HIGH SCHOOL ADMISSIONS WORKBOOK

STAY ENGAGED WITH ADMISSIONS

High School Admissions Website | schools.nyc.gov/High
Get the latest updates, additional resources, and an events calendar with dates for High School Fairs, admissions workshops, open houses, and auditions.

High School Admissions Email List | schools.nyc.gov/Subscribe
Sign up for the High School Admissions email list to get admissions tips and key date reminders.

EXPLORE HIGH SCHOOLS

NYC School Finder | schoolfinder.nyc.gov
Explore 12 choices for your High School Application on your mobile or desktop device. Find high schools based on what your interests are, where you live, and more!

School Search | schools.nyc.gov/SchoolSearch
Find out if you live in an area zoned to a particular high school program.

Trip Planner | mta.info
Find the best route from home to school by subway or bus.

LEARN ABOUT SPECIALIZED HIGH SCHOOLS

Specialized High Schools Website | schools.nyc.gov/SHS
Get more information about the nine Specialized High Schools and view the Specialized High Schools Student Handbook.

Specialized High Schools Email List | schools.nyc.gov/Subscribe
Sign up for the Specialized High Schools email list to get admissions tips and key date reminders.

GET HELP WITH YOUR APPLICATION

Your School Counselor
Your counselor will guide you through the process.

Family Welcome Centers | schools.nyc.gov/WelcomeCenters
Visit a Family Welcome Center to speak with NYC Department of Education staff about High School Admissions.

Office of Student Enrollment | 718-935-2399
Call anytime if you have questions about High School Admissions.

KEY DATES

Citywide High School Fair

SATURDAY	SUNDAY
September 16	September 17

Borough High School Fairs

SATURDAY	SUNDAY
October 14	October 15

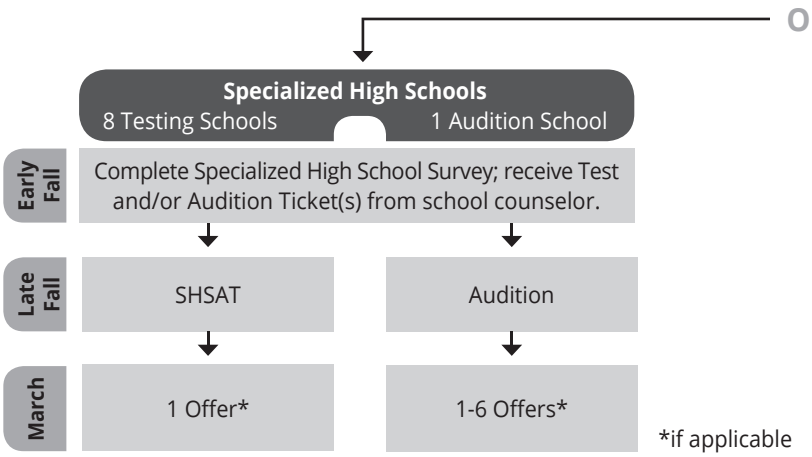
Specialized High Schools Admissions Test

SATURDAY	SUNDAY
October 21	October 22
SUNDAY	SATURDAY
October 29	November 4

LaGuardia High School Auditions

Saturday, October 28 – Saturday, December 2

NYC Department of Education
Office of the Mayor
Carmen Fariña
Chancellor



Specialized High Schools Action Checklist

SUMMER

- ☐ Read the **Specialized High Schools Student Handbook** to prepare for the Specialized High Schools Admissions Test (SHSAT) and LaGuardia studio auditions.
- ☐ Come to a **Specialized High Schools Family Workshop**.

SEPTEMBER

- ☐ Register for the SHSAT and/or LaGuardia auditions through your school counselor.
- ☐ Visit school tables at a **High School Fair**.
- ☐ Check the commute to each of the Specialized High Schools.

OCTOBER

- ☐ Visit school tables at a **High School Fair**.
- ☐ Attend specialized high school **open houses.**
- ☐ Receive SHSAT ticket and/or LaGuardia audition ticket from your school counselor. The ticket will show your test/audition dates, times, and locations.
- ☐ Take the SHSAT and/or audition as scheduled. (Taking the test or auditioning means you have applied.)

NOVEMBER

- ☐ Take the SHSAT and/or audition as scheduled. (Taking the test or auditioning means you have applied.)

MARCH

- ☐ **Round 1 results letters** with Specialized High Schools results distributed by counselor.

There are two paths for applying to high school. Let's look at those paths and the next steps for your student.

Required

High School Application
700+ Programs at 400+ High Schools

Early Fall	Receive Round 1 Application from school counselor.
Late Fall	Complete Application by listing 12 programs in order of preference. Return to counselor.
March	1 Offer*
	Round 2 (if necessary)

*if applicable

High School Application Action Checklist

SUMMER

- ☐ Use the **2018 New York City High School Directory** and **NYC School Finder (schoolfinder.nyc.gov)** to build a list of programs that interest you.
- ☐ Look at your June 2017 final report card and compare it to Selection Criteria shown for programs that look at an applicant's academic record.
- ☐ Come to the **High School Admissions Family Workshops**.
- ☐ Plan your admissions calendar for the fall.

SEPTEMBER

- ☐ Find each school's open house date by using the **High School Admissions Events Calendar** (**schools.nyc.gov/High**) or by contacting them directly.
- ☐ Visit school tables at the **Citywide High School Fair**.
- ☐ **For Audition Programs:** Audition dates are on each school's page in the High School directory. Follow their instructions to register for auditions.
- ☐ **For Screened Programs:** Admissions requirements are on each school's page in the High School directory. Follow their instructions and make a plan for the upcoming months.

OCTOBER

- ☐ **Round 1 Application** available. See your counselor to get a copy. Review student information for accuracy.
- ☐ Visit school tables at the **Borough High School Fairs**.
- ☐ Attend **open houses**.
- ☐ Review Admissions Priorities for each school of interest.
- ☐ **For Audition Programs:** Attend auditions, interviews, and information sessions.
- ☐ **For Screened Programs:** Complete school-based assessments and/or submit portfolios.

NOVEMBER

- ☐ Continue to attend **open houses.**
- ☐ Continue to complete school-based assessments/portfolios or auditions for Screened/Audition programs.

DECEMBER

- ☐ **Return your completed Round 1 Application to your counselor by December 1, 2017.**
  - Make sure each of the 12 program codes listed is accurate.
  - Sign the application.
  - Keep a copy of the application and the printed receipt from your counselor.
  - Do not list Specialized High Schools on the application!
- ☐ Continue to attend auditions, interviews, and open houses; complete school-based assessments and/or portfolio.

MARCH

- ☐ **Round 1 Results Letters distributed** by school counselor. You may receive one offer, multiple offers, or no offer.
- ☐ **Round 2 Application** available and due.
- ☐ Attend the **Round 2 High School Fair.**

Test your knowledge of High School Admissions by answering the true/false questions below! Then check your answers.

True or False?	My Guess	Correct Answer
1 **Applying to 12 programs makes it more likely you'll receive an offer to a program of your choice.**		
2 **It is crucial to list program choices in your true order of preference.**		
3 **For some schools, showing interest means signing in at the school's table at a High School Fair or at a school's Open House or Information Session.**		
4 **You can still apply to Screened or Audition programs if your academic record falls below the Selection Criteria ranges shown on its school page.**		
5 **English Language Learners (ELL) can apply to all programs in the High School Directory.**		
6 **Students with Disabilities (SWD) can apply to all programs in the High School Directory or School Finder.**		
7 **You do not have to register for the Specialized High Schools Admissions Test (SHSAT) if you plan on auditioning for Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School.**		

Answers:
1. True, 2. True, 3. True, 4. True, 5. True, 6. True, 7. True

Here is what a sample school page from the High School Directory looks like. School pages can help you get a sense of how good a fit a program is for you.

Chambers Street High School | 99S123

Chambers Street High School is committed to academic excellence. We have an innovative program focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), as well as a performing arts program that offers extensive training in acting technique, voice, diction, and dramatic writing. Students at Chambers Street High School have opportunities to visit cultural institutions in New York City, and are regularly accepted into competitive four-year colleges.

ACADEMICS

- CTE program(s) in: Business, Health Science, Information Technology
- iLearnNYC: Program for expanded online coursework and self-paced learning
- Saturday Academy for tutoring and enrichment
- SAT Preparatory Classes

English Language Learner Programs: English as a New Language (ENL); Transitional Bilingual Education: Spanish

Language Courses: Spanish

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses: Calculus, Computer Science, Environmental Science, U.S. Government and Politics, Spanish

Diploma Endorsements: Arts, CTE, Math, Science

ACTIVITIES

Dance Club, National Honor Society, Mouse Squad, Student Government, Peer Tutoring, Mock Trial, Theater, Gender & Sexualities Alliance, Model UN, Chess, Gardening, School Newspaper, Jazz Band, Debate, Anime Club

PSAL Sports—Boys: Baseball, Basketball

PSAL Sports—Girls: Softball, Volleyball

School Sports: Girls' Softball, Girls' Volleyball, Boys' Baseball, and Boys' Basketball

PERFORMANCE

- **86%** of students graduate in four years
- **90%** student attendance
- **85%** of students feel that this school offers a wide enough variety of programs, classes, and activities to keep them interested in school
- **61%** of students enroll in college or career programs
- **92%** of students feel safe in the hallways, bathrooms, locker room, and cafeteria

*Search **99S123** at schools.nyc.gov/accountability for more about this school.*

School Eligibility
Open to all NYC residents (also check program eligibility)

School Type
10 10th Grade Seats Also Offered

Neighborhood: Central Bronx
Address: 123 Chambers Street, Bronx NY 99999
Shared Space: No
Subway: U, V, X to Chambers Street
Bus: Bx1, Bx3, Bx40, Bx42

schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/09/S123
example@schools.nyc.gov
212-555-5555 | 212-555-5556 (fax)

Accessibility: Accessible
See Section 9.1 for more information.
Grades: 6-12 | **Students:** 1050
Typical Schedule: 7:45am-4pm

College trips ▪ Community Service Expected ▪ Extended Day Program ▪ Health Center ▪ Internship Expected ▪ Online Grading System ▪ Saturday Programs ▪ Student/Parent Orientation ▪ Summer Bridge Program ▪ Uniform

PROGRAMS OFFERED

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics — Code: S34A — ♡ Reach ♡ Target ♡ Likely

Admissions Method: Screened

Interest Area: STEM

10th Grade Seats Offered: 15

Program Description: Comprehensive CTE program that includes rigorous study in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics fields. Includes work-based learning experiences with partner organizations, including local hospitals and engineering firms.

Admissions Priorities: 1 Priority to continuing 8th graders — **60%** of offers went to this group 2 Then to Bronx students or residents— **40%** of offers went to this group 3 Then to New York City students or residents

Selection Criteria (prior year ranges—learn more in the introduction):
- Course Grades: English (85-100), Math (80-100), Social Studies (90-100), Science (85-100)
- Standardized Test Scores: English Language Arts (2.9-4.5), Math (3.2-4.5)
- Attendance and Punctuality

Prior Year Admissions	Seats	Seats Filled	Applicants	Applicants Per Seat
General Education	48	No	336	7
Students with Disabilities	12	No	72	6

Theater Arts — Code: S34B — ♡ Reach ♡ Target ♡ Likely

Admissions Method: Limited Unscreened

Interest Area: Performing Arts

Program Eligibility: Open only to Bronx students or residents.

10th Grade Seats Offered: No

Program Description: Small group instruction in a variety of courses focusing on the theater arts, including acting, singing, dancing, stagecraft, and technical theater. Opportunities to participate in twice-yearly theater productions, and to intern at a variety of New York City theater organizations.

Admissions Priorities: 1 Priority to continuing 8th graders—**40%** of offers went to this group 2 Then to Bronx students or residents who attend an information session—**40%** of offers went to this group 3 Then to Bronx students or residents—**20%** of offers went to this group

Prior Year Admissions	Seats	Seats Filled	Applicants	Applicants Per Seat
General Education	72	Yes	360	5
Students with Disabilities	18	Yes	108	6

Academics

Activities

Location

Size

School Performance

Program Interest Area

Know Your Chances of Getting In

In this section, we will explore how you can determine if a program is a "reach," "target," or "likely-match" for you.

♡ Reach	♡ Target	♡ Likely-Match
Lower chance you'll get an offer	Average chance you'll get an offer	Higher chance you'll get an offer

Student Factors and Program Factors

A number of factors play a role in matching you to your high school program. These are broken down into **Student Factors** and **Program Factors.**

STUDENT FACTORS

Choices on Application

The 12 programs listed on the application AND the order in which they are listed.

Student Information*

Student's academic record, audition, and/or address.

*(Only for some programs)

Reach	= my academics are below or on the low ends of this program's ranges
Target	= my academics are in the middle of this program's ranges
Likely-Match	= the admissions method does not use academics OR a student's academics are on the high ends of the ranges

PROGRAM FACTORS

Admissions Priorities

The order in which applicants are considered.

Reach	= not in Priority Group 1
Target or Likely-Match	= in Priority Group 1

Admissions Methods

How programs consider and match with applicants. Only Screened and Audition programs have selection criteria ranges.

Seat Availability

The number of seats available for applicants.

Reach	= High Demand: 10 or more applicants per seat
Target	= Low or Average Demand: 4-9 applicants per seat
Likely-Match	= Low Demand: 3 or fewer applicants per seat

ACTIVITY Building a Balanced Application

An eighth grade student is a Brooklyn resident who attends All City Leadership School, a Brooklyn school with grades 6-12. The student is creating a draft list of high school programs to apply to.

Task: Help the student figure out their chances of getting into each program and give the student recommendations to make their High School Application more balanced.

Choice Order	Program Code	Program Name	School Name	Notes	Student's Chances Category
1	M38X	Pace High School	Pace High School	This is a Limited Unscreened program with 26 applicants per seat (GE). The student signed in at the school's table at the Citywide High School Fair.	♡ Reach ♡ Target ♡ Likely-Match Other _____
2	K55C	All City Leadership Secondary School	All City Leadership School	This is the student's current school which continues on to grades 9-12. The student would prefer the other schools on their list over this school.	♡ Reach ♡ Target ♡ Likely-Match Other _____
3	K26K	Medical Science Institute	Midwood High School	This is a Screened program. It is the student's first choice, but the student heard putting such a selective school first might waste the choice.	♡ Reach ♡ Target ♡ Likely-Match Other _____
4	S34B	Theater Arts	Chambers Street High School	This is a Limited Unscreened program only open to Bronx students or residents.	♡ Reach ♡ Target ♡ Likely-Match Other _____

FOR A MORE BALANCED APPLICATION, THE STUDENT SHOULD…	TRUE OR FALSE?	WHY?
1. Move their first choice to the top of the application.		
2. Find more programs that reflect their interest, ideal location, and that are less selective.		
3. Move their continuing school program to their last choice.		
4. Remove Chambers Street High School from their list.		

Chances Category Answers:
Choice 1 - Reach, Choice 2 - Guaranteed Offer, Choice 3 - Reach, Choice 4 - Not eligible to apply

True or False Answers:
1. True, 2. True, 3. True, 4. True

ACTIVITY Admissions Priorities

"Chambers Street High School" is a continuing school with grades 6-12. Read this program's Admissions Priorities here and help the three students below think about their chances of getting an offer to this program.

*Search **99S123** at schools.nyc.gov/accountability for more about this school.*

PROGRAMS OFFERED

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics | **Code: S34A** | ♡ Reach ♡ Target ♡ Likely

Admissions Method: Screened

Interest Area: STEM

10th Grade Seats Offered: 15

Program Description: Comprehensive CTE program that includes rigorous study in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics fields. Includes work-based learning experiences with partner organizations, including local hospitals and engineering firms.

Admissions Priorities: ❶ Priority to continuing 8th graders — **60%** of offers went to this group ❷ Then to Bronx students or residents— **40%** of offers went to this group ❸ Then to New York City students or residents

Selection Criteria (prior year ranges—learn more in the introduction):
- Course Grades: English (85-100), Math (80-100), Social Studies (90-100), Science (85-100)
- Standardized Test Scores: English Language Arts (2.9-4.5), Math (3.2-4.5)
- Attendance and Punctuality

Prior Year Admissions	Seats	Seats Filled	Applicants	Applicants Per Seat
General Education	48	No	336	7
Students with Disabilities	12	No	72	6

	Jacob	Carmen	Julia
Student lives in and attends school in:	Bronx	Bronx	Queens
Is the student a current 8th grade student at Chambers Street High School?	No	Yes	No

1. Which students are eligible to apply to the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Program?

   Why?

2. Which student is in the first priority group?

   Why?

3. Which student is in the second priority group?

   Why?

4. Which student is in the third priority group?

   Why?

Answers:
1. Jacob, Carmen, and Julia are all eligible for this program, because there are no program eligibilities listed.
2. Carmen, because she is a continuing eighth-grader.
3. Jacob, because he is not a continuing eighth-grader but lives and goes to school in the Bronx.
4. Julia, because she is not a continuing eighth-grader and does not live or go to school in the Bronx.

ACTIVITY My Chances: Reach, Target, or Likely-Match?

A balanced application has a mix of "reach" programs, "target" programs, and "likely-match" programs. To figure out your chances of getting an offer from a program, first read its Programs Offered table.

Task: Look at this sample program's table, noting the highlighted sections. Then complete the My Chances Guide that follows to discover if this program is a reach, target, or likely-match for you.

PROGRAMS OFFERED

Early College | **Code: K14A** | ♡ Reach ♡ Target ♡ Likely

Admissions Method: Screened

Interest Area: Science & Math

10th Grade Seats Offered: 5

Program Description: STAR Early College strives to promote and maintain a nurturing and rigorously challenging college oriented learning environment. Star prepares all students to take college courses at Brooklyn College as part of the early college experience and equips students to pursue professional careers in science, mathematics, technology, and related area.

Admissions Priorities: ❶ Priority to continuing 8th graders—**34%** of offers went to this group ❷ Then to Brooklyn students or residents—**64%** of offers went to this group ❸ Then to New York City residents—**2%** of offers went to this group

Selection Criteria (prior year ranges—learn more in the introduction):
- Attendance
- Punctuality
- Course Grades: English (77-100), Math (77-100), Science (79-100), Social Studies (77-100)
- Standardized Test Scores: English Language Arts (2.7-4.5), Math (2.8-4.5)
- Interview
- Writing Exercise

Prior Year Admissions	Seats	Seats Filled	Applicants	Applicants Per Seat
General Education	83	Yes	1,088	13
Students with Disabilities	17	No	97	6

My Chances Guide: Practice

School: STAR Early College **Program Name:** Early College **Program Code:** K14A

My seat group (circle one): General Education / Students with Disabilities

FACTORS		MY CHANCES CATEGORY
PROGRAM SEAT AVAILABILITY	1. Look up the **Applicants Per Seat** number for your program. If there are…	
	▪ 10 or more applicants per seat, *select*	♡ Reach
	▪ 4-9 applicants per seat, *select*	♡ Target
	▪ 3 or fewer applicants per seat, *select*	♡ Likely-Match
PROGRAM ADMISSIONS PRIORITIES	2. Look at the **Admissions Priorities**. Are you in Priority Group 1 for this program?	
	▪ If **NO**, *select*	♡ Reach
	▪ If **YES**, *select*	♡ Target or Likely-Match
MY ACADEMICS (For Screened and Audition Programs only)	3. Look at the ranges for course grades and test scores under **Selection Criteria** for this program. If your academic record is…	
	▪ **below** these ranges, *select*	♡ Reach
	▪ **within** these ranges, *select*	♡ Target
	▪ **above** these ranges OR if Admissions Method does not use academics, *select*	♡ Likely-Match
MY OVERALL CHANCES	**Which category did you select the most?** This program is probably a… (*select one*)	♡ Reach ♡ Target ♡ Likely-Match

Continued

ACTIVITY My Chances: Reach, Target, or Likely-Match?

My Chances Guide: Program #1 of your choice

School: _____ **Program Name:** _____ **Program Code:** _____

My seat group (circle one): General Education / Students with Disabilities

FACTORS		MY CHANCES CATEGORY
PROGRAM SEAT AVAILABILITY	1. Look up the **Applicants Per Seat** number for your program. If there are... ▪ 10 or more applicants per seat, *select* ▪ 4-9 applicants per seat, *select* ▪ 3 or fewer applicants per seat, *select*	♡ Reach ♡ Target ♡ Likely-Match
PROGRAM ADMISSIONS PRIORITIES	2. Look at the **Admissions Priorities**. Are you in Priority Group 1 for this program? ▪ If **NO**, *select* ▪ If **YES**, *select*	♡ Reach ♡ Target or Likely-Match
MY ACADEMICS (For Screened and Audition Programs only)	3. Look at the ranges for course grades and test scores under **Selection Criteria** for this program. If your academic record is... ▪ **below** these ranges, *select* ▪ **within** these ranges, *select* ▪ **above** these ranges OR if Admissions Method does not use academics, *select*	♡ Reach ♡ Target ♡ Likely-Match
MY OVERALL CHANCES	**Which category did you select the most?** This program is probably a... (*select one*)	♡ Reach ♡ Target ♡ Likely-Match

My Chances Guide: Program #2 of your choice

School: _____ **Program Name:** _____ **Program Code:** _____

My seat group (circle one): General Education / Students with Disabilities

FACTORS		MY CHANCES CATEGORY
PROGRAM SEAT AVAILABILITY	1. Look up the **Applicants Per Seat** number for your program. If there are... ▪ 10 or more applicants per seat, *select* ▪ 4-9 applicants per seat, *select* ▪ 3 or fewer applicants per seat, *select*	♡ Reach ♡ Target ♡ Likely-Match
PROGRAM ADMISSIONS PRIORITIES	2. Look at the **Admissions Priorities**. Are you in Priority Group 1 for this program? ▪ If **NO**, *select* ▪ If **YES**, *select*	♡ Reach ♡ Target or Likely-Match
MY ACADEMICS (For Screened and Audition Programs only)	3. Look at the ranges for course grades and test scores under **Selection Criteria** for this program. If your academic record is... ▪ **below** these ranges, *select* ▪ **within** these ranges, *select* ▪ **above** these ranges OR if Admissions Method does not use academics, *select*	♡ Reach ♡ Target ♡ Likely-Match
MY OVERALL CHANCES	**Which category did you select the most?** This program is probably a... (*select one*)	♡ Reach ♡ Target ♡ Likely-Match

ACTIVITIES Asking Questions at High School Events

When you speak with a school representative at a fair or open house, try to ask one question from each box. Create your own questions to learn more about a school.

	My Questions:
School Culture	
How do you support students looking for extra help with their classes?	
Are there opportunities to volunteer or be involved in the community?	
Typical Ninth-Grade Program	
What time does the day start and end?	
What time do students usually finish their clubs and activities?	
Are there classes or activities specifically for ninth-graders?	
How does your school communicate with new students the summer before ninth grade?	
Courses	
What are some examples of courses students can take?	
What are your most popular courses?	
What language courses do you offer?	
What makes your school's courses different from other schools?	
College and Career Readiness	
How do you support students towards college?	
What colleges do students from your school usually go to? Why?	
What CTE certification programs does your school offer?	
Admissions	
If you have a Screened program, what are your selection criteria?	
Are there any special steps I should take to be considered?	
What are your Admissions Priorities?	

Office of Arts and Special Projects Contact List

52 Chambers Street, Rm 113, New York, NY 10007
Phone: 212-374-0300 **Fax:** 212-374-0735

4360 Broadway, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10033
Phone: 917-521-3680 **Fax:** 917-521-3839

Email: artsandspecialprojects@schools.nyc.gov

Visit: http://schools.nyc.gov/offices/teachlearn/arts/parents-students.html to learn more about:

- Preparing an Arts Portfolio
- Preparing for an Arts Audition

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High School Admissions for Families of Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities participate in high school admissions in the same way as their non-disabled peers. Students in eighth grade whose Individualized Education Program (IEP) Teams develop IEPs with a recommendation for special education services within a district school submit applications during the annual high school admissions process in December. Students with disabilities may apply to all programs listed in the New York City High School Directory. The Directory outlines each school's admissions requirements, which are applicable to all students. Additional information on the high school admissions process may be found at schools.nyc.gov/High and information on special education programs and services may be found at schools.nyc.gov/Academics/SpecialEducation/.

Applying to High School
Students with disabilities may apply to any high school program, and all schools are expected to deliver the special education supports and services that students are recommended for on their IEPs. The high school application shows information about students' current recommended special education instructional program and support services, prior year attendance data, reading and math standardized test scores, and subject area grades. Students and families can learn more about the programs and services available at each high school by meeting with guidance counselors, reviewing the **New York City High School Directory** or other resources provided by the NYCDOE, and attending high school admissions **events and workshops** and school **information sessions**.

Test- or Audition-Based Admissions Schools (Including Specialized High Schools)
Students with disabilities who are interested in applying to schools with admissions criteria that include tests and/or auditions may receive certain testing accommodations, as specified on their IEPs, as long as the accommodation does not impact what the test or audition is trying to measure. Review the **New York City High School Directory** for information about admissions criteria and test and audition dates, and, for information on testing accommodations, visit **schools.nyc.gov/Academics/SpecialEducation/SupportsServices/InstructionalSupports/default.htm**.

Students who are interested in applying to one of the Specialized High Schools must take the Specialized High Schools Admissions Test (SHSAT) and, if specified in their IEPs, may receive testing accommodations on the exam. To apply for Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts, a specialized high school for performing/visual arts, students must participate in the school's audition process but are not required to take the SHSAT. The only accommodations that are not permitted for tests or auditions are ones that change what is being measured. Students and their families should review the **Specialized High Schools Student Handbook** to learn more about the Specialized High Schools admissions process and related testing accommodations.

Special Education Specialized Programs in District Schools
Special education specialized programs provide targeted services and supports for students with autism spectrum disorders (ASD), students with intellectual disabilities or multiple disabilities, and students recommended for bilingual special education. Specialized programs are not available in all schools, and students must meet specific eligibility requirements. Therefore, students who are continuing in a specialized program or entering one for high school should work with their guidance counselors to also complete the regular high school application to ensure they apply to district schools that have the program the IEP Team has determined best meets the student's needs. Students may receive both a specialized program offer and a district high school offer. In these cases, students and families should carefully consider which program option best meets the student's academic and personal goals. See below for additional information about specialized programs. You may also visit schools.nyc.gov/Academics/SpecialEducation/IEPprocess or contact **specializedprograms@schools.nyc.gov** for information about the application process.

- **ASD Nest and ASD Horizon** programs are offered within some district schools and include a therapeutic component for students with autism who meet eligibility requirements, coordinated and provided by a multi-disciplinary team.
- **Academics, Career, Essential Skills Program for Students with Intellectual Disabilities** (ACES-ID) are offered within some district schools for eligible students who are classified by the IEP Team as having an "Intellectual Disability" or "Multiple Disabilities" and participate in New York State Alternate Assessments (NYSAA).

High School Admissions for Families of Students with Disabilities

- **Bilingual special education** programs are provided for students whose IEPs recommend special education supports and services in a language other than English to meet the needs of students with emergent English language skills. Currently, bilingual special education programs are offered in Spanish, Chinese, and Yiddish.

Schools or Programs in Accessible Buildings for Students with Mobility Impairments
Fully or partially accessible buildings are available for students with mobility impairment(s) to ensure they can enter and access the necessary areas of their school. A list of accessible schools can be found on the Office of Space Planning website at http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/OSP/Accessibility.htm. Site accessibility is also described in the New York City High School Directory. Students and families are encouraged visit the school to determine whether the level of accessibility is appropriate to meet specific mobility needs.

Students in Specialized Schools (District 75)
In New York City, specialized schools for students with disabilities are managed by District 75. The transition to high school is a time when many IEP Teams, including the family, consider a transition to a more inclusive program in a District 1-32 school, if appropriate. For additional information about District 75 schools, please visit www.nyc.gov/schools/Offices/District75 or email d75info@schools.nyc.gov.

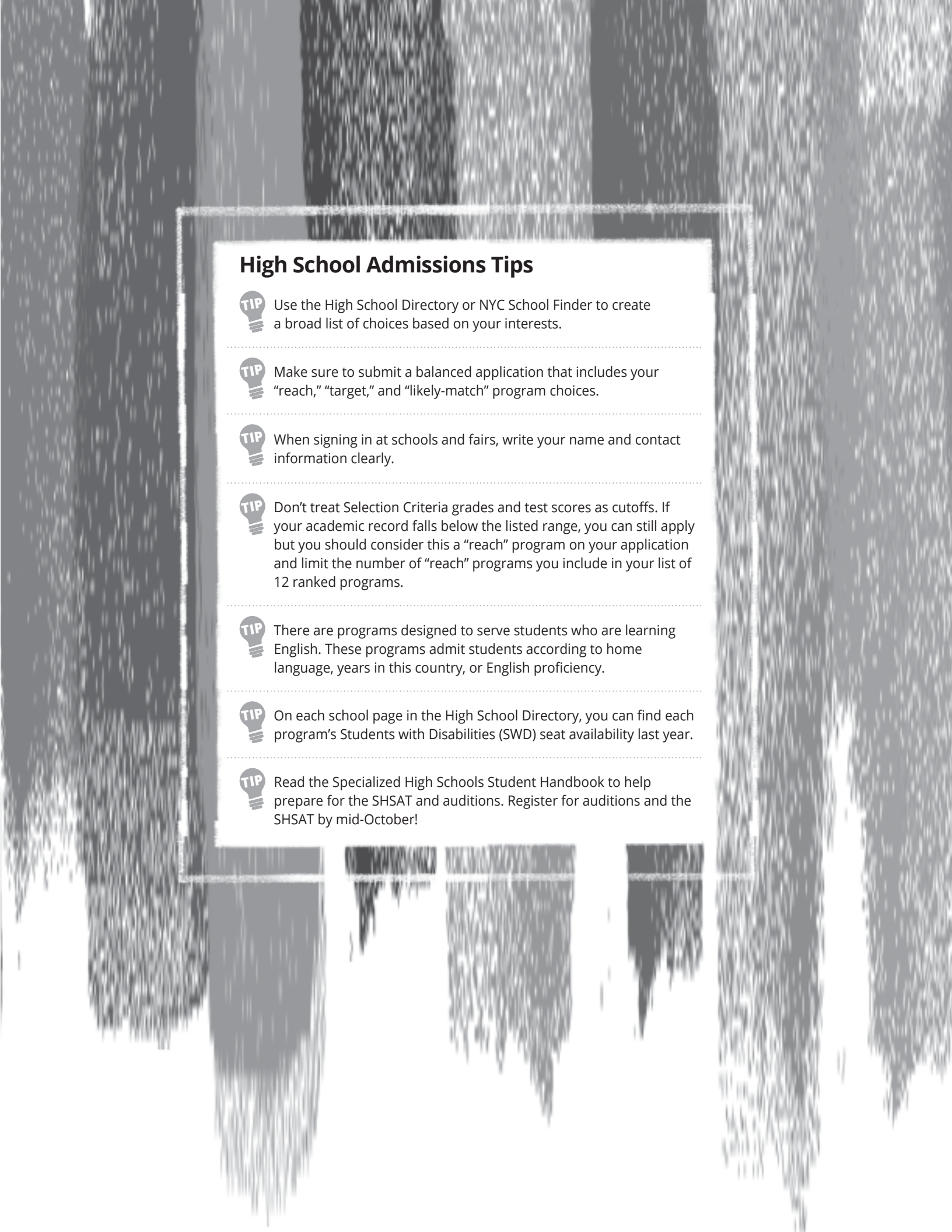
- **Transitioning to a District 1-32 High School**: current 8th graders in District 75 who are preparing to transition to a District 1-32 high school participate in high school admissions. This transition should be discussed and planned for at the 8th grade annual review meeting. Students and families are encouraged to work with their guidance counselors and attend a high school fair to learn more about their District 1-32 high school choices and options.
- **Continuing in District 75 for High School:** current 8th graders who will be transitioning to high school in a specialized District 75 school will receive their placement into high school through the District 75 Placement Office. Students will be notified of the high school placement in April or May. Current 8th grade students who have a recommendation of SETSS provided by a District 75 provider will be transitioning to high school in a specialized District 75 school and participate in an application and placement process managed directly by District 75. Applications are provided directly to students and are due in December. Students will be notified of their high school placement by the District 75 Placement Office in May or June.

Special Education Services and Supports in High School
When students transition to high school, the special education services, supports, and instructional strategies listed on their IEPs are provided in a variety of ways depending on their needs in each subject and/or functional area, and schools' instructional approach and academic program. For more information, please see our Family Guide to Special Education.

Academic Planning and Post-Secondary Goals
Students and families are encouraged to think about post-secondary goals and engage with support staff at school to strategically plan for life after high school. Ideally, these discussions are held throughout middle school as students' 8th grade IEPs must specify post-secondary goals. Students, families, and school staff should work together to consider which academic program, assessment (standard vs. alternate), and graduation pathway best supports the student toward achieving those goals. Students' IEPs should reflect the specially designed instruction, supports, services, goals, and post-secondary objectives needed to meet specific graduation requirements.

Graduation Requirements
Students in New York City must complete a minimum of 44 credits of coursework in specific subject areas and pass New York State Regents exams to graduate from high school. Students with disabilities are encouraged to pursue the most rigorous diploma option appropriate, based on their interests and goals. Eligible students with disabilities may also earn a commencement credential in addition to a diploma or as a standalone credential. These credentials are not equivalent to a diploma, but provide students the opportunity to demonstrate their preparation for entry-level work. For additional information on graduation requirements, visit http://www.nyc.gov/schools/RulesPolicies/GraduationRequirements and talk to your child's guidance counselor. The Graduation Requirements Cards on that website are a quick reference for families to understand all the requirements.

For more information, call **(718) 935-2399** or visit our website: **schools.nyc.gov/High** Last Updated: May 2017



High School Admissions Tips

TIP Use the High School Directory or NYC School Finder to create a broad list of choices based on your interests.

TIP Make sure to submit a balanced application that includes your "reach," "target," and "likely-match" program choices.

TIP When signing in at schools and fairs, write your name and contact information clearly.

TIP Don't treat Selection Criteria grades and test scores as cutoffs. If your academic record falls below the listed range, you can still apply but you should consider this a "reach" program on your application and limit the number of "reach" programs you include in your list of 12 ranked programs.

TIP There are programs designed to serve students who are learning English. These programs admit students according to home language, years in this country, or English proficiency.

TIP On each school page in the High School Directory, you can find each program's Students with Disabilities (SWD) seat availability last year.

TIP Read the Specialized High Schools Student Handbook to help prepare for the SHSAT and auditions. Register for auditions and the SHSAT by mid-October!