School Choice Frequently Asked Questions

What is School Choice?

- Under a 2009 state law (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2131, HB251/SB10), parents may request a transfer of their children to another public school within their school district if classroom space is available.

Where can I review the policy for School Choice?

- The policy may be reviewed here: JBCCA. The supporting regulation may be reviewed here: JBCCA-R(1).

When does School Choice open each year?

- School Choice opens in the semester preceding the school year for which the parent is seeking transfer. Specific dates are posted on the Henry County Schools' website. Typically, the process begins annually in January.

What are the dates for School Choice for the 2026-2027 school year?

- Applications will be accepted from January 12 - 30, 2026. The application will close for responses at 4:00 p.m. on January 30, 2026.

How do parents apply for School Choice?

- Applications for the 2026-2027 school year are accepted via Google Form . The form collects demographic and contact information. Families are asked for mailing addresses that differ from residence addresses for notification purposes. Families may visit the HCS Welcome Center to use computer kiosks if needed. Form: https://bit.ly/HCS2627SchoolChoice

Do I need to reapply for School Choice each year after my child has been approved?

- A School Choice approval is in place for the student's time at the approved school as long as the student remains a resident of Henry County. When the student transitions to the next level (middle or high), the student shall return to the zoned school or the parent can review School Choice options at that time.

Can I apply for School Choice if my child is not currently enrolled in Henry County Schools?

- Yes, as long as the family resides in Henry County, the parent/guardian may apply.

Is School Choice first come, first served?

- No, applications are accepted anytime during the timeframe above and are not first come, first served.

May I select more than one choice?

- Yes, the Google Form application allows for a first and second choice.

School Choice FAQ - *continued*

May I submit more than one application during the application window?

- Yes, you may submit more than one application however the application received closest to the deadline will prevail.

What if my child has an IEP or 504?

- Any application that indicates a student has an IEP and/or 504 will be reviewed by representatives from the Exceptional Student Education Department and/or Student Services to ensure services can be provided at the requested school.

What if there are more applicants than seats available?

- Approvals will be granted on the basis of a random lottery. After review of each application, all eligible applicants will be entered into the lottery pool and each applicant will have an equal chance of being selected by random draw. Each application is assigned a number for the online random number generator to produce a list of selected applicants. Representatives from outside of the Family Services department will supervise the lottery process.

How will families receive notification of School Choice decisions?

- Families will receive notification via US Mail at the mailing address provided in the application.

When will families receive notification of School Choice decisions?

- School Choice decision letters will be mailed in mid to late March to the address indicated on the application.

What do I do after I receive notification that my child has been approved for School Choice?

- The School Choice decision notification letter will contain detailed information on next steps.

Is transportation provided for students who are approved for School Choice?

- No, parents/guardians assume responsibility for transportation to and from school for students attending under School Choice.

What are the attendance and Code of Conduct requirements for School Choice?

- Regulation JBCCA-R(1) and the HCS Handbook explain the attendance and Code of Conduct expectations for students.

If my child was approved for School Choice at the elementary or middle school level will he/she automatically be approved for the feeder middle or high school?

- No, the approval is for the named school only, not any feeder middle or high schools.

Who should parents contact with additional questions regarding School Choice?

- Parents may email SchoolChoice@henry.k12.ga.us or call 770-957-3945 to speak with someone in Family Services.