

NYC PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ADMISSIONS TIMELINE

By April / May of 7th grade:

- Decide whether your child will be taking the Specialized High School Test (SHSAT).
- If taking the SHSAT, develop a study plan with your child.
- Decide whether your child will be applying to LaGuardia.
- If applying to LaGuardia, develop an audition preparation plan with your child.

By June of 7th grade:

- Create a list of what is important to your child and family when looking at high schools.
- Research NYC high school options and compile a tentative list of potential schools.
- Attend spring Open Houses, where available.

By September of 8th grade:

- Narrow down your list of potential schools to approximately 10-20 schools.
- Begin signing up for open houses and tours.
- Develop a system to keep track of key dates, additional requirements / timelines for specific schools, notes on school visits, etc.
- Ask your school guidance counselor about how / when to sign up for the SHSAT and / or LaGuardia audition(s).

By mid-October of 8th grade:

- Ensure your child is fully prepared for the SHSAT, if they are taking it.
- Visit all the specialized schools on your list of potential schools, and rank them in true order of preference, if taking the SHSAT.
- Check in with your child to make sure his or her audition(s) for LaGuardia are ready to go, if applying there.

By end of November of 8th grade:

- Visit as many schools as possible on your child's list.
- Attend high school fairs to gather information on schools you do not have time to visit.
- Finalize the high school application, being sure to rank schools in true order of preference.

By beginning of December of 8th grade:

- Submit high school application. Screenshot the online application and keep a copy of any auto-generated receipt.

High school offer letters are traditionally distributed in early March.