

The background of the slide is a vibrant, multi-colored brushstroke that transitions through a rainbow spectrum from red on the left to orange on the right. The strokes are thick and textured, giving the background a dynamic, artistic feel.

Introduction to High School Admissions

Booker T. Washington
MS54
Fall 2023



Office of the Mayor
Carmen Fariña
Chancellor

Timeline

NOW - Oct/Nov: Tours/Open Houses take place

Saturday/Sunday 9/30 & 10/1: Manhattan HS Fair

Tuesday, October 3: HS application and SHSAT registration opens on
MySchools

Friday, October 27: SHSAT registration closes

Wednesday, November 8: SHSAT School Day Testing

Friday, December 1: HS application closes

Thursday, March 7, 2024: HS offer(s) are released to families

MySchools

- Get a creation code from Booker T. (Fall 2023).*
- Every program at every school is listed.
- Research programs.
- Save schools you're interested in on MySchools and/or create a spreadsheet (it can become a blur if you don't!).

* you may already have one

Admissions Factors

- ❖ Students are placed in five groups according to their final 7th grade grades in their four core subjects, and admitted in group order, beginning with Group 1.
- ❖ **Random Numbers in Admissions:** Every student is assigned a random number, as in a lottery. These numbers are used in cases where there are more applicants than available seats.
- ❖ **For example:** If there are more applicants in Group 1 than available seats, students from that group will be selected by a lottery using the random number linked to each student's application. If all seats are not filled by Group 1 applicants, students from Group 2 are considered the same way, and so on.

Admissions Factors (Continued)

- Roughly 20 of NYC's selective screened high schools have additional requirements/assessments as part of their rubrics, which are also used to make offers. While everyone may apply to these schools, they are particularly beneficial to students who are not in group 1.

Why?

- Offers are made to these schools using an admissions rubric, not just the group number - i.e. grades. Students are then ranked based on that evaluation.
- The number of programs you add to your application, and the order in which you place them matter! Only apply to programs that you are truly interested in attending. The DOE recommends that you put 12 choices on your application in true preferential order.
- For audition programs, schools assign a ranked number to applicants based on that evaluation and admits students in ranked number order.

Admissions Groups

To fall into the top __% of applicants citywide...

An applicant needs average core course grades of at least.

Top 15% (Group 1)

94

Top 30% (Group 2)

89.66

Top 50% (Group 3)

82.75

Top 70% (Group 4)

76.33

Admissions Methods

- ❑ **Screened** - students are selected based on their academic performance.
- ❑ **Screened with Assessment** - students are selected based on their score on the school's admissions task, and academic performance, where applicable.
- ❑ **Education Option (Ed. Opt.)** - students are grouped into high, medium and lower performing groups, and then randomly selected.
- ❑ **Open** - students are randomly selected. No academic criteria.
- ❑ **Audition (25 Schools)** - students are ranked based on their auditions only.
- ❑ **Test (SHSAT)**
- ❑ **Zoned** (outside of Manhattan)

Decoding Admission Random (Lottery) Numbers

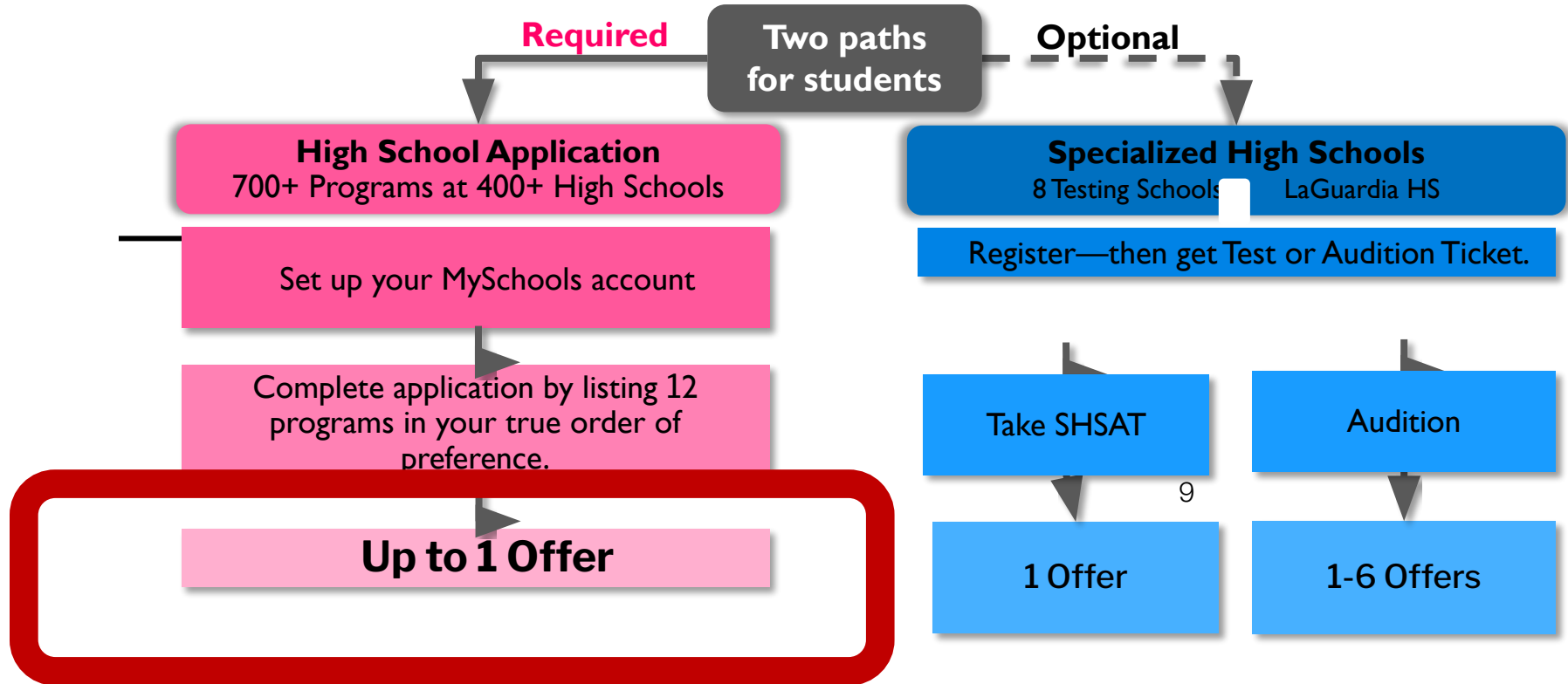
<https://medium.com/algorithms-in-the-wild/decoding-the-nyc-school-admission-lottery-numbers-bae7148e337d>

[Gaining Insights from the NYC School Admission Lottery Numbers](#)

[Results from the 2022 NYC School Admission Lottery Surveys](#)

[Results from the 2023 NYC School Admission Lottery Surveys](#)

How do I Participate in HS Admissions



Seat Availability

The number of **applicants per seat** shows demand, or how popular a program was last year. More applicants per seat means a lower chance of getting an offer.

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

This means

♥ Likely	♥ Target	♥ Reach
Lower Demand 3 or fewer applicants per seat	Low or Average Demand 4 – 9 applicants per seat	High Demand 10 or more applicants per seat

Applications: Required vs. Specialized

- ❖ Required is **MANDATORY**.
- ❖ Specialized schools are **OPTIONAL**.
- ❖ Students who apply to both **MAY** receive more than one offer.
- ❖ Students may receive **ONLY** a specialized offer.
- ❖ Students may apply to and be accepted to more than one studio at LaGuardia.
- ❖ Students who apply to specialized schools, required schools, and LaGuardia may get three or more offers.

If a student isn't matched with a school they listed, the DOE will assign them to a school.

Specialized High School Admissions Test/SHSAT

- ★ Eight schools
- ★ Admissions test is OPTIONAL
- ★ Nothing else counts towards admission
- ★ 28,000 take the test, 5200 offers
- ★ The SHSAT is administered in school on November 8th
- ★ Students rank schools on MySchools
- ★ There are no waitlists for specialized schools

What you need to know about the SHSAT...

- ❖ There are a total of 114 questions - 57 each in both ELA and Math.
- ❖ Students have three hours to complete the test, and can do it in any order they wish.
- ❖ Students do not get penalized for wrong answers.
- ❖ The SHSAT is administered here on November 8th

2023 SHSAT Cutoff Scores

Out of 800 Points

Specialized High Schools Listed in No Particular Order	Lowest Admitted Score	Highest Admitted Score
Stuyvesant	561	TBD
Queens Science at York	527	TBD
Bronx Science	521	TBD
Staten Island Tech	521	TBD
HSMSE at City College	518	TBD
HSAS at Lehman	510	TBD
Brooklyn Tech	503	TBD
Brooklyn Latin	493	TBD

www.AdmissionSquad.org

Numbers vary from year to year based on school capacity, changes in education policy and the competitive nature of the talent pool

Source: NYC Department of Education

<http://www.theschoolboards.com/showthread.php/6013-Specialized-High-School-SHSAT-Cutoff-Scores-for-2022>



SHSAT Stats for Booker T. 2023

- ★ Bronx Science 49
- ★ HS for Math, Sci, & Engineering 18
- ★ Brooklyn Tech 17
- ★ Stuyvesant 14
- ★ Brooklyn Latin 9
- ★ HS for American Studies 8

63% of Booker T. students who took the test received offers

LaGuardia HS for the Arts

- LaGuardia is the 9th specialized school, and the only arts-based audition school that is specialized
- All Students with a 65 (?) average will be considered equally*
- Admissions are based solely on audition/ portfolio
- There are 24 additional audition schools

***New principal, don't know if academic criteria will remain the same**

Students with Disabilities (SWD)

- Students with disabilities may apply to any high school program in NYC.
- All high schools must provide services for students per their Individual Education Plan (IEP).
- For HS admissions, seats for each program are divided into two groups: General Education (GE) and Students with Disabilities (SWD).
- Students compete within their group for seats.

Diversity in Admissions (DIA)

- Many schools throughout NYC are participating in this initiative to increase diversity within their schools.
- These schools give *priority* to applicants who are: low income, English Language Learners (ELLs), Emerging Multilingual Learners (EMLs), in the welfare system, or living in temporary housing.
- These schools make offers to DIA participants *before* other students, as they have admissions priority.

In What Order Should I List My 12 Schools?

- First choice is first choice! List programs in your true order of preference, starting with your first choice.
- High schools cannot see the order of programs on your child's application. Some high schools will tell you that you must rank them first - not true.
- Students are considered for offers in the order of programs on their application.
- If you do not get into your first choice, the algorithm then considers you for your second choice. It's as though the next choice is your new first choice, and so on.

High School Application Worksheet

NAME:

CLASS:

Rank	Program	Category	Additional Application Requirements
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

Will you be applying to private or parochial schools? Y/N

Have you asked your teachers for recommendations? Y/N

Waitlists

- Your offer letter will include a list of programs where you have been waitlisted.
- You'll be automatically added to the waitlists of any programs that you listed higher than your offer.
- Schools will be in touch directly if they make you an offer. You can also see the offer on MySchools - for one week only!
- Waitlist offers are made based on seat availability, admissions priorities, and admissions methods.
- You can check your place on the waitlist for any school in real time.
- You can add yourself to waitlists that were not initially on your application.

Private & Parochial Schools

- We send transcripts.
- We write recommendations
(when you and your child ask nicely).
 - We do not advise.
- A google request form will be sent via
Jupiter next week.

Visiting Schools

- When possible, go on in-person tours/attend open houses.
- Visit some schools virtually to decide if you want to see them in person (you can do that now!).
- Generally tour/open house info is listed on MySchools.

Important to keep in mind:

Every family is responsible for staying on top of the high school process.

What does that mean?

Parents/families coordinate:

- ❑ Open houses
- ❑ Tours
- ❑ Test prep
- ❑ Portfolios/auditions
- ❑ Supplemental materials
- ❑ Due dates
- ❑ Applications

Things to keep in mind when looking at schools:

- Academics/Rigor
- Workload/Homework
- Commute
- School size
- Extracurriculars (sports & clubs)
- College readiness
- Admissions methods
- Safety
- Graduation rates

At a Glance...

- There are numerous admissions methods, and your application should reflect all of them.
- There are no district priorities, though borough priorities still exist. All boroughs except for Manhattan have zoned high schools.
- Every student will have a Group Number and a “Random Number (aka lottery number)” which you can find in MySchools.

Review...

- Take a lot of notes – it will help when you put together a final list/spreadsheet to remember what you've seen and learned.
- Don't just rely on reputation – form your own opinion.
- Many parents have opinions, often about schools they're not involved in – don't be swayed by hearsay and gossip.
- Trust your instincts.
- Listen to your child when they have opinions or input.*

*because no one wants to live with a miserable teenage for 4 years!

What you should be doing now!

- Continue (or start) using online resources such as the DOE website, insideschools.org, MySchools, etc. to browse schools.
- Continue SHSAT prep/practice tests and audition/portfolio prep.
- Check schools' websites and MySchools for tour and open house information.
- If applying to private/parochial schools, there will be a forthcoming mandatory google form that you must fill out when requesting transcripts and recommendations.
- Continue creating a list of schools (and a spreadsheet!) that you are potentially/possibly interested in.
- The first draft of this list should be between 20-30 schools
- Virtual Tours & online videos.
- “Cast a wide net.” Everyone says it, and it’s true.

Keep in mind...

- Make sure you and your child don't get fixated on just one or two schools.
- There are no guarantees, and you can't game the system.
- Make a robust list of different kinds of schools, with different sizes, with different admission criteria, with different app:seat ratios, and with different priorities.
- Rank thoughtfully, and in TRUE preferential order.
- The random ("lottery") numbers are a factor, but they are not your fate.
- Remember there are a lot of terrific options out there!

Resources

- Manhattan Borough HS Fair - this weekend
- School Websites
- insideschools.org
- Join: **Applying to High School in NYC** Facebook group
- And of course the Booker T. **Facebook** group!