

Nikolaos C. Koutsogiannis
Superintendent of Schools



Frances C. Adler
Business Administrator

Clayton High School (9th to 12th)

Interdistrict Public School Choice Packet and Timeline for 2027-2028

1. Complete and return the Student Notification to Resident District of Intent to Participate in the Interdistrict Public School Choice Program Enrollment in 2027-2028 School Year form to **your resident district's** Board of Education Office by **11/24/2026**.
2. Complete and return the Interdistrict Public School Choice Application for Enrollment in a Choice District 2027-2028 School Year to the **Clayton Public School District Board of Education Office** located at 350 East Clinton Street in Clayton by **11/24/2026**.
3. Depending on the number of applications received, a lottery may be held on 12/10/2026. All *Notices of Conditional Acceptance, Rejection or Wait Listing* will be forwarded to parent/guardian via email by **12/21/2026**.
4. Notices of Conditional Acceptance will include Student's Notice of Intent to Enroll in the Choice District form which must be completed and returned to the Clayton Public School District Board of Education Office by **1/8/2027**.
5. Review the School Choice Transportation Procedures specifically the section regarding Parent/Guardian Responsibilities.
6. Visit our website www.claytonps.org on or after 5/15/2027 to obtain registration information for the 2027-2028 school year.
7. Complete student's registration for Clayton High School no later than **7/15/2027**.

If you have additional questions or need more information, please contact:
Rosalyn Downes, School Choice Program Coordinator

rdownes@claytonps.org

CLAYTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
350 East Clinton Street, Clayton NJ 08312
(856) 881-8700
www.claytonps.org

**Student Notification to Resident District
of Intent to Participate in the Interdistrict Public School Choice Program
Enrollment in the 2027-2028 School Year
This Is Not an Application for the Choice Program**

To: _____
Superintendent/Chief School Administrator of **Student's Sending/Resident District**

From: _____
Parent/Guardian of Choice Applicant

DEADLINE: Submit this completed form to the student's resident district by 11/24/2026

As parent/legal guardian of the student named below, I am submitting this written notification of my student's intent to participate in the Interdistrict Public School Choice Program (enrollment in September 2027). If my child is accepted into a choice program, my child's resident district will be notified of such by the choice district by January 12, 2027, or when enrollment is confirmed. *This form requires no response from the resident district¹.*

Notes to Resident District

The purpose of this form is to give the resident district advance notice of the student's intent to apply to a choice district for enrollment in 2027-2028. Subsequently, if the student is accepted into a choice program, the resident district must be notified by the choice district by **January 12, 2027**. There may be cases where the choice district accepts late choice student applications. In these cases, the resident district will be notified as soon as the choice student confirms enrollment. Transportation of choice students will be the responsibility of the *resident district*, provided the student meets the eligibility requirements of state law and the choice district school is within 20 miles of the student's residence. For more information, read the Choice School Transportation Procedures.

Notes to Parents Regarding Transportation

Transportation of choice students is not guaranteed. Your student must meet the eligibility requirements: the school must be within 20 miles of your student's residence. If the cost of transportation exceeds the maximum amount established in the Annual Appropriations Act, the parent/guardian will be given aid in lieu of transportation and, in some cases, the option of paying the additional amount over the maximum to receive the transportation. By August 1, 2027, parents should receive notification of their transportation options from the resident district. For more information regarding transportation, please read [Choice School Transportation](#).

Date: _____ **Student's Current Grade:** _____

Student's Name: _____

Student's Home Address: _____

Student's Current School: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Address of Parent/Guardian: _____

Contact Number: _____

¹ Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:12-4.1, sending districts with a Commissioner-approved resolution limiting its students' participation in the choice program shall comply with additional procedures and timelines.

CLAYTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

350 East Clinton Street, Clayton, NJ 08312

Interdistrict Public School Choice Application for Enrollment in a Choice District 2027-2028 School Year

(Application to be completed by parent or legal guardian)

For Office Use Only

On time application _____ Late application _____
Tier 1 _____ Tier 2 _____
Grade Applied For in 2027-2028: _____
Enrollment Preferences granted:
____ Sibling(s) in Choice District (Sibling Grade in 2027-2028: ____)
____ Applicant from a choice district that terminates before grade 12
____ Resident student who moved
Lottery # (if applicable): _____

STUDENT INFORMATION

Name of student applicant: _____

Student address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone number: _____ Parent's work phone: _____

Parent's email: _____

CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR (2026-2027) INFORMATION

Student's grade level: _____ Student's district of residence: _____

School currently attending: _____

- Is this the student's resident public school (includes charter schools)? ____ Yes ____ No
 - If yes, answer the following questions:
 - Has the student been enrolled since the start of the 2026-2027 school year? ____ Yes ____ No
 - If the student moved during the school year and *attended the resident public school of his/her old district of residence*, provide:
 - » Name of previous district of residence: _____
 - » Name of previous school attended: _____
 - » Date moved from previous school: _____
 - » Date enrolled in current school: _____
- Is this a choice district that terminates before 12th grade? ____ Yes ____ No
 - If yes, answer the following questions:
 - Has the student been enrolled since the start of the 2026-2027 school year? ____ Yes ____ No

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Grade level to which the student is applying for admission for the 2027-2028 school year: _____

Has the student been referred or is in the process of being referred for special education services? ____ Yes ____ No

If yes, attach any documentation, i.e. IEP (Special Education Plan) or 504 Plan (Accommodation Plan)

NOTE: If, prior to the start of the enrollment year, the student receives an IEP that the choice district cannot implement, acceptance into the program could be revoked.

Does the student have a sibling enrolled in this choice district? ____ Yes ____ No Sibling's grade in 2026-2027: _____

Sibling's name: _____ Sibling's grade in 2027-2028¹: _____

Is the applicant a former resident student who moved *before* the application deadline? ____ Yes ____ No

Is the applicant a former resident student who moved *after* the application deadline? ____ Yes ____ No

¹ Choice sibling must continue to be enrolled in the choice district in the choice applicant's first year of enrollment in the choice

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Interdistrict Public School Choice Application for Enrollment in a Choice District
2027-2028 School Year (page 2)

STUDENT ENROLLMENT POLICIES

Tier 1 students include the following applicants:

Students who are enrolled in a NJ public school in their resident school district during the time of application and for the entire year immediately preceding enrollment in a choice district; Students who move during the school year and attended their resident district schools; Students who attend a choice district that terminates before 12th grade and have reached the final grade; and Charter school students.

Choice districts must first fill their available seats with Tier 1 students. If the number of Tier 1 applications exceeds the number of choice seats available, the choice district must hold a lottery to randomly select students.

Tier 2 students include NJ residents who have *not* attended their resident public school for the entire year immediately prior to enrollment in the desired choice district and do *not* otherwise meet the requirements for Tier 1. This includes students who have been attending public school outside their districts of residence or private school.

Choice districts are not obligated to accept Tier 2 students. If a choice district accepts Tier 2 applicants, they may do so only *after all the qualified Tier 1 applicants have been accepted*. If the number of Tier 2 applications exceeds the number of choice seats available, the choice district must hold a Tier 2 lottery to select students.

Enrollment preference may be given to students in the following circumstances: 1) applicants with siblings enrolled in the choice district in the current year and will continue to be enrolled in the following year; 2) applicants who will have completed the terminal grade of a sending choice district (i.e., students who attend a choice district with grades that terminate before 12th grade and with a natural progression to the choice district); and 3) resident students of the choice district who move during the school year but *before the application deadline* and want to remain in the choice district the following year. The applicant's enrollment preference status will be determined from the information provided in this application and verified by the resident district.

The CLAYTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT has adopted the following policies regarding student enrollment:

Clayton Public School District Choice Policies	Does Policy Apply?
a. The district accepts Tier 2 students.	YES
b. The district gives enrollment preference to choice applicants who have a sibling currently enrolled in the choice district and who will continue to be enrolled in the following year, provided the applicant will enroll in a choice-approved grade/program, they meet any program-specific criteria, and the district has seats available in the desired grades.	YES
c. The district gives enrollment preference to choice students who have completed the terminal grade of the sending district (i.e., students who attend a choice district with grades that terminate before 12th grade and with a natural progression to this choice district), provided they will enroll in a choice-approved grade/program, they meet any program-specific criteria and the district has seats available in the desired grades.	YES
d. The district gives enrollment preference to resident students who move <i>before the application deadline</i> . If resident students move and file choice applications for the following year prior to the deadline, the district will give them enrollment preference (i.e., accept them ahead of other applicants, but after the enrollment preference students described in b. and c. above), provided there are choice seats available in the choice-approved grades/programs and the students meet any program-specific criteria. <i>If the district has already reached its approved choice enrollment maximum, this preference will not apply.</i>	YES
e. The district gives special consideration to resident students who move <i>after</i> the application deadline. Students in this situation may apply as late applicants and be added to the <i>front of the district's waitlist</i> , provided the students will enroll in a choice-approved grade/program and they meet any program-specific criteria. No additional choice seats above the approved maximum will be approved by the NJDOE to accommodate these students.	YES

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Interdistrict Public School Choice Application for Enrollment in a Choice District
2027-2028 School Year (page 3)

If any information on this application is proven to be falsified, the student's admission to the Choice Program could be revoked.

By my signature I certify that I am applying for my student's admission to the choice district for academic reasons only and not for athletic or extracurricular reasons and that all the information I have provided is accurate. If my student has a current IEP or 504 Plan, I hereby give permission to the Child Study Team of this choice district to release and/or obtain information on behalf of my student.

I understand that transportation of choice students is not guaranteed. If my student is eligible for transportation (within 20 miles from home to school) and the cost will exceed the maximum amount designated in the annual NJ State budget, the parent/guardian will be given aid in lieu of transportation and, in some cases, the option of receiving the transportation and paying the additional amount over the maximum. I will be notified by August 1st of my transportation options.

Signature of parent or guardian: _____

Printed name of parent or guardian: _____

Date: _____

This application must be received in the Clayton Public School District's Board of Education Office located at 350 East Clinton Street, Clayton, NJ 08312 by November 24, 2026

**Applications received after the deadline will be considered for enrollment only after those who applied by the deadline.*