligibility Criteria: Eligible Audition Score

### High School Eligibility Criteria

#### Aerospace Science (BASA)

Eligibility Criteria: **2.5** GPA

#### Biomedical Sciences (FAU College of Medicine)

Eligibility Criteria: **3.0** GPA + Algebra I Honors required

#### Air Conditioning, Refrigeration & Heating Technology

Eligibility Criteria: None

#### Biotechnology

Eligibility Criteria: **3.0** GPA

#### Air Force JROTC

Eligibility Criteria: None

#### Center for Pre-Law/Law related Careers

Eligibility Criteria: **2.5** GPA

#### American History & Law

Eligibility Criteria: **2.5** GPA

#### Communication Arts

Eligibility Criteria: **2.0** GPA + Eligible audition score for A.W.Dreyfoos Jr. School of the Arts & Boynton Beach Community High

#### Army JROTC

Eligibility Criteria: None

#### Computer Science

Eligibility Criteria: **3.0** GPA + Algebra I Honors and Geometry Honors required

#### Auto Collision Repair & Refinishing

Eligibility Criteria: None

#### Computer Technology

Eligibility Criteria: **3.0** GPA + Algebra I Honors and Geometry Honors required

#### Automotive Service Technology

Eligibility Criteria: None

#### Construction

Eligibility Criteria: None

#### Band/Music Industry

Eligibility Criteria: **2.0** GPA + Background checks will be conducted on applicants

#### Criminal Justice

Eligibility Criteria: **2.5** GPA
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Eligibility Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Culinary Arts</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.0 GPA + Eligible audition score for A.W.Dreyfoos Jr. School of the Arts &amp; Boynton Beach Community High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Media</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.0 GPA + Eligible audition score for A.W.Dreyfoos Jr. School of the Arts &amp; Boynton Beach Community High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drafting &amp; Design</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.0 GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Childhood Teacher Education</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.5 GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering &amp; Technology (PLTW)</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.5 GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.5 GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Sciences &amp; Field Research</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.5 GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equine/Pre-Veterinary</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 3.0 GPA + Algebra I or Algebra I Honors required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.5 GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Arts/Performing Arts</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.5 GPA Wellington Community High School and West Boca Raton Community High School only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Science</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.5 GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Business</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.5 GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Business &amp; Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.5 GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.5 GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovative Interactive Technology</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Spanish Academy (ISA)</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.5 GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Baccalaureate (High School)</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 3.0 GPA See description on page 28 for recommended courses that can best prepare students for the program rigor. These courses do not give any preference for the student in the lottery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.5 GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marines Corps JROTC</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics, Science &amp; Engineering</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 3.0 GPA + Algebra I and Algebra II Honors required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Sciences – Pre-Medicine</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 3.0 GPA See description on page 29 for recommended courses that can best prepare students for the program rigor. These courses do not give any preference for the student in the lottery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music – Band</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.0 GPA + Eligible audition score for A.W.Dreyfoos Jr. School of the Arts &amp; Boynton Beach Community High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music – Keyboard/Piano</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.0 GPA + Eligible audition score for A.W.Dreyfoos Jr. School of the Arts &amp; Boynton Beach Community High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music – Strings</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.0 GPA + Eligible audition score for A.W.Dreyfoos Jr. School of the Arts &amp; Boynton Beach Community High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music – Vocal</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.0 GPA + Eligible audition score for A.W.Dreyfoos Jr. School of the Arts &amp; Boynton Beach Community High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy JROTC</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performing Arts/Fine Arts</td>
<td>Eligibility Criteria: 2.5 GPA West Boca Raton Community High School and Wellington Community High School only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wellington Community High School and West Boca Raton Community High School only
| High School Eligibility Criteria | Theatre Eligibility Criteria: 2.0 GPA | Eligible audition score for A.W. Dreyfoos Jr. School of the Arts & Boynton Beach Community High |
| Science, Technology, Engineering & Math | Eligibility Criteria: 3.0 GPA |
| Small School Continuum | Eligibility Criteria: None |
| Sports Management & Recreation | Eligibility Criteria: 2.5 GPA |
| Teacher Education | Eligibility Criteria: 3.0 GPA | Background checks will be conducted on applicants |
| Television & Film Production Technology | Eligibility Criteria: None |

**Palm Beach State Collegiate High School Eligibility Criteria**

**Collegiate High School**

Eligibility Criteria: Only students who will be entering 12th grade for the 2016–17 school year and who meet the following criteria should apply*:

- Unweighted high school GPA of at least 3.2;
- SAT critical reading score of 440 or higher and math score of 450 or higher or ACT Math score of 20 and higher, English score of 17 or higher, and Reading score of 19 or higher; AND
- Completed all requirements for high school graduation other than those which can be satisfied by PBSC courses

*If there are more first choice applicants than available seats, applicants are assigned through the lottery selection process. Up to 50% of the available seats will be filled with applicants from these three area schools: Palm Beach Lakes High School, Palm Beach Gardens High School, and William T. Dwyer High School.

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**Anger, frustration and yelling. Lots of it.**

**Brain Balance addresses:**

- ADHD
- Asperger's
- Social Issues
- Learning Disabilities
- Processing Disorders
- Behavioral Issues
- Sensory Integration

If you suspect your child has ADHD or has already been diagnosed with ADHD, contact us online or find a center near you to learn more about how Brain Balance can help.

**Brain Balance of Lake Worth**

6250 Lantana Road, Suite #10

1-800-877-5500 • www.brainbalancecenters.com
**Apply Online**

Applying online is the most efficient way to submit and manage your child’s application. Using the parent dashboard, your online account will allow you to track the status of the application. Applying online gives you priority access to the lottery results. Prior to applying for a Choice program, we encourage you to attend the Open House for each Choice program to which you intend to apply. Open house dates are available at www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms.

**How to Apply**

1. Go to www.mypbchoiceapp.com on your computer, tablet, or smartphone
2. Click “Apply Now”
3. Create your Parent/Guardian Account* with a user ID and password that is easy to remember
   
   User ID: ________________________________

   Password: ________________________________

*If you already have a username and password from last school year, you must enter that information to access your account

**Reminders**

- Every student applying must complete an application.
- Remember to ‘Submit’ your application or it will not be considered in the Choice lottery. Your application status can be viewed on the parent dashboard upon login.
- To check application status or updates select “Apply Now” to get back into your application. After January 29, 2016, select “Login” to access your account.

**Deadlines**

**December 4, 2015**

- Bak Middle School of the Arts (all programs)
- The Conservatory School @ North Palm Beach (Symphony Orchestra - grades 6-8)
- Boynton Beach High School Arts programs (Dance, Digital Media, Music-Band, Music-Keyboard/Piano, Music-Vocal, Theatre, and Visual Arts)
- A.W. Dreyfoos Jr. School of the Arts (all programs).

**January 29, 2016**

- Deadline for all Choice programs other than the Arts programs listed above.