



## **CHOICE SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS ENROLLMENT PROCESS**

*The following administrative procedure guides the District's policy for unified enrollment and the controlled choice framework according to Policy FDB(LOCAL).*

*Choice schools and programs include, but are not limited to, in-District charters, magnets, and early college high schools. The Superintendent or designee shall develop regulations, procedures, guidelines, and time lines for enrollment into all choice schools and choice programs and shall ensure families have timely access to this information.*

*Choice schools are open-enrollment schools that offer schoolwide programmatic models and pedagogical philosophies that are aligned with national best practices. Different from choice programs, at choice schools all students participate in the model in its entirety. Examples of these models include, but are not limited to, the Montessori method, single-gender, STEM, and performing and visual arts. Some choice schools do not have attendance boundaries and are open to students living within and outside of the District.*

*Choice programs are offered at traditional neighborhood campuses whose implementation of specific themes and pedagogical philosophies align with national best practices. Unlike choice schools, choice programs are not schoolwide but are limited to a designated number of students per cohort. Examples of choice programs include magnet programs at comprehensive high schools offering engineering, International Baccalaureate, health and law professions and dual language programs at elementary schools. Typically, choice programs give priority to students residing within the established attendance boundary and may be open to students living outside of it.*

### **I. DEFINITION OF CHOICE SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS**

Choice Schools are open enrollment schools that offer schoolwide programmatic models and pedagogical philosophies that are aligned with national best practices. Different from Choice Programs, at Choice Schools all students participate in the model in its entirety. Examples of these models include, but are not limited to, the Montessori method, single-gender, STEM, and performing and visual arts. Some Choice Schools do not have attendance boundaries and are open to students living within and outside of San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD). Choice Programs are offered at traditional neighborhood campuses whose implementation of specific themes and pedagogical philosophies align with national best practices. Unlike Choice

Schools, Choice Programs are not schoolwide but are limited to a designated number of students per cohort. Examples of Choice Programs include magnet programs at comprehensive high schools offering engineering, International Baccalaureate, health and law professions and dual language programs at elementary schools. Choice Programs give priority to students residing within the established attendance boundary and may be open to students living outside of it.

## II. ENTRY INTO CHOICE SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS

Entry into Choice Schools and Programs occurs through an annual application and selection process that is centrally managed by the District through the OAES. The OAES uses two methods for selection. Campuses without academic entry requirements will utilize a blind, computerized lottery process. Campuses with academic entry requirements will utilize a holistic, rubric-based selection process.

The OAES will publicize selection criteria for all Choice Schools and Programs participating in the lottery or holistic, rubric-based selection process prior to the opening of the selection and application window. In select instances, entry into Choice Schools may occur through a district generated placement process, including the in-district transfer process (see *Transfers into Choice Schools with Attendance Boundaries*) or the bilingual education cluster procedure (see *Bilingual Education Students*). A student accepted and enrolled in a Choice School or Program may stay at the school for the duration of the grade levels offered for which the student qualifies without having to reapply.

### Parents and Students can apply at:

#### Online

[www.saisdenroll.schoolmint.net/signin](http://www.saisdenroll.schoolmint.net/signin)

#### By Phone:

210-738-9730

#### By Appointment:

637 N. Main Ave. San Antonio, TX. 78205

\*Information provided via San Antonio Independent School District Administrative Procedures F51.