



Columbus Africentric Early College (CAEC)

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Mission: Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community.

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Dear Parent or Guardian,

The Columbus City Schools is pleased to offer families different schooling options to help meet a range of student needs. Through the School Choice Lottery program, families can enroll in schools with unique educational approaches. Columbus City Schools will once again offer Selective Admissions to specific schools, including Columbus Africentric Early College (CAEC), for the 2020-2021 school year.

CAEC is a home for aspiring leaders, including those who desire early college experiences, and students interested in learning about African and African-American contributions to benefit the global community. The district is pleased to extend this invitation. To be eligible for CAEC Selective Admissions, students must meet the following criteria:

- 1) be a current 5th grade – 8th grade student on track for the 2019-2020 school year; **AND**
- 2) be a resident of the Columbus City School District; **AND**
- 3) have had a grade point average of 2.5 or higher for all the 6th, 7th and 8th grade; **AND**
- 4) have one of the following:
 - a. scored on grade level for both Reading and Math MAP test **OR**
 - b. scored on grade level for both Reading and Math on an equivalent assessment

Parents/Guardians of interested fifth-eighth grade students must complete the Selective Admissions Application for CAEC using the Infinite Campus Parent Portal no later than **January 31, 2020**. If you need your login information for the Parent Portal, please contact your child's school office. If you need access to a computer to submit the application, please visit a district building or your local library. Eligible students are not obligated to apply. Likewise, students who are interested in their neighborhood middle/high school or other lottery school, and the programs offered to them there, should feel free to continue their chosen path. This Selective Admissions process is just one more option for students and families.

Application does not guarantee an interview or admission. *Note: behavior and attendance are factors considered (in addition to GPA and MAP scores) when extending offers for an interview. Parents or students are invited to provide an explanation with their application if they feel that a student's prior attendance and/or behavior reflects an extreme circumstance (explanations should be emailed with the subject 'selective admissions' to twalker5538@columbus.k12.oh.us).* First generation college status (self-reported) is also considered in evaluating applicants for admission.

A separate lottery for Selective Admissions will be held prior to the regular middle/high school lottery. Up to 20% of the seats in the 6th-9th grade class on the campus are reserved for Selective Admissions. Offers will be made and Selective Admissions seats filled in late February.

Students not selected through the Selective Admissions process will have the opportunity to participate in the regular lottery for any middle/high school, including CAEC, if a School Choice Lottery Application has been submitted in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal by the *February 28, 2020* deadline.

Questions may be directed to the School Choice Division at 614-365-7459. Additional information can be found online at <http://www.ccssoh.us/SchoolChoiceLotteryInformation1.aspx>.

FAQs CONCERNING CAEC SELECTIVE ADMISSIONS

1. Why should a student wish to apply for CAEC under Selective Admissions?

Students who have a high interest learning about African/African American contributions to the global community AND attending college early (to obtain their high school diploma and associate degree), and have shown the academic acumen and scholarly initiative to meet the Selective Admissions criteria, are likely to find the available opportunities fulfill their middle/high school aspirations.

2. May students apply for both CAEC and CAHS / Eastmoor or Ft. Hayes?

Eligible students may apply for CAEC and/or CAHS or Eastmoor and/or Ft. Hayes through the Selective Admissions process.

3. What are the timelines for Selective Admissions for 2020?

Jan. 16: Counselors give letters to eligible students to take home; the Division of School Choice emails letters to eligible students with emails on file.

Jan. 31: Deadline to submit application online via the Infinite Campus Parent Portal.

Feb. 28: Deadline to submit regular Middle/High School lottery application.

End of February: School Choice staff will begin to notify parent/guardians of selected students of offers to attend all Selective Admissions schools.

4. Can applications be submitted after the deadline if seats are still available?

No. Applications received after January 31, 2020 will not be considered for Selective Admissions.

5. Can paper applications be submitted?

No. All applications for Selective Admissions, School Choice Lottery, and/or Return to Home School must be submitted using the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. If a family does not have access to a computer, they may use a computer at any of the district buildings or their local library.

6. What if I cannot access my Parent Portal account?

You can email a picture ID to parentportalaccess@columbus.k12.oh.us requesting your access code (if you have never set up an account) or your user name/password.

7. How will students and parents/guardians know if they are selected?

The Division of School Choice will notify families of a pending offer through an auto-dialer and via email (if an email address is on file in the Parent Portal). Parent(s)/guardian(s) must accept the offer through the School Choice link in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal within 2 days.

8. What if we submit a regular lottery application for other schools by February 28?

It is recommended that a regular lottery application is also submitted when submitting a Selective Admissions application. If the student is selected through the Selective lottery program for CAEC, other lottery applications will be canceled. If not selected or if an offer for Selective Admissions is declined, all applications on file will be included in the electronic lotteries if the lottery application was submitted by the established lottery deadline.

9. Will there be any seats left for the regular lottery?

Absolutely. Up to 20% of seats in the 6th-9th grade have been set aside for Selective lottery applicants. All other seats for CAEC will be made available to students through the regular lottery process. The regular lottery process will be used to fill seats at CAEC after the Selective lottery students and current CAEC 5th-8th graders are placed.

10. May upperclassmen apply through Selective Admissions?

No. Selective lottery is only open to students who are entering the 6th-9th grade for the first time.

11. May students who live outside of the Columbus City School District apply for Selective Admissions?

No. Students must currently reside within the geographic boundaries of Columbus City Schools.

12. Do CAEC 8th graders need to use Selective Admissions if planning to attend CAEC high school?

No. Placement at CAEC high school is automatically available to CAEC 8th grade students.

13. May we submit a "Return to Home School" form if we change our mind?

Yes. The "Return to Home School" form must be submitted in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal by March 24, 2020.

Additional information can be found online at <http://www.ccsch.us/SchoolChoiceLotteryInformation1.aspx>.