The current school year is now underway and you and your children are settling into their new routines. Depending upon your child’s age, current grade, or maybe even your satisfaction with their current school or placement, it is time to consider alternatives for September 2019.

**LEARN ABOUT AND MEET APPLICATION DEADLINES**

- Sign-up for NYC Department of Education [Enrollment Updates](#) and more.
- Sign-up for [InsideSchools’ free newsletter](#) to learn about the NYC educational system, receive notification of enrollment information, learn about individual schools, discover enrichment programs, and more.
- Living in or Moving to Brooklyn? [NYCSchoolHelp](#) offers a monthly newsletter filled with information about parent educational sessions, parent tours/open houses, and vacancies for preschool through middle school.

Watch for announcements on the following:

**Supports for Children with Special Needs**

October 10, 6:00 – 8:00 pm – Sarah Birnbaum, [New York Special Needs Support](#) speaks on the *Turning 5* meeting, selecting an elementary school, and more. Hosted by Bank Street College of Education, 610 West 112th Street, RSVP: Judi Gentry, jgentry@bankstreet.edu

October 18, 6:00 – 7:30 pm – A Panel Discussion on *Unlock the Mystery of Neuropsychological Testing*: Sponsored and hosted by Smart City Kids, 201 East 69th Street. [More details and to register](#).

**Elementary School**

- **Gifted & Talented Programs**: As of this writing the Request for Testing (RFT) for [NYC Public School G&T Programs](#) for children entering Kindergarten through Grade 2 is not yet posted but will be available in early October 2018. Applications are typically accepted for 4-6 weeks.
- **Hunter College Elementary School**: A NYC tuition free private school for “intelligently talented” children, Hunter College Elementary School accepts applications for Manhattan residents whose children are seeking admission to Kindergarten. Applications are now being accepted and are due on November 2, 2018 at 4:00 pm. [More info here](#).
- **Kindergarten Application**: Kindergarten applications are typically available in the late Fall/early Winter and due in early January. Children born in 2014 are eligible to apply for and enroll for a full day kindergarten program.
- **PreK For All**: The application for children born in 2015 will be available following the conclusion of the Kindergarten application period.

**Middle School**
• **Middle School:** Applications will be distributed to 5th graders enrolled in public elementary school and due on December 3, 2018. Families not enrolled in public school can receive an application on-line or from the District 2’s Family Welcome Center, located at 333 Seventh Avenue.

• **Hunter College High School (Grades 7-12):** Open to NYC residents seeking admission in the 7th grade. Eligibility to test for placement is determined by the 5th grade New York State ELA and Math scores. Applications to test for admissions are due November 9, 2018 at 4:00 pm; the admissions test is scheduled for January 11, 2019. Children enrolled in independent, parochial, or tested out-of-state will be considered based on a variety of assessment tests. More information is available here.

**High School**

• **High School:** Applications will be distributed to 8th graders enrolled in public elementary school and due on December 3, 2018. Families not enrolled in public school can receive an application on-line or from the District 2’s Family Welcome Center, located at 333 Seventh Avenue.

• **Specialized High Schools:** There are eight specialized high schools and one specialized audition school. Applications are available from your NYC public middle school counselor and from the Family Welcome Center, 333 Seventh Avenue. Applications to audition or take the Specialized High School Admission Test (SHSAT) must be submitted by October 11, 2018. Learn more here.

**GET TO KNOW YOUR OPTIONS**

**STEP1: Identify your school district and zoned public school.**

• Using the DOE mapping system you can easily identify your zoned school and other schools that are close to your address. Many of the schools listed will be in your School District however some schools may be located in an adjoining School District.

**STEP 2: Learn about the options and how to apply.**

• Attend a NYC Department of Education sponsored Admissions Event. One event is scheduled for each of the 32 NYC school districts. Families residing in NYU housing live in District 2.

    Elementary Admissions Events - Learn about public PreK, Kindergarten, and Gifted & Talented programs and how to apply to each. No date has yet been announced.

    Middle School District Fair – Learn about schools, meet with representatives of the middle schools in your School District, and attend a workshop on how to apply.

    • The District 1 Fair is scheduled on October 3, 5:30 – 7:30 pm at the School for Global Leaders, 145 Stanton Street.
    • The District 2 Fair is scheduled on October 11, 5:00 – 7:30 pm at Stuyvesant High School, 345 Chambers Street.
Manhattan High School Fair – Learn about and meet with representatives of the high schools in Manhattan. Attend admissions information sessions and workshops on auditioning for arts schools and programs, and career & technical educational options.

- The Manhattan Fair is scheduled for the weekend of October 13-14, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm at Martin Luther King Jr. Educational Campus, 122 Amsterdam Avenue. (Additional fairs are offered in Brooklyn, the Bronx, Queens, and Staten Island.)

- Access the DOE published online directory or handbook for Elementary School, Gifted & Talented, and Middle School.

- Get to know InsideSchools.org, the go-to resource that provides independent information about NYC public schools.
  - Sign up for their monthly email to stay up to date on timelines, events, and more.
  - Search the website for information about the 32 school districts, how to apply to schools from PreK through high school, how to choose a school, and more.
  - View slide shows and Read profiles of individual schools based on visits and interviews with school administrators, teachers and parents.
  - Review their list of over 250 free programs to enrich your child’s educational experience.
  - Peruse their downloadable publications for valuable information about NYC educational policy topics and challenges, as well as, practical guidance on how to effectively participate in the system (e.g. How to Rank Your Middle School Choices).

REGISTER FOR SCHOOL TOURS OR OPEN HOUSES

- Once you have identified schools that interest you be sure to visit their websites to learn about the dates of their school tours or open houses. A word of advice: Tours fill up fast therefore it is advisable to sign-up early.

- The DOE website includes a calendar of events. For instance, here you can learn that the high school, NYC Lab School, is offering a series of tours at 8:30 am for each day during the week of October 1 and additional days in October and November. Registration is required.

- Families interested to apply for the PreK For All programs are encouraged to tour along with the Kindergarten families this Fall. If the timing doesn’t work, don’t worry, schools and early childhood programs will also offer tours/open houses to coincide with the UPK application period and again following notification of placement.