



Enrollment Tips and Timeline for enrolling in High School

for the 2009-10 School Year

Students are encouraged to get involved in their high school search by attending tours, open houses and shadowing (following a current high school student through their day).

Most of the time required to research schools occurs during the first semester of 8th grade, one of the most important grading periods if your child is applying to Lowell or private schools.

Public schools with different enrollment requirements:

Lowell: A separate Lowell application must be submitted by December 12, 2008 along with your SFUSD application.

The admissions criterion is based on three things:

1. Academic grades during the first semester of the 8th grade
2. All 7th grade academic grades
3. 7th grade standardized test scores.

Students coming from private school will have to take the CAT6 offered by Lowell in January.

If your child does not make the official grade/test score cutoff, other assets are reviewed by a committee at your child's middle school. This committee will look at achievements in sports or arts, or at unique hardships to make a case for a Lowell acceptance. Gather all of the supporting material for the committee before the December 12th deadline and be as detailed as possible in your application.

School of the Arts (SOTA): If you apply to SOTA your child will need to prepare a portfolio (Creative Arts or Writing) or an audition. Auditions happen in January but you must apply by December 18 to get an audition date. Portfolios for both Visual Arts and Creative Writing are due on December 12. Go to www.sfsota.org for more information on application requirements.

Charter Schools: You need to submit a separate application and sometimes an essay, so check with each school individually.



"The shadow visits were very influential for my daughter, but you must take your child out of school for a half-day or more to shadow."

ENROLLMENT TIMELINE	
October 2008	<p>Oct 2 - Attend PPS-SF High School Enrollment Event at Lincoln HS</p> <p>Start scheduling school visits and Shadow times See www.ppsf.org for school tour schedule. Note that schedules may have changed - contact schools directly to sign up for a tour</p>
October to December	<p>Attend Open Houses and go on shadow visits Call as early as possible to set up a shadow visit, or informally arrange for your child to shadow an acquaintance if permitted. Shadow visits are required for most private schools.</p>
November 2008	<p>Nov 8 - Attend SFUSD Enrollment Fair to talk to staff, principals and parents from all SFUSD schools</p>
December 2008	<p>Contact PPS-SF to speak to Parent Ambassadors and get the parent perspective about their schools.</p> <p>SOTA: If you apply to School of the Arts your child will need to prepare a portfolio or an audition. Applications should be submitted directly to SOTA. Auditions happen in January but you must apply by December 18 to get an audition date. Portfolios for Visual Art and Creative Writing are due Dec. 12.</p> <p>Lowell: A separate Lowell application must be submitted by December 12, 2008 along with your SFUSD application.</p>
January 2009	<p>Submit applications for all public high schools (unless you are applying to Lowell) anytime after the Enrollment Fair until the deadline date on January 9, 2009. Submitting applications early does not affect your chances.</p> <p>Applications can be turned in to the EPC office at 555 Franklin or at Enrollment Centers throughout the city. See www.ppsf.org for Enrollment Center locations and dates.</p> <p>SOTA: Auditions (apply in December for audition date). SFUSD application required by January 9, 2009 deadline.</p> <p>Lowell: Students coming from private school will have to take the CAT6 offered by Lowell in January.</p>
March 2009	<p>March 13 Round I assignment letters are mailed</p> <p>March 16-27 Register for assigned school – registering does not affect your chances if you want to participate in Round II</p> <p>March 27 Optional: Submit Round II applications: Amended List, Waitpool request and/or Hardship/medical appeals.</p>
April to May	<p>Attend school Spring events to get to know school communities and activities; go to www.ppsf.org for a calendar of events.</p>
May 2009	<p>May 1 Round II assignment letters are mailed</p> <p>May 4-15 Register for assigned school</p> <p>May 15 Optional: Submit Round III applications. You will remain in the waitpool until you are assigned or you remove your name. Waitpools are run continuously through September.</p>
June 2009	<p>Open enrollment begins. Schools with openings and no waitpools are open for immediate placement.</p>
June thru September	<p>Waitpools are run continuously through September.</p>