

Frequently Asked Questions

Parents, community members, and District staff often have questions about Magnet/CTAs. In an effort to assist school personnel who may not be familiar with the CCSD Magnet/CTA procedures, the following questions and answers were developed.

For more information, you may call the Magnet/CTA Department at (702) 799-8492, contact individual Magnet/CTAs, or visit the Magnet/CTA website at <http://magnet.ccsd.net>

What are the admission requirements for a Magnet/CTA program?

At the elementary level, there are no specific requirements to attend a Magnet School. Parents of interested students must submit an online application to the Magnet School(s) to which they are applying by the annual specified deadline. If there are more applications than there are seats available, a computerized random lottery will be used to select students.

At the secondary level (i.e. middle and high school), entrance criteria have been established for admission to most of the Magnet/CTA programs. Students interested in applying to Magnet/CTAs should talk with their counselors or contact the specific school staff to determine if there are entrance criteria for the program(s) of interest. In addition to meeting the entrance criteria for the program, students must submit an online/paper application on or before the annually specified deadline. If there are more qualified applicants than there are seats available, a computerized random lottery will be used to select students.

Notification of Applicant Status

Notification of student selections is mailed within two (2) weeks of the lottery date to parents/guardians of every student applicant. Students not selected in the lottery are sent a letter indicating their status. Students selected by the lottery are mailed an acceptance letter with a Form of Intent, which must be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the Magnet/CTA Department by the annually designated date. Failure to return the Form of Intent by the due date will result in the seat being assigned to a student from the alternate pool.

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Students who apply and are selected to more than one Magnet/CTA are required to choose one school. This choice is made by signing and returning the Form of Intent, which indicates the student's intent to attend the desired Magnet/CTA. Once this selection is made, the Magnet/CTA will become the student's school of choice; applications for other schools will not be considered. A computerized random lottery will be used to select students.

If my child is interested in several Magnet/CTA programs, how do we make the choice?

You are encouraged to acquire as much information about each program as possible. Review the brochures and school publications, interview Magnet/CTA students' parents, visit the schools, talk to school counselors, and go to the CCSD website at <http://magnet.ccsd.net> for information. Students are allowed to apply to a maximum of three schools at each of the applicable grade levels (i.e. elementary, middle, and high school).

How many seats will be open to Magnet students that apply?

At the 9th-grade level there are a set number of seats available. At other grade levels, available seats will depend on how many students have exited the program.

Who can apply?

Any student in grades 9- 11 who meets eligibility and living within the boundaries of CCSD may apply for a seat in one of our programs.

What programs are offered at the schools?

Each of the Magnet/CTAs offers individual programs. Please contact the school for more information or visit our website at <http://swcta.net>

Will transportation be provided?

Yes, transportation is provided to eligible students. However, our school only provides transportation to those living within our transportation pilot area. Please check the boundary map on our website.

Will my child have the opportunity to participate in after-school and extracurricular activities (i.e., football, basketball, etc.) in the Magnet/CTAs?

Since many of the after-school activities are closely related to the regular instructional program, every effort will be made to provide Magnet/CTA students with these opportunities. ATech, VTCTA, ECTA, NWCTA, SWCTA, WCTA, and Las Vegas Academy do not participate in the NIAA athletics but offer many extracurricular activities in which students can participate. If a student attends ATech, VTCTA, ECTA, NWCTA, SWCTA, WCTA, or the Las Vegas Academy, it is the responsibility of the parent and student to check with the student's zoned school in regard to eligibility for participation in sports and other activities (i.e. football, basketball, etc.). At ATech, VTCTA, ECTA, NWCTA, SWCTA, WCTA, or the Las Vegas Academy, the availability of regular school bus transportation may limit participation in sports on specific days of the week.

Will my child have the opportunity to participate in co-curricular activities (i.e., cheerleading, pep squads, etc.) at his/her zoned school?

If a student attends ATech, VTCTA, ECTA, NWCTA, SWCTA, WCTA, or the Las Vegas Academy, the parent and student must check with the student's zoned school in regard to eligibility for participation.

If my child attends a Magnet program in an elementary or middle school, may he/she continue in these programs at the middle or high school level?

Yes, but placement is not guaranteed. The District reserves 25% of the available seats in middle and high school programs for qualifying incoming students who attended a feeder school at the lower level. If the feeder preference students who apply comprise more than 25% of the available seats, the District will randomly select students to fill the seats. The names of those students who are not selected will be placed in the general lottery.

All students must submit an application to the Magnet/CTAs to which they are applying by the designated application deadline.

Can my child enter a Magnet/CTA or program in high school?

Entrance into many Magnet/CTAs is based on specific admission procedures and/or requirements. These may be met without necessarily being enrolled in a Magnet School prior to middle school or high school.

Are there any costs associated with entrance into Magnet/CTAs?

No tuition or entrance fees are charged for admission to Magnet/CTAs.

May a home school, private school, or charter school student apply to Magnet/CTAs?

Yes. These students must submit an application to Magnet/CTAs of their choice. If they are accepted and choose to enroll, they must attend the Magnet/CTA as full-time students. They are not permitted to take individual classes.

Middle school and high school applicants must submit their 1st trimester or 1st semester report card and their most recent CRT test scores.

Do you keep siblings together when they apply to the same school?

It is the intent of CCSD to avoid separating siblings when possible, but there is no guarantee that both siblings will be selected to the same school. The only exception is made for twins/triplets (multiples). If one twin/triplet (multiple) is accepted, the other twin/triplet (multiple), if qualified, will automatically be offered a seat at the same school.

What are my chances of getting in the Magnet/CTA that I apply for?

The chances of being selected into a program are based on the number of applicants compared to the number of seats available.

If my child does not like the Magnet/CTA program, can he/she transfer to his/her zoned school?

The Magnet/CTA shall be considered the home school of students who are selected and who are in attendance at the beginning of the school year. Students who are accepted and confirm attendance on the Form of Intent are expected to attend the Magnet/CTA for at least one school year.

Magnet/CTA Application Process

All students who wish to be considered for attendance must submit applications to the Magnet/CTA of their choice by the specified due date.

Students interested in applying are encouraged to attend the Magnet/CTA Fair, Parent Information Meetings, and individual Magnet/CTA open houses, and to speak to their school counselors. Details of these events can be found on the Magnet/CTA website at <http://magnet.ccsd.net>.

Applications are available on the website at <http://magnet.ccsd.net>, from the Magnet/CTA Fair, Parent Information Meetings, the Magnet/CTA Department, and all Magnet/CTAs.

The information received from the application will be entered into a database that serves as the source of the computerized lottery selection. All applications must be submitted to the Magnet/CTA to which students are applying. Students are allowed to apply to a maximum of three schools at each of the applicable grade levels, i.e. elementary, middle, and high school.

Attendance by Home School, Private School, or Charter School Students

Home school, private school, or charter school students may apply to attend CCSD Magnet/CTAs. Applicants must follow all application timelines and procedures. If the student is accepted, the student must attend the Magnet/CTA as a full-time student.

Attendance by Alternative or Behavior School Students

Students who currently attend a behavior school program are not eligible to apply to, nor accept a Magnet/CTA, until after their trial enrollment period or conditions have been met. Referral to a behavior school program after being selected and/or accepting a seat to a Magnet/CTA will nullify a student's seat.

Student Admissions Criteria

Entrance into a Magnet/CTA is based on specific admission procedures and/or requirements. The Magnet/CTA Department has approved the use of academic (i.e. grade point average and proficiency test results) and non-academic (i.e. citizenship and attendance) data for establishing selection criteria and developing rating scales. Applications received for students for whom previous enrollment does not provide data for designated selection criteria (e.g., standardized test scores from out-of-district applicants, citizenship from home-schooled applicants) shall not be penalized for the unavailable information. Using the information available, the qualification score will be calculated and prorated.

Schools that are participating in Magnet Schools Assistance Programs (MSAP) grants may not use criteria to select students.

Admission requirements for schools may include the following:

Citizenship

Attendance

Established grade point average

Standardized tests

Prerequisite classes

Audition (Las Vegas Academy only)

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