Understanding the Lottery Results: Frequently Asked Questions

Si necesita ayuda en español, favor de llamar a José al 410 533 4815

How can I find my lottery position? The lottery results are posted on the Magnet website by your Magnet ID (your Magnet ID was included in the email offering you a program seat or wait-list seat). Students are initially posted in the order assigned by the lottery. As students begin declining their seats, those lists will change. The lists are posted at www.aacps.org/magnetlottery.

I can’t find my Magnet ID on the website! What do I do? Go to www.aacps.org/magnetlottery. Click on the link for lottery results. Then, click on the program and school. The lottery results will show the seats offered and the waitlist. As students decline their seats, your original position on the list may change. If you still cannot find your Magnet ID, contact the Magnet Office at 410-222-5435.

What is the difference between a Program Seat offer and a Wait-List Seat offer? Students who are placed into a Magnet Program by the lottery are offered a Program Seat. If they choose to accept this Program Seat, they will enter that Magnet Program in the fall. Students who are placed onto a wait-list by the lottery are offered a Wait-List Seat. As students decline their seats for each program, students will move off the wait-list and be offered a Program Seat.

What does it mean to “Accept” a Program Seat? Accepting a seat in a Magnet Program means that you are committing to attending that Magnet Program. Students who accept their seat will be expected to attend the Welcome and Registration Night at their magnet school and complete all summer registration requirements for their program.

What does it mean to “Accept” a Wait-List Seat? Accepting a Wait-List Seat means that you would like to remain on the wait-list and see if a seat becomes available for that Magnet Program. Students who accept their Wait-List Seat will be notified by email if a seat becomes available.

What does it mean to “Decline” a seat in a program or on a wait-list? Declining a seat in a Magnet Program or on a wait-list means that you will not attend that Magnet Program or remain on that wait-list. When you decline your seat, your Magnet ID will be removed from that list and your seat will be offered to the next student on the wait list. Your decision is binding.

How do I accept or decline my seat? Log in to your Magnet Application Account (http://magnet.aacps.org) with the student ID and password used to submit your application. You will be shown a list of existing applications and can accept or decline your seat by selecting the appropriate action from the drop-down menu under “Actions” and clicking “Go.” Once you save your decision, you will receive a confirmation email. You have five business days to accept or decline your seat offer (see your original email seat offer for your official deadline). After that time, the Magnet Office may take the lead in declining the offered seat.

If I am no longer interested in this Magnet Program, can I ignore this email? It is very important that you decline any Program Seats or Wait-List seats in which you are not interested. We have many wait-list students hoping to get into a program. By not declining your offer, you are causing a delay for another student to be offered a seat.

I’ve been offered more than one Program Seat. What can I do? Decide which program will be best for you. Students may only accept one Program Seat. When you accept a seat in one program, we will automatically decline all other Program Seats offers that you may have received.

I’ve been offered more than one Wait-List seat. What can I do? You may accept multiple wait-lists seats at the same time. Students who have been offered a Program Seat as well as one or more wait-list seats may only keep one Program Seat but can keep multiple wait-list seats. All wait lists will be disbanded in September in preparation for the Fall Magnet application process.

My friends also applied to this Magnet Program. Should I follow their decision? No. In the past, students have declined seats to a Magnet Program because they did not believe that their friends would get into the same program, only to have their friends move up on a waitlist and be offered a seat. The decision to accept or decline a seat should be a personal decision between applicants and their family.

I have accepted a Magnet Program Seat. What do I do now? All students who accept a seat in a Magnet Program must attend a Welcome and Registration Night at their new Magnet School. During this event students will enroll in the Magnet Program, register for the Magnet School, and choose their classes for the following school year. (Students still on a wait-list cannot attend the Welcome and Registration Night for their Program.)
I missed my school's Welcome and Registration Night. What do I do? Contact the Magnet lead for your school. You should have received the contact information in previous correspondence.

I have accepted my seat and attended my school's Welcome and Registration Night. Is there anything else I must do? Please look at the Magnet Information Guide posted at www.aacps.org/magnet to see if there are any additional requirements for your program.

I am a Private School student who accepted a seat in a Magnet Program. What do I need to do? Non-accredited private school students must meet all program requirements, including world language credit. In order for your application to be complete, you must submit your most current grades, the previous year’s grades, proof of residency in Anne Arundel County, and standardized test scores.

I am a Home Instructed student who accepted a Magnet Seat. What do I need to do? Contact the Office of Home Instruction at 410-222-5457 to discuss the process for making the transition into the public-school system.

What are the odds of moving off the wait-list and being offered a seat in a program? Wait-list movement is affected by the number of students on the wait-list, the number of programs each student applied to, and individual student preference. It is impossible for the Magnet Office to predict the probability of any student moving off the wait-list. The Magnet Office will continue to update the wait-lists until the start of the following school year. While most wait-list movement will occur over the first month, some students may move off the wait-list throughout the spring and summer.

Can I move off a wait-list after school starts or at the start of the school year? No. Because of the unique courses that Magnet students will take, new students will not be allowed to enter the program after the start of the school year. All students still on a wait-list at this point will be notified and removed from the wait-list. All wait lists will be disbanded in September in preparation for the Fall Magnet application process.

Are there any Advanced Programs available for students who are not in Magnet Programs? Every middle and high school has advanced courses, programs, and before/after school programs available, including STEM-related courses and programs, rich arts programs and competitions, and academically rigorous courses (honors, AP, etc.). Talk to your school Counselor to learn more about the programs available at your home school. There are also co-curricular activities that might interest you. For more information, see www.aacps.org/cocurricular.

Please verify requirements/updates at www.aacps.org/magnet.

For information concerning the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme and Diploma Programme (IB MYP DP), contact Mary Austin, Coordinator maustin1@aacps.org or 410-222-5415.

For information concerning Apex Arts contact David Kauffman, Senior Manager apexarts@aacps.org or 410-280-1501.

For information concerning Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), and BioMedical Allied Health (BMAH) contact Dr. Tina Gillmeister, Coordinator kgillmeister@aacps.org or 410-222-5391.