

## Enrollment Process for Parents/Guardians

### Applications for the 2020-21 School Year

#### 1. What are the steps to enrolling in a public school in Oakland?

#1 Explore public school options <i>oaklandschoolfinder.org</i>	#2 Apply to your preferred schools	#3 Accept your school offer and waitlist placements	#4 Register fill out necessary forms for your school
Starting <b>now</b>	Between November 4, 2019 and February 7, 2020	Receive your offer on March 12, 2020. Accept or decline by March 26.	Additional information will be shared in April 2020 about the registration process.

#### 2. How can I learn more about public schools in Oakland?

Visit the [Oakland School Finder](http://oaklandschoolfinder.org) (oaklandschoolfinder.org) online to view an online catalog of all public schools in Oakland. You can explore schools based on program offering or by location. Contact schools of interest to find out the best times to visit and learn more.

#### 3. How do I apply online?

Please go to [ousdapply.schoolmint.net](http://ousdapply.schoolmint.net) for the online application, hosted by SchoolMint.

- **Families new to OUSD:** Create an account using your email or cell phone number as your username.
- **Families who created a SchoolMint account last year:** Log in with your username and password. You can reset your password if you have forgotten it.
- **Current OUSD Families who have never used SchoolMint before:** OUSD has already created an account for you. Your username is either your phone number or email on file with your current school. You should have received an email and/or text with this information. If you need help finding your username you can ask your school, or text/call the Student Welcome Center at 510-879-4600, or email [enroll@ousd.org](mailto:enroll@ousd.org).

#### 4. Do I need to apply?

The following groups of students need to apply:

- New students to OUSD at any grade need to apply.
- All current students in 5th and 8th grade need to apply, even if they already attend a school that offers the next grade and they want to continue at that same school.
- Students attending Pre-K classes in OUSD's Early Childhood Education Programs who want to attend an OUSD school for TK or Kindergarten need to apply.

## 5. How many schools can I apply to?

Your neighborhood school will automatically be selected for you. You can rank up to 6 schools in addition to your neighborhood school.

## 6. How do you determine who gets an offer to a particular school?

Below is the list of Enrollment Priority categories in the order in which they are applied.

Applicants within each priority are selected based on a random lottery within that category:

- a. **Current Students.**
- b. **Siblings:** Siblings of students who already attend and will continue to attend the school.
- c. **Opportunity Ticket:** Students from schools that are closing or physically moving in order to be merged, for up to 51% of the remaining seats. The Opportunity Ticket does not apply for grade K, grade 6, or grade 9. Typically, few students will be eligible to receive an Opportunity Ticket priority each year.
- d. **Neighbors:** Students who reside within a school's attendance boundary. Attendance boundaries can be found at [oaklandschoolfinder.org](http://oaklandschoolfinder.org). A few OUSD schools are considered "citywide" and do not have an attendance boundary.
- e. **OUSD Staff Children:** Children of OUSD staff who work at the school.
- f. **Residents of Oakland:** All other Oakland residents.

## 7. How do offers and waitlists work?

- All families who apply by February 7, 2020 will receive an offer to a school on March 12, 2020. You will also be placed on the waitlist for any schools you preferred more than your offered school (e.g., if you receive an offer to your third choice school, you will be on the waitlist for your first and second choices).
- In order to stay on waitlists, you must accept or decline your offer by March 26, 2020. If we do not hear from you, you will lose **all** of your waitlists **and** you will lose your offer.
- In your online SchoolMint account, you can see where you are on each school's waitlist (e.g., #5 on the waitlist for School A, #37 on the waitlist for School B). Your place on each school's waitlist will continue to change from March through August.
- We will maintain waitlists until the 10th day of school in 2020. After this time, all waitlists are dissolved to minimize the disruption of students moving between schools.

## 8. Can I appeal my offer?

No. We do not accept any appeal requests unless there is evidence that the Student Welcome Center made a mistake in the processing of an application.

## 9. How do I get additional help?

You can visit [ousd.org/enroll](http://ousd.org/enroll) to read additional Frequently Asked Questions and get information about Special Education enrollment. You can also email, call/text, or visit the Student Welcome Center: [enroll@ousd.org](mailto:enroll@ousd.org), 510-879-4600, 746 Grand Avenue in Oakland.