

CHISD CHOICE PROGRAMS

to Pathways

POTENTIAL



CEDAR HILL ISD

Choice Programs Guide

2026-2027



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2 ● Letter from Dr. Gamell
- 3 ● Exploration
- 4 ● Application Process
- 5 ● Scholar Assignment Guidelines
- 8 ● Application Timeline
- 9 ● Pre-k Programs
- 10 ● Elementary Choice Programs
- 14 ● Middle School Choice Programs
- 16 ● High Schools Choice Programs

LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

One thing that all parents know is that every child is different. They have different personalities, different interests, and different needs. That is why our focus here in CHISD is *Every Student, Every Time, All the Time*.

Pathways to Potential (formerly known as Choose Your Seat) is CHISD’s choice program, playing a significant role in ensuring that every student can find a pathway that best fits their passion and learning style.

Thanks to our community’s support for the 2024 Bond Election, we are thrilled to be opening our new High Pointe Elementary Fine Arts Academy in the fall of 2026. Not only will the entire campus be completely renovated, but we have also redesigned the curriculum so that fine arts is integrated into every subject, including math, science, history, and language arts.

We have also expanded our Montessori program at Lake Ridge Elementary to serve even more students! This program helps students develop their independence while fostering empathy, a passion for social justice, and a love for lifelong learning.

As our world continues to get smaller, it is important to prepare our students for global success. The first step is fluency in more than one language. With this in mind, we are opening CHISD’s first two-way dual-language academy. The program, housed at Highlands Elementary, will provide students with instruction in both English and Spanish, developing strong reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills in two languages.

For many students, preparing for college is their main goal. Our collegiate programs offer rigorous academics for students from pre-K-12.

Talk with your child about their options, attend an interest meeting, and choose one of these outstanding programs that best match your child’s educational needs.

The deadline to apply for the 2026-27 school year is January 30, 2026.

Sincerely,



Dr. Maria Gamell, Superintendent
Cedar Hill Independent School District



EXPLORATION

ACADEMIC CHOICES TO FIT THE INTERESTS & NEEDS OF YOUR CHILD

Formerly called Choose Your Seat, Pathways to Potential is CHISD's reimagined choice program that allows scholars and their families the opportunity to select an educational path designed to suit their own interests and their learning style while preparing them for the future.



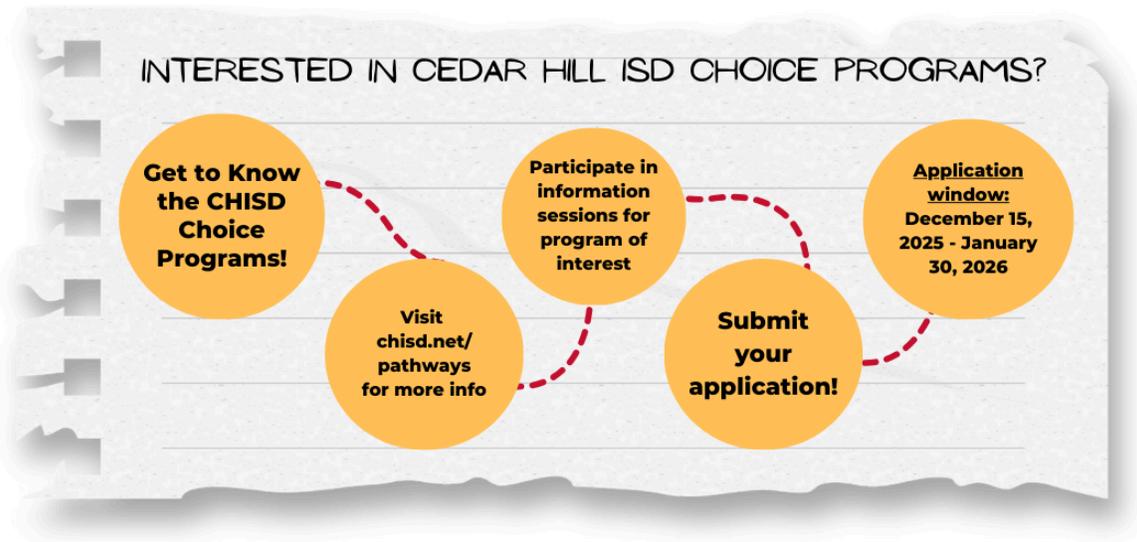
We believe in offering every student the opportunity to choose their own pathway, whether that is in Fine Arts, Dual-Language, Montessori, College Prep, or STEM. Throughout their educational journey, students may choose a pathway that leads to a certification or an associate's degree along with their high school diploma.

These programs are tailored to meet the diverse needs of scholars while challenging them to grow personally and excel academically. All scholars have an opportunity to choose their pathway by applying for one of CHISD's Choice Programs. **New programs are opening in 2026-27, and some of our existing programs are expanding, so take some time and [explore all of the pathways](#) available to your scholars.**



APPLICATION

1. Visit [CHISD Lotterease](#) to access the lottery application portal.
2. All applying parents must complete the registration link to create a parent account on the Login Dashboard.
3. You must submit a separate application for each child under your account.
4. You may apply for more than one Choice Program, but you will only be able to accept a seat at one school.
5. You will receive emails and text messages from **Cedar Hill ISD** to notify you of the status of your application. Please provide an email that you check frequently and make sure to check your spam mail for updates. Read those emails carefully, as additional information may be required.



SCHOLAR ASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES

CURRENT SCHOLARS

Scholars currently enrolled in a Choice Program will remain assigned to that program unless they no longer wish to remain in the program. *Parents who no longer wish for their child to remain in the program of Choice must indicate their intent by logging on to their Enrollease Account and completing the intent to return form or withdrawing their scholar from the program.* The window to complete the intent to return form for current families is December 3, 2025 - January 9, 2026.

CAMPUS TRANSFERS

Current scholars who desire to transfer from one Choice Program to another must complete a New Scholar Application through their Lotterease account.

REQUIRED DISTRICT ENROLLMENT PROCESS

Upon accepting your child's seat assignment, the final step in the choice process is to complete the enrollment process at the district level at chisd.net/enrollment. You will be contacted by the district when the enrollment



period opens. If you have questions regarding the status of your enrollment application, contact the Enrollment Office at registrationhelp@chisd.net.

If you have questions regarding the status of your child's choice application or placement, please log on to your Enrollease or Lotterease account or contact the Innovation Department at regchoice@chisd.net.

SCHOLARS APPLYING FOR COLLEGIATE AND EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Seat Availability Deadline

The movement of applicants will cease one week before the start of school due to the paperwork needed for Dallas College and enrollment paperwork. The process will resume one week after the first week of school.

Dallas College Stipulations for Collegiate High School and Early College Academy

After your seat has been accepted via Lotterease, each campus counselor will contact the incoming scholars via email to set an Onboarding Orientation Appointment with program-specific details on what documents are required for admittance into Dallas College.

Credit-Based Exam Testing

Scholars who desire to test out of a grade level or subject area must complete this exam before the end of the application process. Any scholars who test after this date will not be guaranteed a seat in their moved grade or subject area. A seat will only be honored if it is available.

No student or employee in CHISD District shall, on the basis of age, gender, race, religion, national origin, marital status, or handicapping condition, be denied the benefits of, or be a student to discrimination under, any education program or activity.



APPLICATION TIMELINE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2025 - FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2026

DATE	EVENT	EVENT SUMMARY
December 3, 2025 - January 9, 2026	Returning Scholars: Intent to Return Applications are OPEN	Must complete through your Enrollease account CLICK HERE to create an account
December 19, 2025	Applications Open	Applications are available online through the district website- CLICK HERE to create an account
January 8 -29, 2026	Interest Meetings/ Tours	On-site interest meetings for the program of choice.
January 30, 2026	Application Deadline	Applications Due
February 13, 2026	Lottery Notification	District notifies parents of acceptance
February 20, 2026	Acceptance Confirmation	Parent/Scholar acceptance dates
April 1, 2026	District Enrollment Opens	Mandatory CHISD enrollment in Skyward is required for full admission to Choice Programs.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN CHOICE PROGRAMS

WHY PRE-KINDERGARTEN?

Research consistently shows that enrolling your scholar in early childhood education is one of the best decisions you can make! Ninety percent of the brain is developed by the age of five. Cedar Hill ISD PreK and kindergarten focus on readiness skills in all academic areas as well as the important social, emotional, and problem-solving skills they will need for success in school.

All CHISD PreK programs include:

- State-of-the-Art classrooms
- Technology-rich classrooms
- Social Emotional Learning
- Library Services
- Parent classes and parent education classes
- Certified nurses and counselors
- A rigorous curriculum focused on kindergarten readiness skills and the PK guidelines
- Hands-on lessons in STEM, literacy, and more!



CHOICE PRE-K PROGRAMS

- High Pointe Elementary Fine Arts Academy (Pk-5th)
- Montessori at Lake Ridge Elementary (Pk-5th)
- Collegiate Prep Elementary (Pk-5th)
- Two-Way Dual Language Academy at Highlands Elementary (Pk-K)

HOW TO APPLY

Tuition-Based Pre-k & Kinder Choice Program Application

Three CHISD elementary campuses offer tuition-based prekindergarten and kindergarten programs. Pre-K 4 tuition costs \$550 per month (\$275 for current CHISD employees) or is free for those who qualify.

To qualify for free pre-k, students must meet one of the following:

1. Unable to speak and/or comprehend the English language
2. Economically Disadvantaged (Federal guideline)
3. Homeless.
4. Foster Care
5. Military
6. Star of Texas (TEA List)

Between November and January, families have an opportunity to apply to one of the four tuition-based pre-k or kindergarten choice programs.

CHISD ELEMENTARY CHOICE PROGRAMS

SCHOOL	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
 <p>HIGH POINTE ELEMENTARY Grade Levels: PreK4 - 5th grade</p> <p>Principal: Dr. Coletha Johnson</p> <p>1351 High Pointe Lane. Cedar Hill, TX 75104 972-291-4231</p> <p>Helpful Links:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campus Website • Transportation • Student meals • FAQs 	<p>High Pointe Elementary Fine Arts Academy is a Pre-K-5 campus where the arts are intentionally integrated into every aspect of learning—from math and science to reading and social studies.</p> <p>High Pointe Elementary Fine Arts Academy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engages students in dance, theater, vocal music, visual arts, orchestra, and physical education, building a strong foundation across multiple artistic disciplines. • Incorporates fine arts into core academic subjects such as reading, math, science, and social studies are taught through meaningful connections to the arts, helping students deepen understanding and retain learning. • Believes that creativity fuels critical thinking, student engagement, and confidence. • Leverages creativity to strengthen critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills that support overall academic achievement. • Empowers scholars to express themselves, collaborate effectively, and reach their full potential both academically and artistically. • Encourages students to express ideas, emotions, and perspectives through artistic mediums, fostering confidence, voice, and self-awareness. <p>How to know High Point Elementary Fine Arts Academy is right for your child:</p> <p>When applying for the High Pointe Elementary Fine Arts Academy, families should consider whether the learning environment aligns with their student’s interests in creative, expressive, and arts-integrated instruction.</p> <p>Does your child</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enjoy singing, dancing, and performing • Love to paint, draw, and create all types of art • Enjoy listening to music, attending performances, and exploring the visual arts • Find multiple and creative solutions to a single problem • Uses drawing or singing to process their day <p>High Point Elementary Fine Arts Academy Application Considerations</p> <p>High Pointe Elementary School Fine Arts Academy is open to all interested students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Out-of-district students must meet all CHISD open-enrollment policy requirements. Student applications will be reviewed at the close of the application window. • Our goal is to ensure that all students who meet the application considerations are offered a seat in the program. However, if the number of qualified applications exceeds the available seats, a lottery

process will be used to determine placement. *The lottery is random and generated by the application platform to ensure a fair and unbiased selection process, with preference given to CHISD employees' students and siblings of currently enrolled students.*



**COLLEGIATE
PREPARATORY
ELEMENTARY**

Grade Levels: PreK4 - 5th grade

Principal: Mr. Ronnie Davis

975 Pickard Drive
Cedar Hill, TS 75104
972-293-4502

Helpful Links:

- [Campus Website](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Student meals](#)
- [FAQs](#)

Cedar Hill Collegiate Preparatory Elementary School is a choice campus in Cedar Hill ISD serving students Pre-K through 5th grade. Recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top elementary schools in Texas, Collegiate Prep has a history of proven academic excellence.

Collegiate Preparatory Elementary School:

- Provides an accelerated, college-focused learning environment that builds strong academic foundations, leadership skills, and habits of success.
- Offers instruction supported by AVID strategies, hands-on activities, and high levels of critical thinking and collaboration.
- Is the elementary school entry-point of the District's Collegiate Pathway.
- Offers students the opportunity to serve as classroom ambassadors. Fifth graders may join the National Elementary Honor Society.
- Prepares students for continued advanced coursework in middle and high school
- Provides a pathway for students to graduate with an associate degree **and** a high school diploma.

How to know Collegiate Preparatory Elementary School is right for your child:

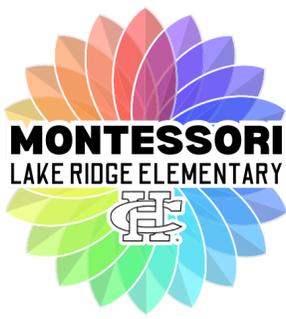
When applying for Cedar Hill Collegiate Preparatory Elementary School, families should consider whether their child will thrive in an accelerated, college-focused learning environment.

Does your child:

- Ask "why" often
- Make mistakes and try again without getting overly discouraged
- Pay attention for longer periods of time and follow multi-step directions independently
- Work well in teams and show empathy toward peers

Collegiate Preparatory Elementary School Application Considerations

- Student applications will be reviewed at the close of the application window.
- Our goal is to ensure that all students who meet the application considerations are offered a seat in the program. However, if the number of qualified applications exceeds the available seats, a lottery process will be used to determine placement. *The lottery is random and generated by the application platform to ensure a fair and unbiased selection process, with preference given to CHISD employees' students and siblings of currently enrolled students.*



**LAKE RIDGE
ELEMENTARY**

Grade Levels: PreK3 - 5th grade

Principal: Dr. Amanda McCarther

1020 Lake Ridge Parkway
Cedar Hill, TX 75104
972-293-4501

Helpful Links:

- [Campus Website](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Student meals](#)
- [FAQs](#)

Montessori at Lake Ridge Elementary School provides a child-centered learning environment that fosters independence, curiosity, and a love for learning.

Montessori at Lake Ridge Elementary:

- Provides hands-on, experiential instruction
- Engages students in meaningful work that supports academic growth, critical thinking, and problem-solving.
- Offers mixed-age classrooms that encourage collaboration, leadership, and peer learning.
- Provides specially trained Montessori educators to guide students in developing focus, responsibility, and intrinsic motivation.

How to know Montessori at Lake Ridge Elementary School is right for your child:

When applying for Montessori at Lake Ridge Elementary School, families should consider whether the child-centered program aligns with their child’s learning style.

Does your child

- Take ownership of their learning by managing their work, making choices, and developing responsibility for their actions
- Love connecting dots across history, science, and art
- Work through tasks independently.
- Enjoy learning by doing and using physical objects (manipulatives) to explain abstract concepts.
- Enjoy working in small groups to solve big problems

Montessori at Lake Ridge Elementary School Application Considerations

- Student applications will be reviewed at the close of the application window.
- Our goal is to ensure that all students who meet the application considerations are offered a seat in the program. However, if the number of qualified applications exceeds the available seats, a lottery process will be used to determine placement. *The lottery is random and generated by the application platform to ensure a fair and unbiased selection process, with preference given to CHISD employees’ students and siblings of currently enrolled students.*

**Two-Way Dual
Language Academy**

**HIGHLANDS
ELEMENTARY**

Grade Levels: PreK - 5th grade

Principal: Ms. Victoria Collins

The Two-Way Dual Language Academy at Highlands Elementary School implements a dynamic education model that integrates both Emergent Bilingual (EB) students and English-dominant students in the same classroom, providing instruction in two languages.

The Two-Way Dual Language Academy

- Students receive instruction in both **English and Spanish**, developing strong reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills in two languages.

131 Sims Dr.
Cedar Hill, TX 75104
972-291-0496

Helpful Links:

- [Campus Website](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Student meals](#)
- [FAQs](#)

- Teaches core content areas through a biliteracy approach, strengthening understanding while building language proficiency.
- Offers an immersive, collaborative environment with four core goals for every student: bilingualism, biliteracy, academic achievement, and sociocultural competence.
- Students learn to read, write, understand, and communicate complex ideas in two languages while maintaining high levels of academic rigor and achievement
- Provides students an appreciation to interact with diverse cultures and perspectives, preparing them to thrive in an increasingly global society.
- Supports cognitive development, academic success, and future college and career opportunities.

How to know if the Two-Way Dual Language Academy at Highlands

Elementary is right for your child: When applying for the Two-Way Dual Language Academy, families should consider whether their child will thrive in a dual language learning environment that builds academic success, bilingual proficiency, and cultural understanding.

Does your child

- Look for visual cues without getting frustrated by not knowing every word
- Have strong observation skills
- Take social risks and make mistakes without getting frustrated

Two-Way Dual Language Academy at Highlands Elementary School Application Considerations

The academy is open to all interested students entering Pre-K and Kindergarten in the 2026-27 school year.

- Out-of-district students must meet all CHISD open-enrollment policy requirements. Student applications will be reviewed at the close of the application window.
- Our goal is to ensure that all students who meet the application considerations are offered a seat in the program. However, if the number of qualified applications exceeds the available seats, a lottery process will be used to determine placement. *The lottery is random and generated by the application platform to ensure a fair and unbiased selection process, with preference given to CHISD employees' students and siblings of currently enrolled students.*

MIDDLE CHOICE SCHOOL PROGRAMS

SCHOOL	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
 <p>COLLEGIATE ACADEMY Grade Levels: 6th - 8th grades</p> <p>Principal: John Edmun</p> <p>1515 W. Beltline Rd. Cedar Hill, TX 75104 469-272-2021</p> <p>Helpful Links Campus Website Transportation Student meals FAQs</p>	<p>Cedar Hill Collegiate Academy Middle School and Cedar Hill Collegiate High School are part of a cohesive collegiate pathway designed to prepare students for college success from middle to high school. Through rigorous academics, strong college partnerships, and intentional student supports, students graduate with college credit, industry credentials, and a clear postsecondary plan.</p> <p>Students in the Collegiate pathway achieve exceptional results, including 100% acceptance to four year universities, earning over \$3.2 million in scholarships and grants, with approximately 25% earning at least one full-ride scholarship. More than 50% of students earn Dean’s List honors at Dallas College, and students consistently outperform the state average on PSAT and SAT exams.</p> <p>Cedar Hill Collegiate Academy Middle School and Cedar Hill Collegiate High School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide a pathway for students to graduate with an associate degree and a high school diploma ● Continue to expand academic opportunities for an increased number of Advanced Placement (AP) offerings and introduce four new Level 1 certifications embedded within the associate degree pathway, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Patient Care Technician ● Business Operations Generalist ● Basic Criminal Justice Studies ● C++ Developer Certificate <p>How to know the Cedar Hill Collegiate Academy Middle School and Cedar Hill Collegiate High School: When applying for the Cedar Hill Collegiate Middle and Cedar Hill Collegiate High School, families should consider whether their student is ready to engage in a rigorous, college-focused learning environment for students that are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Motivated to begin their college journey early and engage in rigorous academic coursework ● Ready to challenge themselves through Advanced Placement (AP) and dual credit learning experiences ● Shows perseverance and resilience when navigating college-level expectations

- Interested in earning college credit, an associate degree, AP credit, and/or industry certifications while in high school

Cedar Hill Collegiate Academy Middle School and Cedar Hill Collegiate High School Application Considerations

- Our goal is to ensure that all students who meet the application considerations are offered a seat in the program. However, if the number of qualified applications exceeds the available seats, a lottery process will be used to determine placement. *The lottery is random and generated by the application platform to ensure a fair and unbiased selection process, with preference given to CHISD employees' students and siblings of currently enrolled students.*

HIGH CHOICE SCHOOL PROGRAMS

SCHOOL	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
 <p>CEDAR HILL COLLEGIATE HIGH SCHOOL</p> <p>Grade Levels: 9th - 12th grades</p> <p>Principal: John Edmun</p> <p>1515 W. Beltline Rd. Cedar Hill, TX 75104 469-272-2021</p> <p>Helpful Links Campus Website Transportation Student meals FAQs</p>	<p>Cedar Hill Collegiate Academy Middle School and Cedar Hill Collegiate High School are part of a cohesive collegiate pathway designed to prepare students for college success from middle to high school. Through rigorous academics, strong college partnerships, and intentional student supports, students graduate with college credit, industry credentials, and a clear postsecondary plan.</p> <p>Students in the Collegiate pathway achieve exceptional results, including 100% acceptance to four-year universities, earning over \$3.2 million in scholarships and grants, with approximately 25% earning at least one full-ride scholarship. More than 50% of students earn Dean’s List honors at Dallas College, and students consistently outperform the state average on PSAT and SAT exams.</p> <p>Cedar Hill Collegiate Academy Middle School and Cedar Hill Collegiate High School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a pathway for students to graduate with an associate degree and a high school diploma • Continue to expand academic opportunities for an increased number of Advanced Placement (AP) offerings and introduce four new Level 1 certifications embedded within the associate degree pathway, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient Care Technician • Business Operations Generalist • Basic Criminal Justice Studies • C++ Developer Certificate <p>How to know the Cedar Hill Collegiate Academy Middle School and Cedar Hill Collegiate High School: When applying for the Cedar Hill Collegiate Middle and Cedar Hill Collegiate High School, families should consider whether their student is ready to engage in a rigorous, college-focused learning environment for students who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motivated to begin their college journey early and engage in rigorous academic coursework • Ready to challenge themselves through Advanced Placement (AP) and dual credit learning experiences • Shows perseverance and resilience when navigating college-level expectations • Interested in earning college credit, an associate degree, AP credit, and/or industry certifications while in high school <p>Cedar Hill Collegiate Academy Middle School and Cedar Hill Collegiate High School Application Considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our goal is to ensure that all students who meet the application considerations are offered a seat in the program. However, if the

number of qualified applications exceeds the available seats, a lottery process will be used to determine placement. *The lottery is random and generated by the application platform to ensure a fair and unbiased selection process, with preference given to CHISD employees' students and siblings of currently enrolled students.*



CEDAR HILL HIGH SCHOOL

Grade Levels: 9th - 12th grades

Principal: Mrs. Courtney Washington
1 Longhorn Blvd.
Cedar Hill, TX 75104
469-272-2000

The Early College Academy (ECA) at Cedar Hill High School provides students with a rigorous academic pathway to graduate college and career-ready, earning college credit or an associate's degree while completing high school. The Class of 2025 achieved an approximate 97% graduation rate, earned more than \$10.1 million in scholarships, and celebrated 43 ECA graduates receiving Associate's Degrees.

Students also thrive in nationally recognized Fine Arts programs. The Red Army Thespians earned \$5.3 million in scholarships, and the Red Army Marching Band earned 1st Place at the Show Band Battle of the Bands and a Superior Rating at the UIL Region 5 Marching Competition.

The Early College Academy (ECA)

- Opportunity to earn college credit—and potentially an Associate Degree—while completing high school
- Rigorous academic coursework aligned to college and career readiness standards
- Strong student support systems, including advising, tutoring, and progress monitoring
- Access to dual credit courses taught in partnership with a college or university
- Emphasis on time management, study skills, and independent learning
- Reduced college tuition costs and faster time to degree completion
- Preparation for a smooth transition to four-year colleges, universities, or the workforce

How to know the Early College Academy (ECA) at Cedar Hill High School is right for your child:

Because this program is funded by the State of Texas, the following requirements must be met to be admitted to ECA.

- First-generation college students
- Underserved minority groups
- At-risk, and/or are economically disadvantaged

Early College Academy (ECA) at Cedar Hill High School Application Considerations

- Early College Academy (ECA) at CHHS is open to all students who meet the qualifications above. Out-of-district students must meet all CHISD open-enrollment policy requirements.
- Our goal is to ensure that all students who meet the application considerations are offered a seat in the program. However, if the

	<p>number of qualified applications exceeds the available seats, a lottery process will be used to determine placement. <i>The lottery is random and generated by the application platform to ensure a fair and unbiased selection process, with preference given to CHISD employees' students and siblings of currently enrolled students.</i></p>
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