

Types of Schools

- **Public.** Your local school (see <http://rsi.lausd.net/ResidentSchoolIdentifier/>) or open enrollment into a school with openings, notification in May
- **Charter.** Funding through LAUSD but parents and staff have more autonomy; applications usually due in winter with a March lottery and notification period
- **Magnet.** Through eChoices application only, Oct. 1-Nov. 14 application period; may require priority points to get accepted; transportation is provided depending on distance from the school (varies if elementary or middle school); some schools are all magnet and some home schools host magnets
- **Continuous Enrollment Magnet.** Accepts applications through the school year but gives priority to students residing within its attendance boundary; Carthay ES, King MS Film/Media
- **Private.** ISEE test required for middle schools, usually due in January or February, non-refundable application and enrollment fee required

How to Earn and Keep Magnet Points

- Look at eChoices catalog for schools with more applications than openings if you want waiting list points
- Apply to only one magnet if you want waiting list points (you can apply to up to three)
- You must meet criteria for gifted/highly gifted magnets - don't lose points by not meeting that status when you apply
- Apply every year starting in 2nd grade whether you think you'll use points or not -- it's free and it's good to have if you need them
- Save a hard copy of all documentation from Student Integration Services and keep your address current with your school

You will be award points based on these conditions: Points

Points	Rationale
12	MATRICULATION Applicants who have completed the highest grade level in a Magnet program and apply to continue in another Magnet program at the next level, receive 12 matriculation points. THESE POINTS DO NOT CARRY OVER AND ARE ASSIGNED FOR ONE YEAR ONLY, AT THE TIME OF MATRICULATION. (Eagle Rock HS, LAUSD/USC, Los Angeles CES, Sherman Oaks CES, Sun Valley Bio Med, and Valley Alternative) do not receive matriculation points. Arroyo Seco and Westside Magnets are K-8 and receive matriculation points only at the eighth grade.
4-12	WAITING LIST* Applicants who remained on a valid on-time Magnet waiting list and are not already enrolled in a Magnet program will receive 4 points for the 2014-2015 school year. Applicants may also receive 4 points for each of the two consecutive previous years (2013-2014 and 2012-2013), up to a maximum of 12 points. If an applicant on a waiting list declines Magnet placement, all waiting list points are removed. Applicants currently enrolled in a Magnet program are not eligible to accumulate waiting list points when applying for another Magnet program. New waiting lists are established each year.
4	PREDOMINANTLY HISPANIC, BLACK, ASIAN AND OTHER NON-ANGLO (PHBAO) SCHOOLS Applicants, whose 2015-2016 resident LAUSD school is designated as PHBAO by the District, receive 4 points. Points are not cumulative; they are assigned yearly.

4	OVERCROWDED Applicants, whose 2015-2016 resident LAUSD school is designated as overcrowded by District criteria, and is currently sending Capacity Adjustment Program (CAP) receive 4 points. Points are not cumulative; they are assigned yearly.
3	SIBLING If an applicant is applying to the same Magnet school/center in which a brother or sister will be continuing, he/she receives 3 points. Siblings must reside at the same address at the time of application, which must be reflected in the District’s computer system. Each and every student must have an application on file, including twins. It is the parent’s responsibility to verify that the siblings have the same address on file in the District’s computer system at the current LAUSD school of attendance by the application deadline.

*As the school works through the waiting list, you may be selected to attend up until one month after school starts

Example -- Who Gets Picked?

A magnet school has 120 openings but there are 200 applicants with the following points:

- 30 applicants – 23 points
- 35 applicants – 20 points
- 40 applicants – 15 points
- 60 applicants – 12 points
- 35 applicants – < 12 points

The first three groups with 23, 20 and 15 points total 105 applicants, so they fill the first 105 slots. That leaves 60 applicants with 12 points competing for the remaining 15 slots.

The admission process now goes to a lottery system. But because each school has a certain target racial composition, there are essentially two lotteries – one for the racial category the school needs to meet its objectives (e.g., must be 70% minority/underserved) and one for everyone else. Thus, the number of students admitted by lottery from each lottery group depends on the number of such students needed to achieve the school’s desired racial composition.

In this example, 15 of the 60 applicants with 12 points will be randomly admitted to the magnet school. The 35 applicants with fewer than 12 points will not get in.

What to Consider in Applying Each Year

Kinder and 1st: You increase your odds of getting accepted (and losing points) if you apply during these years - only apply if you think you may leave WHE in the early years.

2nd grade: First year to start applying for points useful in middle school applications. You are awarded points in the spring of the next year so to maximize waiting list points, you'll have points earned in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th when you apply to a middle school in October of 5th grade.

3rd grade: You lose ALL points if you don't apply one year. Be sure to apply in 3rd so you don't lose points earned last year.

4th grade: Schools have more slots in fourth grade because class sizes can be bigger than the primary grades - returning third graders will only fill 24 of the slots and they need students from outside to fill openings. Call the school or check with others about the likelihood of being accepted.

4th grade: If you're low on points and really want a magnet middle school, apply to a magnet that you can get into for 5th. You get 12 points for matriculating from a magnet. You may not want to pull your student from his or her last year at WHE only for magnet points unless you know your targeted school requires a high number of points. Many people think ALL good middle schools require magnet points and that's not the case.

5th grade: You have a better chance of getting into a magnet if there aren't students returning from a prior grade. You have the best chance of getting accepted to 6-8 and 6-12 schools when you apply for 6th grade and may have very little chance of ever being accepted at highly desirable schools like LACES in other grades. Popular schools have a threshold number just to be included in the lottery so check with the magnet coordinator or other parents who did or did not get in to see what that number is likely to be.

Every year: Points expire after three years, so if you applied in kinder, 1st, and 2nd and are now applying to 3rd, your kinder points will expire this year (but you will earn points for 3rd so you just keep rolling them over). Make sure to apply to maintain the maximum wait list points.

How to Choose? Gathering Information and Touring

- Look for magnets that offer specialized programs your child may be interested in (film, science, technology, etc.)
- Consider size and grades served; some are 6-8 (smaller) and some are 6-12
- Call the school for a tour; bring fifth grade students with you (not marked as an absence if an LAUSD school)
- Attend magnet fairs hosted by LAUSD