



## Students

### Magnet Schools/Programs

#### Admission into Magnet Schools/Programs

Admission to magnet schools or magnet programs within schools must comply with general requirements of Stockton Unified School District and special requirements of the magnet school and program.

#### A. Purpose of the Magnet Program

A magnet school/program shall enhance educational opportunities for students. It shall provide a special curriculum designed to attract students from throughout the District while providing a complete, well-rounded educational program to meet student needs. (BP/AR 6185)

#### B. Types of Magnet Programs

##### 1. “Dedicated” Magnet School

The attendance zone of a total magnet school is the District as a whole.

##### 2. Whole School Magnet

A whole school magnet has a specialized school-wide program designed to attract pupils from throughout the District and to serve pupils from the school’s assigned attendance zones.

##### 3. Program-Within-A-School (PWS) Magnet

A program-within-a-school (PWS) magnet offers specialized classes within a school, department or departments. The classes are designated as magnet classes and serve only pupils that have applied to the program.

#### C. Application Process

##### 1. Eligibility

All pupils who wish to attend a magnet program must submit an application to the Magnet Office. These include:



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- a. Applicants to “dedicated” magnet schools, including pupils who may qualify for “sibling preference;”
- b. Out-of-attendance-zone pupils who wish to attend a “whole school” magnet program, including pupils who may qualify for “sibling preference;” (Pupils who reside in the attendance zone are admitted through regular District admission procedures described in AR 5111.1.)
- c. Applicants to “program-within-a-school” (PWS) magnet programs, including pupils who may qualify for “sibling preference.”

#### 2. Open Application Period

The Magnet Office will annually designate four weeks during the months of January and/or February as an open application period for the following school year.

- a. Official notice of the open application period and application deadline shall be posted at the central District Administration Office in the same manner as the posting of notices of Board of Education meetings and shall be published in The Stockton Record and other local newspapers. Additional outreach efforts may include, but are not limited to:
  - 1) The mailing of a brochure containing deadlines, application procedures, an application form, a program description of each magnet school/program and any special entrance requirements to the homes of pupils enrolled in Stockton Unified School District. The brochure will also be available in the central District Administration Office and all schools;
  - 2) Public service announcements on radio and television.
- b. To be eligible for the random selection process, applications must:
  - 1) Be delivered to the Magnet Office by 4:30 p.m. of the final working day of the open application period if delivered in person; or
  - 2) Arrive in the Magnet Office by 4:30 p.m. of the first working day following the close of the open application period if sent through intradistrict mail; or



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- 3) Be postmarked by midnight of the final day of the open application period if sent by U.S. mail.
    - c. Applications received after the above deadlines will be processed after those for pupils who applied during the open application period and meet the special admission criteria have been placed. These applications will be date and time stamped by the Magnet Office and processed in the order received.
    - d. Applications must be complete and the information correct. If information is missing or if there are discrepancies between the information provided by the parent/guardian and school records, the Magnet office shall notify parents within five (5) working days. It is the obligation of the parent to provide all requested information and documentation. **INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE PROCESSED UNTIL ALL INFORMATION IS PROVIDED.**
    - e. Lack of information on the magnet program, application procedures and deadlines shall not constitute reason for alteration of rank/order lists. Official notification of deadlines posted at the central District Administration Office and published in The Stockton Record and other local newspapers, public service announcements on local radio and/or television stations and the mailing of the magnet schools brochure to every family with a child enrolled in the District constitute a good faith effort to notify parents.
    - f. It is the obligation of the parent to inform the District of all changes in address and/or telephone number.
    - g. No applications for kindergarten will be accepted prior to the year a child is eligible for enrollment in kindergarten as described in AR 5111.
  - D. Selection Process and Criteria for Magnet School Admission
    1. The process for selection of pupils for admission and for the order of placement on waiting lists will be conducted in a public meeting. Official notification of the date of the selection process will be posted at the central District Administration Office and published in The Stockton Record and other local newspapers. A list of all pupils eligible to participate in the selection process will be available for public inspection during business hours at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the selection process.
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2. Eligible pupils shall be selected according to the following criteria in descending order:

- a. Number of available openings
- b. Grade level
- c. Sibling preference
- d. Rank in random selection process
- e. Attendance area

Note: For the initial kindergarten placement into the “dedicated” magnet schools, spaces available shall be equally divided among four (4) district attendance areas.

3. Pupils must meet all special admission criteria for specific magnet schools or programs. These criteria may include scores on achievement test, auditions, interviews, a school site visit and interviews and/or a school visit and orientation.

#### E. Sibling Preference

Preference shall be given to pupils who have a sibling in the school for which an application is submitted, provided that all other criteria are met. (Refer to D. 2 and 3.)

1. The term “sibling” applies to brothers, sisters, half-brothers and half-sisters residing in the same household at least fifty percent (50%) of the time and/or other children in that household for whom legal guardianship has been established.
2. Siblings must meet all other criteria to be considered for admission.
3. Siblings who meet all other criteria and submit a completed application during the open application period will have preference for admission over all other applicants. If there are more siblings who meet admission criteria than there are openings, a random selection process will be conducted.
4. Siblings who submit an application after the deadlines established in Section C-2 and meet all other criteria will have preference over all other pupils who have submitted an application after those deadlines. This does not include students who have already been selected for admission to the school by the time that the Magnet Office processes the sibling’s application.



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5. To qualify for preference, a sibling must be attending the magnet school during the same school year as the applicant will attend.

#### F. Maintaining Magnet Pupil Status

1. Pupils enrolled in a dedicated magnet school who move out of the District Attendance boundaries and wish to remain at that school must apply to the Office of Child Welfare and Attendance for an interdistrict transfer to remain at the school.
2. Attendance zone pupils of a Whole School Magnet school who move out of the attendance zone and wish to remain at that school must apply to the Magnet Schools Program.
3. To maintain magnet status, pupils in an elementary program-within-a-school program must be enrolled in the designated classes. If not, they must return to their attendance-area school or apply to the Office of Child Welfare and Attendance for an intradistrict transfer to remain at the school.
4. To maintain magnet status, pupils in a secondary program-within-a school program must be enrolled in the designated classes or in at least one course within the designated department(s). If not, they must return to their attendance-area school or apply to the Office of Child Welfare and Attendance for an intradistrict transfer to remain at the school.
5. In all cases (E 1-4), permission to remain at the school is based on previous satisfactory attendance, behavior, pupil effort and available space.

#### G. Waiting Lists

1. Magnet school waiting lists are maintained and utilized for pupil placement as vacancies occur during the current school year.
2. Magnet school applications and waiting lists are valid for one year only.

Replaces AR 5111.3 (1/90)