

I. Admissions

When Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School (Diman Regional) receives more applications than it has available seats, students shall be accepted for admission by a weighted lottery conducted by Diman Regional. The weighted lottery system Diman Regional applies has been reviewed and approved by its School Committee. Diman Regional's admissions policy is on file with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

II. Equal Education Opportunity

Diman Regional admits students and makes available to them its programs, privileges, and courses of study without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability.

If a student's primary language is not English, Diman Regional will provide them with an application in their home language. Please contact our Admissions Office at 508 678 2891 extension 1500 or admissions@dimanregional.org if you have questions or need help filling out the application form.

Diman Regional is committed to providing educational opportunities to students experiencing homelessness. Please contact Diman Regional's liaison at 508 678 2891 extension 1500 or admissions@dimanregional.org with any questions.

Students with disabilities may voluntarily identify themselves to Diman Regional to request reasonable accommodations during the application and admissions process.

Neither a student's disability nor the primary language of their home will have any effect on their admission to Diman Regional.

Consistent with Massachusetts regulations, Diman Regional has created a plan with deliberate, specific strategies to promote equal educational opportunities and attract, enroll, and retain a student population that, when compared to students in similar grades in sending districts, has a comparable academic and demographic profile.

The staff of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District will meet regularly to review student enrollment data. These meetings will focus on ensuring the district's commitment to equity and diversity. Data from our district will be reviewed and compared to sending districts. Based on outcomes, our plan will include action steps to meet with stakeholders and identify potential needs and improvements to our practices and protocols.

Attraction, Enrollment and Retention of Students

Diman places a strong emphasis on building connections with students and their families both prior to enrollment and throughout their time at the school. Attraction of future students includes a yearly Open House, Virtual Information Sessions, Virtual Admissions Night, Virtual School Tours and an in person tour during middle school hours. Diman also fosters strong relationships with sending schools via a counselors breakfast and presentations at sending schools. After acceptance, families are invited to take part in events such as Accepted Students Night, placement testing, and Freshman Orientation. The district also organizes an annual Parent-Teacher Night, offering freshman families the chance to meet educators and learn more about the academic programs and expectations. All information pertaining to attraction, enrollment, and retention is posted on social media including our Website, Facebook and Instagram.

To create an inclusive and supportive environment, Diman ensures that multilingual and special education services are available at all major events, allowing every student and family to participate fully and feel welcomed within the school community.

III. Eligibility

Current 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade students who are residents of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District may apply for admissions to Diman Regional. Students may only be admitted to Diman Regional if they have been promoted to the grade they are seeking to enter. Students should be aware their admissions is conditional. If they are not ultimately promoted to enter the grade they have applied for, their admission will be rescinded. Residents of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District, who meet the minimum admissions requirements, are admitted before any non-residents seeking the same program.

Apportionment:

Diman Regional has a regional agreement in place that identifies the cities and towns that are members of the region, and explains how those cities and towns allocate seats to their residents. This agreement can be found at <https://dimanregionalorg.finalsite.com/fs/resource-manager/view/52106699-18d5-4210-a500-65611d7a131a>

Non-Residents:

Students who are not residents of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District are eligible to apply for admission to Diman Regional. Please be aware that residents of the Greater Fall River Vocational School District who meet the minimum admission requirements will be admitted before any non-residents seeking the same program. Students and families can find information on the Chapter 74 Nonresident Student Tuition Program at <https://www.doe.mass.edu/ccte/cvte/admissions/>

Homeschooled Students:

Homeschool applicants may apply to Diman Regional full-time and will be subject to the same admissions standards as other applicants. Documentation from sending superintendents will be needed to verify home schooling.

Transfer Students:

Students already participating in Chapter 74 programs at another school may apply for admission to Diman Regional and will be subject to the same admissions standards as other applicants.

School Choice:

Diman Regional does not participate in the inter-district school choice program. The inter-district school choice program, M.G.L. c. 76, s 12B, allows parents/guardians to send their children to schools in communities other than the city or town in which they reside.

IV. Organizational Structure:

Diman Regional is a Chapter 74 Regional Vocational School located in Fall River, MA.

The Superintendent of Diman Regional is:

Brian Bentley (bbentley@dimanregional.org)

The Principal of Diman Regional is:

Leslie Weckesser (lweckesser@dimanregional.org)

It is the responsibility of Diman Regional's Superintendent to supervise the administration of the policies and procedures used to admit and enroll students, consistent with all applicable laws, regulations, and guidance.

V. Admissions Communication Policies

Diman Regional maintains a calendar of events on its website (www.dimanregional.org) where it provides information on admissions process, as well as other information about its programs. Students and their families can request hard copies of the calendar by calling or emailing the Admissions Office at 508 678 2891 extension 1500.

It is the responsibility of the sending schools to develop a policy on how information will be disseminated to their students.

VI. Application Process

A. Application process for fall admission to the 9th grade

1. Applications will be open to students interested in applying to Diman Regional for fall admission to the 9th grade beginning September 15, 2025. To be included in the admission lottery, applicants must:
 - Obtain an application form online <https://www.dimanregional.org/apply> or a hardcopy from a middle school guidance counselor or designee.
 - Complete all elements of the application online or on the hardcopy.
 - Submit the completed application to the admissions office online (preferred), via mail, or through a middle school counselor no later than January 1, 2026.
 - Applications are available in home language both online and hard copy.

2. It is the responsibility of Diman to verify that the sending school counselor (or other sending school personnel, if applicable) has provided the following information for each applicant **to determine if an applicant receives any additional lottery weight:**
 - Does the applicant have fewer than 27 unexcused absences. (*No data prior to 7th grade may be considered.)
 - If “yes”, one additional weight is assigned.
 - If “no”, no additional weight is assigned
 - Has the applicant been suspended or expelled pursuant to M.G.L. c. 71 37H or 37H ½? (*No data prior to 7th grade may be considered.) If yes, the following elements will be examined by Diman Regional:
 - Was the incident on school premises or at a school-sponsored or related event?
 - Was the incident possession of a dangerous weapon or assault of educational staff?
 - Has the felony been adjudicated or has the student made an admission of guilt in court?
 - If “no” to any element, one additional weight is assigned.
 - If “yes” to all elements, no additional weight is assigned.

3. It is the responsibility of Diman to verify that the student has provided the following information to determine if an applicant receives an additional lottery weight:
 - Has the student provided a demonstration of student interest including a personal essay, a letter of recommendation from a non-family member or from a school counselor no later than January 1, 2026.

September 15, 2025	Applications Open.
January 1, 2026	Deadline for all students to complete the application process for March review and entrance into a lottery.
February 2, 2026	Deadline for sending school to upload attendance and discipline
February 3, 2026 – February 13, 2026	Diman verifies lottery applications for weights
February 14, 2026 – March 1, 2026	Applicant timeline to view/verify lottery weights and/or file an appeal. March 1, 2026 is the LAST day to file an appeal to the Superintendent.
March 16, 2026 Snow Day: March 17, 2026	Public lottery for completed resident student applications submitted by deadline & offer letters sent.
March 25, 2026 Snow Day: March 26, 2026*	Selected students must confirm or decline acceptance of the offer of enrollment. If a student declines admissions and then reconsiders, the student must reapply and will be considered a late application.

4. It is the responsibility of the sending school counselor (or other sending school personnel, if applicable) to:
 - a. Submit a copy of the student's attendance (only to include unexcused absences), and discipline records (only to include M. G. L. c. 71 37 H or 37 H ½) electronically by the February 2, 2026.
5. Applications are considered complete when:
 - a. All the required information on application is completed
 - b. All required signatures are present.
 - c. A copy of the student's attendance and discipline records are provided by sending school.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to follow up with the sending district, if necessary, to ensure Diman has received all documentation to complete the application.

6. Late Applications: Applications received after the January 1, 2026 deadline will be considered late applications. Late applications will be drawn from a separate lottery if additional seats become available.
7. Application Verification and School Admission Residency Affidavit
 - a. All students must reside in the Town of Somerset, Swansea, Westport or the City of Fall River, per Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 76 Section 5.
 - b. All applications are subject to a residency verification.
 - c. An affidavit will be relied upon by the Greater Fall River Vocational School District for the purpose of determining the student's eligibility to attend Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School on the basis of residency. If it is subsequently determined that the student does not actually reside in Fall River, Somerset, Swansea, or Westport, the student's enrollment at Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School will be promptly terminated and will be jointly and severally liable for tuition for the full academic year (s).

Transfer Students:

Students entering grade 11 or 12, already enrolled in a Chapter 74 state approved program in another school may apply for admissions to Diman Regional. Admissions will be offered provided there are available seats in the same program. If there are more applications than seats available, all applications will be entered into a lottery.

All transfer students entering grades 9 and 10 will be considered late applications and entered into the late application lottery.

Withdrawn Students:

Students who withdraw from Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School and who are attending or not attending another high school may reapply to Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School following the procedures contained in this Admission Policy and will be evaluated using the criteria contained in this Admission Policy. A student who has withdrawn is not guaranteed acceptance.

VII. Selection Process

When more students apply to Diman Regional than available seats, Diman Regional uses the following weighted lottery system to select students for admission:

Selection Criteria

- All students with completed applications are entered into the lottery.
- As identified in application process students will be assigned additional weight in the admissions lottery for meeting criteria in the following areas:
 - Attendance
 - Discipline
 - Interest
- The lottery will take place for each sending district according to seat allocations in public as published on the school district's website with reasonable public notice at least one week prior to the lottery.
- If there are seats remaining, seats will be filled from the initial lottery's waitlist in the order they were drawn from the public lottery.

VIII. Exploratory Program

Because Diman Regional offers 5 or more Chapter 74 state approved programs, Diman Regional provides a half year exploratory program for 9th grade students. The program is based on the applicable Vocational Technical Education and Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks.

All ninth graders who enroll in Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School participate in a vocational technical exploratory program designed to help them learn about their talents and interests. Students list their top three exploratory choices on their application and explore each of them along with nine other shops (one of which is a non-traditional shop) for two to four days. Students are evaluated and scored by each shop instructor.

IX. Program Specific Admission

Diman Regional uses the following system for students to identify and enroll in their Chapter 74 technical program:

At the end of the students' shop exploratory period, each student selects his/her program of choice, as well as a second third, fourth, fifth and sixth choice. Students are admitted into the shop of their choice based on the point total they receive on the Exploratory Evaluation Rubric. If a shop fills, based on point total, before a student gets his/her first choice, the Director of Guidance and Admissions then moves to the student's second, third, fourth, fifth or sixth choice depending upon whether there is an opening in the shop. If a student's point total on the Exploratory Evaluation Rubric does not qualify them for a shop of their choice, the Director of Guidance and Admissions will place the student in a shop taking into consideration availability, shops explored, and student exploratory performance. This process continues until all students are placed.

Freshman Exploratory Rubric				
Work Readiness: 50% of possible points				
Criteria	Exceeded Expectation	Met Expectation	Worked Towards Meeting Expectation	Below Expectation
Participation	7	5	3	1
<i>Stayed on Task</i>	Required no cues to stay on task.	Required minimal cues to stay on task.	Needed some cues during the day to stay on task.	Needed repeated cues to stay on task.
<i>Student demonstrated interest</i>	Student demonstrated interest.	Student demonstrated some interest.	Student demonstrated little interest.	Student demonstrated no interest.
<i>Problem-solved independently following instruction</i>	Problem-solved independently.	Sought help when needed to complete the project and/or competency.	Rarely sought help when needed to complete the project and/ or competency.	Never sought help when needed to complete the project and/or competency.
<i>Took initiative to do more</i>	Took initiative to do more.			
Interaction and Attitude	7	5	3	1
<i>Demonstrated respect for the instructor, classmates, and others</i>	Interacted well with instructor/classmates, was a team player, friendly and helpful.	Cooperated willingly and required minimal cues regarding acceptable interaction with instructor/classmates.	Needed some cues regarding acceptable interaction with instructor/classmates.	Needed repeated cues regarding acceptable interaction with instructor/classmates.
<i>Received constructive criticism with a productive and positive attitude.</i>	Accepted constructive criticism and improved greatly.	Accepted constructive criticism and improvement was noted.	Accepted constructive criticism, but only made minor improvement.	Disregarded constructive criticism.
Conduct and Effort	7	5	3	1
<i>Prepared for shop and followed shop rules</i>	Followed all shop rules; arrived in shop with proper exploratory attire.	Required minimal reminders of the shop rules; arrived in shop with proper exploratory attire.	Needed some reminders of the shop rules; arrived prepared, but was missing some items.	Needed repeated reminders of shop rules; arrived unprepared and missing multiple items.
<i>Demonstrated effort in completing exploratory project(s)/assignment(s) utilizing time management skills.</i>	Exhibited effort in every aspect and employed exceptional time management.	Exhibited effort by utilizing effective time management.	Lacked effort by exhibiting poor time management, however, routine work was acceptable.	Unmotivated and lacked time management skills. Required constant instructor monitoring in order to complete the work.

Safety	7	5	3	1
<i>Followed shop specific safety guidelines</i>	Followed all shop specific safety guidelines.	Needed minimal reminders of shop specific safety guidelines.	Needed some reminders of shop specific safety guidelines.	Needed repeated reminders of shop specific safety guidelines.
Technical Skills:				
25% of possible points	7	5	3	1
Criteria	Exceeded Expectation	Met Expectation	Worked Towards Meeting Expectation	Below Expectation
<i>After instruction, student completed project(s) and/or assignment(s) with</i>	No assistance and no redirection	Minimal assistance and redirection.	Some assistance and some redirection.	Constant assistance and redirection was required.
<i>After instruction, student completed project(s) and/or assignment(s) with</i>	No misunderstanding of written and verbal instructions	Minimal misunderstanding of written and verbal instructions	Some misunderstanding of written and verbal instructions.	Excessive misunderstanding of written and verbal instructions.
Projects / Assessments count as ONE category for 25% of possible points.				
Project(s):	7	5	3	1
Criteria	Exceeded Expectation	Met Expectation	Worked Towards Meeting Expectation	Below Expectation
<i>Student completed project(s) with</i>	Precise, exceptional quality workmanship, with all project standards met.	Acceptable workmanship with all project standards met.	Below average workmanship, minimum project standards met.	Poor quality workmanship. Does not meet project standards, even with substantial help.
Assessment(s):	7	5	3	1
Criteria	Exceeded Expectation	Met Expectation	Worked Towards Meeting Expectation	Below Expectation
<i>Student completed assessment(s) and</i>	Showed command of important concepts	Showed good understanding of key concepts with minimal conceptual inconsistencies	Showed basic grasp of some concepts with some conceptual inconsistencies	Showed inadequate grasp of concepts with multiple conceptual inconsistencies.

X. Review and Appeal Process

Applicants who believe that their number of lottery entries is inaccurate may submit a written letter of appeal to the Superintendent of Diman Regional at bbentley@dimanregional.org. Appeals must be received by March 1, 2026 which is fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled lottery drawing on March 16, 2026. Appeals received after the fifteen (15) day window will not be considered.

The Superintendent will carefully review the applicant and submissions for accuracy, taking into account any updated records received from the sending school. A written response will be provided to the parent(s)/ guardians(s) within ten (10) school days of receiving the appeal.

Admission to Specific Programs within Diman Regional:

Students who are admitted to Diman Regional will need to apply to a specific program of student (shop) during their 9th grade year.

If the student applies to a program and is denied, the student may appeal their rejection to the Superintendent in the following ways:

1. By email to bbentley@dimanregional.org
2. By hard-copy mail or hand delivered to 251 Stonehaven Road, Fall River, MA, 02723
Attention: Brian Bentley

The student's/applicant's parent(s)/guardian(s), upon notification from Diman, indicating that the student's/applicant's was not placed in a particular shop program may request a review of the decision by sending a letter requesting a review to the Principal within thirty days of the receipt of the letter. The Principal will respond in writing to the letter with the findings of the review within thirty days.

In making this determination, the Superintendent will review the following information:

- Exploratory selection sheets from the student
- Exploratory grades
- School wide placement data

XI. Maintenance of Records

Diman Regional maintains records of all students who apply, enroll, or are waitlisted, as well as their score on admission criteria, to facilitate analysis of its admissions system and compliance with application laws and regulations. Diman Regional will provide this information to DESE upon request.

Questions concerning the admissions process should be directed to the Guidance Department via telephone or email at 508-678-2891 ext. 1500 or admissions@dimanregional.org.

Revised and Approved by SC – 11/13/25