

FAQ's

Can I apply for an Academy if I am not zoned to go to Seminole Ridge?

Any 8th or 9th grade student may apply to join one of the four Choice Academies (Army JROTC, Biotechnology, Construction, or TV Production). However, if your home school (the one you are zoned to attend) offers the same academy, you **MUST** apply to that one rather than Seminole Ridge. Only students who are zoned to attend Seminole Ridge, or who currently attend Seminole Ridge, can apply to our In-House Academies (Automotive and IT).

Can I be in more than one Academy?

You can only get into one Choice Academy. However, some students do find room in their schedules to be in a Choice Academy and an In-House Academy or two In-House Academies.

If I am already zoned to attend Seminole Ridge, do I have to apply to be in an Academy?

Yes. Everyone must apply to be in any of our Academy programs.

When/where can I apply?

Applications are completed online at mypbchoiceapp.com. Applications for the 2022-2023 school year are open from November 1, 2022 until January 27, 2023. However, if you are applying to Dreyfoos School of the Arts as a first or a second choice, your application is due by an earlier date.

What if I turn in my application for another school and then I realize I really want to apply to Seminole Ridge?

You get **ONE** opportunity to change your application; however, it must be done before the end of the application window.

What are the requirements to get into an Academy?

To be eligible for our Biotechnology Academy, a student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, calculated using grades from the 3rd and 4th quarters of 7th grade and quarters 1 and 2 of 8th grade (or using current cumulative GPA if already in high school). Completion of Algebra 1 prior to entering 9th grade is recommended, though not required.

To be eligible for our IT Academy, a student must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher, calculated using grades from the 3rd and 4th quarter's quarter of 7th grade and quarters 1 and 2 of 8th grade (or using current cumulative GPA if already in high school).

Our Construction, TV Production, Automotive, and Army JROTC Academies do not have eligibility criteria.

Can I play sports or join the band if I am in an Academy?

Absolutely! Once you are a Seminole Ridge student, you can join any club, try out for any sport, or take any class just like everyone else. Many academy students take AICE, AP, and/or Dual Enrollment classes. See your school counselor to determine what's best for you.

Can ESE or ELL students apply to Academies?

Yes.

What are my chances of getting into an Academy once I apply?

This is difficult to say as it depends on the number of seats available each year and the number of students that apply. It is a lottery process.

When do I find out if I got in?

Notifications of acceptance are emailed in early April.

What if I didn't get in?

You may be placed in a wait pool. As other students who were accepted change their minds, people from the wait pool may get selected. If, by August, you still have not moved from the pool, it's over for that school year. A student may reapply for the following school year.

Is there someone at school who can help me get in?

The Academy Coordinator can help guide you through the process and answer additional questions, but no one at the school can push an application through. The process is lottery-driven by the school district.

I got in! What do I need to do next?

The Academy Coordinator from Seminole Ridge will email your parents/guardians an acceptance letter and Academy contract. You and your parent/guardian must complete, sign, and return both forms by the stated deadline in order to secure your spot in the Academy. If you are not zoned for Seminole Ridge, your parent/guardian must register you at our school prior to the beginning of the following school year. Instructions for this will be emailed as well. While in the Academy, you must adhere to all rules stated in the Academy contract or risk being placed on Academy probation. If you are placed on probation and the infraction is not corrected within the specified time frame, you risk being removed from the Academy. If you are not zoned for Seminole Ridge and are here through a Choice Academy, and you are removed from the Academy, you must return to the school for which you are zoned.

Is there transportation available if I am not zoned to attend Seminole Ridge?

There is bus transportation available for Choice students that goes beyond the regular transportation boundaries. [See the school district transportation website](#) to find the bus stop nearest you. You are responsible for getting to the bus stop nearest you, wherever that may be.

Who do I contact for help?

Please direct questions to:

Tamara Licavoli, Academy Coordinator
Seminole Ridge Community High School
4601 Seminole Pratt Whitney Blvd.

Westlake, FL 33470

Phone: (561) 422-2716

email: tamara.licavoli@palmbeachschools.org