CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Policy Briefing
Adopt a New Admissions Policy for Magnet, Selective Enrollment and other Options for Knowledge Schools and Programs
Every child - in every neighborhood - has access to world class learning and will graduate college- and career-ready.

New Admissions Policy for Magnet, Selective Enrollment and other Options for Knowledge Schools and Programs

Created to ensure equity and access in the provision of magnet and selective enrollment schools and programs offered by CPS.

Goals
1) To maintain the diversity achieved by the District under the consent decree
2) To promote socio-economic (“SES”) diversity within schools
3) To provide a unique or specialized curriculum or approach
4) To improve achievement for all students participating
Diversity promotes equitable and fair outcomes across all communities in Chicago

1. Students who live in poverty and attend economically isolated schools often experience lower educational outcomes.

2. However, students who live in poverty and attend schools with socially and economically diverse student populations, experience higher educational outcomes than their peers who attend isolated schools.

3. Diverse learning communities benefit all students by better preparing them to live in a diverse society and to compete in the global economy.
While the termination of the Consent Decree was the catalyst for significant revision of the admissions policy, our intent is to ensure equity of access in the school choice process.

**Desegregation Consent Decree**
(1980-2009)

2010-2011 Policy  
BRC Review and Community Feedback

2011-2012 Policy  
BRC Review and Community Feedback

Policy for 2012-2013 and beyond
The Blue Ribbon Commission’s mission was to evaluate the results of the policy and hear the concerns expressed by parents, educators and community members during the community meetings.

Blue Ribbon Commission Members:
• Anna Alvarado, Principal of Hawthorne Elementary
• Cynthia Flowers, Black Star Community PTA and CPS Parent
• Alderman Michelle Harris, 8th ward
• Alan Mather, Principal of Lindblom Math & Science Academy
• Lisa Scruggs, Esq., Jenner & Block
• Alderman Latasha Thomas, 17th Ward, and Education Committee Chairman

- June 2011
  - Evaluated performance
  - Identified preliminary policy issues

- July 2011
  - Held 3 community meetings
  - Evaluated email and letters from public

- July-August 2011
  - Identified major themes
  - Achieved consensus
  - Issued recommendations

- Listened

Assessed

Deliberated
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>BRC Recommendation</th>
<th>CPS Policy Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation of tier system for Selective Enrollment High Schools</td>
<td>Maintain 30% rank order, 70% tier</td>
<td>Accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Discretion for magnet schools</td>
<td>Do not reinstate Principal Discretion</td>
<td>Accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Child Left Behind program in Selective Enrollment High Schools</td>
<td>Maintain transfer program from lowest performing elementary schools</td>
<td>Accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnet School reenrollment</td>
<td>Maintain current rules</td>
<td>Accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Magnet proximity percentage</td>
<td>Maintain current percentage at 40% after siblings</td>
<td>Accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redefine proximity area for schools on the city edges</td>
<td>Redefine for schools with &gt;25% proximity outside the city limits</td>
<td>Evaluate further (adds additional complexity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-Year Policy</td>
<td>Move to Multi-Year policy</td>
<td>Accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility requirements for students with disabilities in magnet high schools</td>
<td>Maintain current rules</td>
<td>Accept</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Selective Enrollment Tier Process in Action

STEP 1
30% Citywide Rank Order

STEP 2
70% Rank Order In Tier

STEP 3
Compare Admissions Outcome/Offer Highest Choice
Magnet Policy in Action

56 open seats

STEP 1
Admit Siblings

Sibling Admissions: 16 Seats

Remaining Admissions: 40 Seats

STEP 2
40% of remaining seats for Proximity Lottery

Proximity: 16 Seats

STEP 3
Remaining seats for Socio-Economic Tier Lottery

SE Tier Based: 24 Seats

Tier 1: 6 Seats
Tier 2: 6 Seats
Tier 3: 6 Seats
Tier 4: 6 Seats
Additional Blue Ribbon Commission Recommendations

1. Need for more magnet schools, particularly in areas of the city that currently have very few options.
2. Improve neighborhood schools within every community.
3. Increase the number of high quality seats throughout all neighborhoods in Chicago.

Comprehensive Portfolio Strategy will provide:
- Ongoing expansion of high quality options
- Transparent accountability system
- Targeted approach to innovative educational models
- Streamlined, simplified admissions process
Appendix
Changes in the Policy since 2009

**The Desegregation Consent Decree**
- Ranked highest to lowest
  - 35% Non-Minority
  - 65% Minority

**Policy 2010 – 2011**
- 40% Ranked
  - Ranked highest to lowest
- 60% Ranked within Tiers
  - Tier 1
  - Tier 2
  - Tier 3
  - Tier 4

**Policy 2011 – 2012 and beyond**
- 30% Ranked
  - Ranked highest to lowest
- 70% Ranked within Tiers
  - Tier 1
  - Tier 2
  - Tier 3
  - Tier 4

**Selective Enrollment**
- Siblings (up to 45%)
  - 35% Non-Minority
  - 65% Minority
- Proximity (balance school to 30%)
  - 35% Non-Minority
  - 65% Minority
- General (remaining seats)
  - 35% Non-Minority
  - 65% Minority

**Magnet**
- All Siblings (at entry grade)
  - (provided there are seats available)
- Proximity (40% of seats remaining)
  - Computerized Lottery
- Tier (remaining seats)
  - Tier 1
  - Tier 2
  - Tier 3
  - Tier 4

- All Siblings (at every grade)
  - (provided there are seats available)
- Proximity (40% of seats remaining)
  - Computerized Lottery
- Tier (remaining seats)
  - Tier 1
  - Tier 2
  - Tier 3
  - Tier 4
Selective Enrollment High Schools (9)

2010/2011 Entry Level Enrollment vs. 2009/2010 Actual Enrollment (all grades)

- **African American**
  - 09/10 Enrollment: 34%
  - 10/11 Enrollment: 32%

- **Asian**
  - 09/10 Enrollment: 13%
  - 10/11 Enrollment: 10%

- **Hispanic**
  - 09/10 Enrollment: 28%
  - 10/11 Enrollment: 33%

- **White**
  - 09/10 Enrollment: 25%
  - 10/11 Enrollment: 23%

- **Other**
  - 09/10 Enrollment: 0%
  - 10/11 Enrollment: 2%
Selective Enrollment Elementary Schools (26)

10/11 Entry Level Enrollment vs. 09/10 Actual Enrollment (all grades)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>09/10 Enrollment</th>
<th>10/11 Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Magnet High Schools (3)

10/11 Entry Level Enrollment vs. 09/10 Actual Enrollment (all grades)

- African American: 53% (09/10), 42% (10/11)
- Asian: 7% (09/10), 7% (10/11)
- Hispanic: 21% (09/10), 32% (10/11)
- White: 19% (09/10), 17% (10/11)
- Other: 0% (09/10), 2% (10/11)
Magnet Elementary Schools (39)

10/11 Entry Level Enrollment vs. 09/10 Actual Enrollment (all grades)

- African American: 46 (09/10), 39 (10/11)
- Asian: 7 (09/10), 6 (10/11)
- Hispanic: 30 (09/10), 32 (10/11)
- White: 16 (09/10), 20 (10/11)
- Other: 0 (09/10), 2 (10/11)
Selective Enrollment Policy in Action

- John lives in a Tier 2 tract and has a 864 score
- He picks Walter Payton as his top choice
- Competing against all applicants, John’s 864 score is not enough on a composite score basis to qualify
- But, competing against students in Tier 2, he receives an offer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citywide Rank</th>
<th>Not Selected</th>
<th>Accepted!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John needed an 897 to qualify for a rank order seat</td>
<td></td>
<td>John’s 864 score in Tier 2 qualifies him for a seat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
No changes are recommended for the Magnet process.
How are Socio-Economic Factors (SES) considered in the selection process?

Parents/guardians are responsible for providing a true and correct address on all applications.

CPS utilizes data in the following six areas to calculate socio-economic scores and designates a tier for each Census tract:

1) Median family income
2) Adult education attainment
3) The percentage of single-parent households
4) The percentage of home ownership
5) The percentage of the population that speaks a language other than English
6) A school performance variable

These six SES factors will be combined to create a composite Census tract score for each Census tract in Chicago.
Admission Policy 2010 – 2011: Map of Tiers across Census Tracts

TIER 4
Students: 136,275
Average Median Income: $76,829

TIER 3
Students: 136,378
Average Median Income: $54,232

TIER 2
Students: 136,073
Average Median Income: $41,038

TIER 1
Students: 135,716
Average Median Income: $30,791

6 FACTOR TIER
- Tier 1
- Tier 2
- Tier 3
- Tier 4
- Tier 5
- Tier 6