



TDSB Specialized Programs - Offers and Acceptances Winter 2027 - Questions and Answers

Specialized Programs - Offers and Acceptances

What will I be sent on February 10, 2027?

Every applicant will receive an email on February 10 (after the end of the school day) that will include a unique results link, which will remain active throughout the offer process. The link will show a seat offer or a position on a waitlist. Applicants can check their status at any time, to see if their position changes after offers are made on February 17, 2027.

Emails will come from "noreplyenrollment@powerschool.com"

What will I be sent on February 17, 2027?

Applicants who are seated from a waitlist will receive an email on February 17 with their unique link and a deadline to accept or decline an offered seat. Applicants who accepted a seat in their alternate choice program on February 10 who are now seated in their primary choice program will automatically be removed from their alternate choice and must accept their primary choice seat by the deadline.

Applicants who remain on waitlists will not receive a results email on February 17, but can still check their status using the unique link sent on February 10.

Do the acceptance emails go to the student, the parent/caregiver, or both?

Communication about offers of acceptance will go to the parent/caregiver email address used in the application. **Please be sure that the email address is entered correctly.**

If you do not receive an email by the end of the day (after 6 p.m.) on the initial offer date outlined on the website, please contact your current TDSB school to inquire.

What if I accept an offer on February 10 but change my mind?

If you accept a Specialized Program offer and change your mind, please notify your current school or CentralPrograms@tdsb.on.ca in writing before February 24, 2027, so that another student has the opportunity to be seated. If you are a non-TDSB student, please email CentralPrograms@tdsb.on.ca to inform us of your decision.

If a student is admitted into an elementary Specialized Program for Grade 6, will they need to reapply every year, or can they stay in the program until the end of Grade 8?

Once admitted into any Specialized Program, you are eligible to stay in the program until graduation/completion of the school grade range. You do not need to reapply each year. If the student does not wish to remain, or does not wish to participate in the program, they will return to their designated school by address.

If I don't want to continue in the Specialized Program I was accepted into, can I still stay in the school in the regular program or will I have to go back to my homeschool?

If a student opts to not continue with the courses in a Specialized Program, they must return to their designated school by address, unless they are entering their graduating year.

How do I find out how my child did on the in-person assessment / audition/ art submission?



TDSB Specialized Programs - Offers and Acceptances Winter 2027 - Questions and Answers

Applicant scores will not be communicated. Applicant feedback to overall rating will be shared by:

- a) being granted an offer of placement or,
- b) their placement on the waitlist in comparison to those to be seated ahead of them.

What is the appeal process for Specialized Programs?

There is no appeal process. All placements and scores have been reviewed for accuracy and are final.

Primary and Alternate Choices

What happens if I accept the offer for my alternate application program? Will I remain on the waitlist for my primary choice program?

Yes, you will remain on the waitlist for your primary choice program. If a space becomes available for you in your primary choice, you will be automatically offered a seat in that program and removed from the alternate program. You will be notified of the change by email and must accept the new offer of placement. You cannot keep the seat in the alternate choice program.

What happens if I accept the offer for my alternate application program and wish to not be considered for my primary choice program?

If you wish to remain in your alternate program, you must contact your current school by email and request to be removed from your primary choice waitlist. This ensures that if a seat becomes available in your primary choice you will not be seated and automatically removed from your alternate program. Being removed from the primary choice waitlist is final and you cannot be returned to the waitlist.

If you are a non-TDSB student, please email CentralPrograms@tdsb.on.ca to be removed from the waitlist. Please include the applicant's first and last name in the email.

If you get accepted in your primary choice but you want to go to the alternate choice, can you do that?

No. If you are seated in your primary choice, you will not be considered for your Alternate choice.

I am on the waitlist for one (or both) of my programs. What happens now?

If spaces become available in programs, applicants will be moved from the waitlist to the vacant seats. If you are offered a seat, you will receive an email notification that includes an acceptance deadline. You must accept the offer prior to the acceptance deadline. You can use your results link to see your position on the waitlist change over time. The last date for offers is February 24, 2027.

Is there a scenario where an applicant can be seated in both their primary and alternate choice program?

No. If an applicant is seated in their primary choice, their alternate choice application is discarded. If an applicant is seated in their alternate choice, they will remain on the waitlist for their primary choice. If they are seated in their primary choice, the alternate choice will be revoked and the seat will be offered to another applicant.

If an applicant seated in their alternate choice no longer wishes to be considered for their primary choice, they must request to be removed from the primary choice waitlist.



TDSB Specialized Programs - Offers and Acceptances Winter 2027 - Questions and Answers

Will accepting a spot offered from my alternate choice impact my chance of getting a spot in my primary-choice school?

Accepting a seat in an alternate choice will have no impact on your position/movement on the waitlist for your primary choice program.

International Baccalaureate Programs and Program Fees

If my child is seated in an IB program, how will I make my non-refundable \$550 payment to secure their spot?

After seated applicants accept their offer, they will be emailed a link to make a secure payment through TDSB School Cash Online, including a deadline. The link will work for both TDSB students and non-TDSB applicants. All communication will come from the same "noreply.powerschool" email address.

Subsidies will be available for students whose gross household income is under \$50,000, supporting student access to programs. Parents/Caregivers requesting a subsidy will be required to show their 2025 Notice of Assessments for the household. The documentation must be brought in-person to either your child's current TDSB school or to your new IB school before the end of February. The request for subsidy must be made with new documentation each year.

Are there fees for any other Specialized Program besides International Baccalaureate?

Not in the same way that the IB fee structure is set. Programs may have excursions, and opportunities that go beyond the regular curriculum where there are costs for students. Financial support is available at the school level.

Out-of-Area Admissions and Secondary Schools without a Boundary

Do I need to complete an Out-of-Area Admission application if I am accepted in a Specialized Program at a school that is not my local school?

No. If accepted through the Specialized Program process, no further application is required. You are approved to attend the requested school the following year. Non-TDSB applicants will need to complete a registration form in late February.

Since a student can apply to two Specialized Programs AND one out-of-area school AND one Secondary School without a Boundary, how are these options prioritized?

The results of Secondary Out-of-Area Admissions will be shared on the same dates as Specialized Programs. Applicants will receive separate results emails: one for their Specialized Program application and one for their Out-of-Area Admissions application. ***If you have applied to both, please wait to receive both communications before accepting any offer.*** You can only accept ONE offer (either a Specialized Program offer OR an offer through Out-of-Area Admissions).

Students can remain on more than one waitlist, but they can only **hold** one seat in a Specialized Program or school through Out-of-Area.



TDSB Specialized Programs - Offers and Acceptances Winter 2027 - Questions and Answers

If you accept a seat, and in the following week receive an offer to another program/school that you wish to accept, you can accept the new offer, but you must email CentralPrograms@tdsb.on.ca to decline the earlier offer.

Designated School by Address

If our child plans to go to the local high school in our area, what actions do we have to take to ensure they are enrolled?

If your child is currently a TDSB student, they will submit their course selections through MyBlueprint in February (at their current Grade 8 school). This process is the same for students who did or did not apply to another school/program. It is also the same for students in Grade 8 with more than one school linked to their address. They would submit for their chosen school.

If your child is not currently attending a TDSB school, you must submit an [online registration form](#) for the school in 2027. The school will arrange an in-person registration appointment to verify your documentation.

What happens if we move this summer? Can my child attend their new designated school by address in September? What if that school is Closed to Out-of-Area?

Yes (with the exception of Riverdale CI). Once you have moved, please contact your new local school to arrange to have your child transferred to the school. You will have to provide the established documentation to verify your new address of residence.

What if you have two addresses as the student lives equally in two homes?

Students that have two equal addresses of residence may select their designated school of address from the choices provided by those two addresses.

If my child attends a school in another school board, can they return to their designated school by address in the future?

All students residing in the city of Toronto will be accommodated at their designated school by address. In the few cases where there are restrictions (i.e. Riverdale CI) students will be accommodated at another school in the TDSB.

Can a student attend their local high school and take the courses which best meet their needs and interests?

Absolutely! We strongly encourage students to attend their local high school. Every secondary school provides programming that prepares students for admission to strong and competitive post-secondary institutions, including colleges, and universities.

Can a student return to their local school in later years if they are in an out of area school / Specialized Program for a year or more?

In most cases, this is possible. There are a few schools with limitations for registering after Grade 9. Contact your local school for further information.



TDSB Specialized Programs - Offers and Acceptances Winter 2027 - Questions and Answers

Local Programs

Do students in Grade 8 need to apply for Local programs?

If you live in-area for a school, you are automatically eligible to participate in any Local Program. You can opt for the program/courses through the course selection process. If you do not live in-area, you must apply to attend the school through Out-of-Area Admissions. You do NOT apply to the program directly, only to the school.

What are some examples of Local Programs?

Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSM) are great examples of Local Programs. Students entering Grade 11 may opt to participate in a SHSM. Some schools offer Advanced Placement (AP) courses (these are not considered a “program”) and any student may select to take AP courses that are offered. It should be noted that AP course offerings may change from year to year.

There are also Local Math, Science and Technology programs and Local Leadership programs. Some schools offer Business Certificates. Others have extensive Arts offerings. These are offered locally to any student attending the school. Participation in Local Programs is managed by each school.

If I attend a school with a Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSM), how do I apply?

Students already attending a school can join a SHSM. Check with your Guidance department for information sessions. Some schools have students sign up through the course selection process. SHSM are available for any student attending the school.

Waitlists (TDSB Website)

How long can you be on the waitlist?

Waitlists for Specialized Programs and Out-of-Area Admissions will be maintained until February 24, 2027 (the final day for offers of placement). After this date, central waitlists will expire and no further offers will be made.

As seated students decline offers, do those on the waitlist get notifications of where they've moved up to? Do they get notification if they are seated?

After February 10, 2027, Specialized Program applicants on waitlists will only receive future notifications if they are seated in a program. The results links sent on February 10 will continue to show your live standing (position on waitlist) and applicants can see any change in their position on the waitlist.

How do you remove yourself from your primary choice waitlist if you decide you actually prefer your alternate choice?

Contact your current TDSB school, in writing/email to make this request. Non-TDSB applicants can contact CentralPrograms@tdsb.on.ca.



TDSB Specialized Programs - Offers and Acceptances Winter 2027 - Questions and Answers

What happens after February 24, 2027, if my child is still on a waitlist for a Specialized Program?

All waitlists will expire as of February 24, 2027, and no further central offers will be made. If your child lives in the area for the school that hosts the requested Specialized Program, they will be included in the ranked order local list outlined below.

What happens after February 24, 2027, if my child is still on a waitlist for an Out-of-Area School / Secondary School without a Boundary?

After February 24, 2027, no students will be admitted into schools other than their designated school by address (except for late IPRC placements).

Moving Unseated Applicants into Vacant Seats in Specialized Programs ([TDSB Website](#))

What happens to seats in Specialized Programs that are not filled before February 24, 2027?

In programs where seats remain available after all applicants have been seated, on February 17, 2027, applicants on waitlists for similar programs will be contacted by email and given the opportunity to request one of the vacant seats via Google Form. Interested applicants will be selected and seated based on their applicant score.

If seated, the applicants will be offered the placement on February 24, 2027. The offer will need to be accepted before it expires on February 26, 2027. Selected applicants will forfeit their spot on the waitlist for their original primary and alternate choice (if applicable).

Applicants not selected for the vacant seats will retain their original waitlist spot(s).

What happens when a seat becomes available in a Specialized Program after February 24, 2027?

Applicants will no longer be seated centrally after February 24, 2027.

To address these unfilled seats, schools with local catchment areas will receive ranked order local lists. These lists will include, in ranked order:

1. Applicants who live in-area of the school offering the Specialized Program.
2. Applicants who are pre-registered to attend the school in 2027-28. This may include current TDSB and students new to the TDSB registered to attend the school in September.
Note: Applicants attending the school through Out-of-Area Admissions will not be included.
Students attending the school through Secondary Schools without a Boundary will be included.

Should space become available in the Specialized Program, applicants will be considered for seats in ranked order. These moves will be made in late June or early September. This process is being established to help ensure that as many students as possible are given the opportunity to participate in focused programming across the TDSB.



TDSB Specialized Programs - Offers and Acceptances Winter 2027 - Questions and Answers

Schools without local catchment areas will only make offers until February. This includes Claude Watson School for the Arts, Etobicoke School of the Arts, Karen Kain School of the Arts, Rosedale Heights School of the Arts, and Ursula Franklin Academy.

Next Steps: Course Selections and Registration for Non-TDSB Students

My child is not a TDSB student and has accepted an offer for a Specialized Program/Out-of-Area Admissions school. How do I get them registered?

A unique link to a registration package for the Specialized Program will be sent via email starting in late February. Please complete and submit the registration package and contact the school to arrange an appointment to provide the necessary documentation. Registrations should be completed before noon on March 12, 2027.

How does my child (entering Secondary School) submit their course selections for Grade 9?

TDSB students may complete course selections for multiple schools during the month of February, but they are only permitted to submit one final set of courses once they have finalized their decision for September 2027. This might be for a:

- Designated school by address (English)
- French Pathway School (French Immersion)
- Specialized Program acceptance
- Out-of-Area / Secondary School without a Boundary acceptance (including Virtual Secondary School)
- Special Education Intensive Support Program accepted through the IPRC process

Non-TDSB students select their courses at their registration appointment.