

Elementary Magnet School Enrollment Process

District 196 elementary magnet schools offer families increased choices for learning while helping the district achieve state-required integration goals.

School Choice and Transportation

Any elementary-age student who lives within Independent School District 196 has the opportunity to apply for enrollment in any of the magnet schools. Non-resident students may also apply, but will only be considered after applications of students residing in District 196 are processed.

Morning and afternoon transportation will be provided to all district resident magnet school students who live or attend daycare more than one mile from their magnet school, according to Policy 707, Student Transportation. Students who reside in District 196 and live or attend daycare less than one mile from their magnet school may take advantage of the fee-for-service transportation option (Administrative Regulation 507.2AR, Student Fees and Fines). All transportation change requests must be received no later than August 1st. Transportation is not provided for non-resident students.

For more information on District 196 magnet school transportation, see Magnet School Magnet Transportation Guidelines at www.district196.org/magnetschools

Enrollment Guidelines

1. District 196 will provide a fair and open process for enrolling students in the magnet schools. This process will be reviewed annually.
2. Each year, the district will publish the timeline and process for application and selection.
3. The application and selection process will be administered by the Teaching and Learning Department staff, with final approval from the superintendent.
4. To apply for the magnet school enrollment lottery, a family must complete and submit an application no later than January 3, 2025.
5. If the number of applicants exceeds available space, a random selection process will determine placement and wait list status for each of the elementary magnet schools.
6. Families will be notified of placement or wait list status no later than January 10, 2025.
7. Once enrolled, students may remain at the magnet school as long as their enrollment continues uninterrupted.

Enrollment Provisions

Phase One: Attendance-Area Enrollment (no magnet application necessary)

The following students will be automatically enrolled to attend the magnet school:

1. Students who live in the attendance area of the magnet school they want to attend.

- Students who are District 196 residents and attend daycare in the attendance area of the magnet school they want to attend, in accordance with Policy 502, Student Transfers (daycare transfer form required)

Phase Two: Magnet Application

Next, placements will be made from the following groups in the order listed, using a random selection process. If space no longer remains when a name is drawn, the student will be added to a waiting list for his/her choice school.

- District residents who live outside the magnet school attendance area, but have one or more siblings currently enrolled there.
- Cedar Park, Diamond Path, Echo Park, Glacier Hills and Oak Ridge attendance area students applying for a magnet school other than their own.
- Applicants to Cedar Park, Echo Park, Glacier Hills and Oak Ridge from a non-title District 196 attendance school.
- All remaining applicants who are District 196 residents.
- Siblings of current magnet school students who do not reside in District 196.
- Current open-enrolled students who do not reside in District 196.
- All remaining applicants who do not reside in District 196.

Phase	Enrollment	Cedar Park STEM School	Diamond Path School of International Studies	Echo Park School of Leadership, Engineering, and Technology	Glacier Hills School of Arts and Science	Oak Ridge School of Leadership, Environmental and Health Sciences
1	Attendance Area	Students residing in the attendance area of a magnet school				
2	Magnet Application	Siblings of current magnet students who reside in the district but live outside the magnet school attendance area				
		Cedar Park, Diamond Path, Echo Park, Glacier Hills and Oak Ridge attendance area students applying for a magnet school other than their own				
		Non-Title District 196 attendance area applicants		Non-Title District 196 attendance area applicants	Non-Title District 196 attendance area applicants	Non-Title District 196 attendance area applicants
		District 196 residents				
		Siblings of current magnet school students who do not reside in District 196 (transportation not provided)				
		Current open-enrolled students who do not reside in District 196 (transportation not provided)				
		Non-District Residents (transportation not provided)				