



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Fred Lewis, Fred.Lewis@dc.gov; (202) 412-2167

My School DC Releases Results of Common Lottery System

Today, nearly 25,000 families from PreK-12th grade received their results of the My School DC Lottery, the District's common lottery system for DC Public Schools and nearly all public charter schools, for the 2018-19 school year.

The District is home to more than 200 public and public charter schools, serving more than 92,000 students. Unlike most school districts around the country, DC families can choose to directly enroll their students at their neighborhood school for grades kindergarten through 12, or they can elect to apply to any charter or traditional school outside their boundary.

"We are excited to have supported the successful execution of the My School DC lottery in its fifth year, after welcoming the team to the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) this summer," said State Superintendent Hanseul Kang. "Between now and the lottery for the 2019-20 school year, we will focus on the improvement of our schools and the expansion of high-quality options for all of our students."

The My School DC lottery application is a single online form families must use if they choose to apply to a charter or an out-of-boundary school. Throughout the school year, families receive support understanding the lottery and the options available through EdFest, the My School DC hotline, and community office hours. My School DC received 24,996 applications for the 2018-19 school year from families, an increase of nearly 3,000 applications over last year.

Families are waitlisted at schools they ranked higher than where they are matched. Of the 24,996 students who applied by the deadlines, 16,089 (or 64 percent) were matched (offered a seat) at a school they applied to through the lottery. Of those matched, 59 percent were offered a seat at their top choice, and 84 percent were offered a seat at one of their top three school choices.

Students will be offered spots from waitlists over the spring and summer. Last year, 84 percent of applicants were either matched or offered a waitlist spot by the time of the official enrollment count in October.

Background on My School DC

While education reform in the District began in earnest in 2007, it wasn't until 2013 that the District launched the My School DC Lottery. Previously, families seeking to choose a school had to navigate disparate applications, timelines, and processes of many schools because of the highly decentralized system and different application requirements. As the number of schools in the city rose, the process to learn, apply, and enroll in school became more complicated and began to favor those with resources.

In an effort to simplify that process, school officials, policy leaders, and parent representatives helped design My School DC to bring improved transparency and accountability to the system. The common lottery has been a stable and continuously improving program. Today, families use the lottery to apply to charter schools and all DCPS PK3 and PK4 programs, out-of-boundary, citywide, and selective high schools. Families can apply and rank up to 12 schools for each child.

Families can log onto www.myschooldc.org to view their results or call the My School DC hotline at (202) 888-6336. Families who were matched through the lottery must submit their enrollment forms, including proving DC residency, in person by May 1 to the school where they were matched. Anyone who was not matched with a school or missed the deadline may submit a post-lottery application at www.myschooldc.org.

For more information on the process, understanding your results, and how to submit a post-lottery application, please visit www.myschooldc.org or call (202) 888-6336.