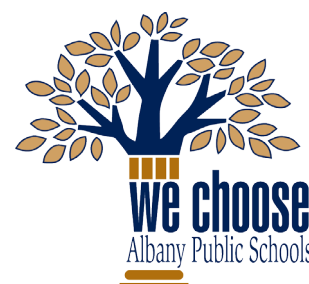




Explore these unique schools open to all Albany children

City
School
District of
Albany

2019-20
Magnet
Elementary
Lottery
Application



So what's a magnet school or program?

A magnet school or program focuses instruction on a particular theme and incorporates that theme across all subject areas.

The City School District of Albany offers three themed elementary schools – Albany School of Humanities (ASH), Montessori Magnet School and Thomas O'Brien Academy of Science and Technology (TOAST) – and one themed program, the Dual Language Program at Delaware Community School. (See pages 3 and 4 for more information about each.)

All are enrolled by lottery and open to children throughout the city.

Admission to Albany's magnet schools and program is done through two random lotteries – one for students who will enter prekindergarten in September, and one for students who will enter kindergarten through grade 5 or 6, depending on the school, in September.

Both lotteries require an application. Please use the application found at the end of this booklet **only if your child will be entering kindergarten through grade 5 or 6 next September** and you would like him or her to attend a magnet school or program.

If you want to enter your child into prekindergarten in a magnet school or program, you need to apply to the separate prekindergarten lottery with a different application that will be available Jan. 28. You can download that application at albanyschools.org, or pick up one at any district elementary school or our Central Registration office at 75 Watervliet Ave.



How the magnet lottery works

All students who want to enroll in a magnet school or program are entered into a random lottery designed to provide access for all children in Albany. The lottery is conducted by an independent national firm to assure fairness and impartiality.

The lottery for the 2019-20 school year will be held Wednesday, March 13 at 10 a.m. at Thomas O'Brien Academy of Science and Technology (TOAST). You are welcome to attend to find out if your child has been awarded a seat. After the lottery, the district also will send an official notification by mail and to the email address you provide on the application.

District officials will be at the lottery drawing to answer any questions.



Board of Education | Anne Savage, *President* • Vickie Smith, *Vice President* • Jennifer Lange, *Secretary*
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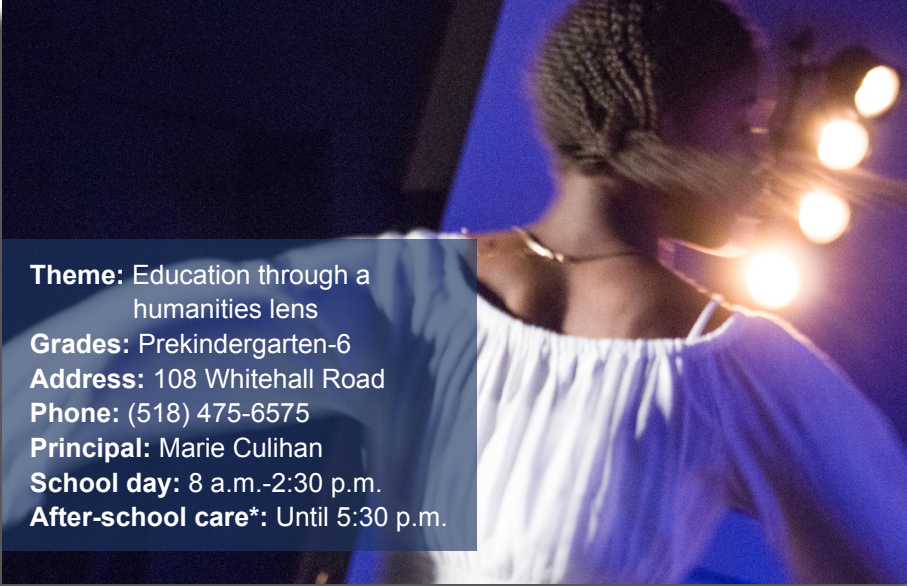
Our themed elementary choices

Albany School of Humanities (ASH)

ASH strives to educate all students to be life-long learners, capable decision-makers and contributors to their local and global communities.

ASH views education through a humanities lens, meaning students learn through lessons in art, music, theater and visual arts. This focus is incorporated daily into all subject areas.

In addition to art and music, ASH learners also participate in weekly theater arts and creative movement activities. Our environment fosters a sense of self, with students and staff participating in school-wide mindful moments, community-service projects and Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) events.



Theme: Education through a humanities lens
Grades: Prekindergarten-6
Address: 108 Whitehall Road
Phone: (518) 475-6575
Principal: Marie Culihan
School day: 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
After-school care*: Until 5:30 p.m.

Dual Language Program at Delaware Community School

Prepare your child for today's multilingual, globalized world by giving him or her the gift of fluency in two languages. The Dual Language Program at Delaware Community School offers an elementary education in English and Spanish from prekindergarten-grade 5. The program features one bilingual class for each grade, and each class is composed of children whose main language is either English or Spanish.

The magnet lottery for the Dual Language Program is open to:

- **Children whose main language is English:** those who will enter kindergarten or grade 1 in September 2019.
- **Children whose main language is Spanish:** those who will enter kindergarten-grade 5 in September 2019.


There is a separate lottery for prekindergarten with a different application that will be available Jan. 28.

How does the Dual Language Program work?

Half the students in each class speak English as their native language and half speak Spanish. Each class covers a regular elementary curriculum, but the students study in both languages with fully bilingual teachers.

The week is divided equally between lessons presented in Spanish and lessons presented in English.

The Dual Language Program hosts bilingual family events during the school year where children in the program have the opportunity to share what they are learning with their families. Dual Language students also are welcome to take part in the clubs and activities offered at Delaware Community School.



Theme: Learning in two languages: English and Spanish
Grades: Prekindergarten-5
Address: 43 Bertha St.
Phone: (518) 475-6750
Principal: Kenneth Lein, Ed.D.
School day: 9:05 a.m.-3:35 p.m.
After-school care*: Until 5:30 p.m.

*There is a cost for after-school care, and it is offered at the discretion of outside providers when there is sufficient enrollment. The Albany County Department of Social Services may be able to help you pay. Contact them at (518) 447-7435 or DSSchildcaresubsidyunit@albanycounty.com for more information.

Our themed elementary choices

Montessori Magnet School

The Montessori philosophy on education gives equal value to the teacher and student. Our work focuses on the use of the five senses, hands-on learning and developing within students the ability to self-regulate while taking ownership of their own learning. The triangle of true learning is evident between the child, the teacher and the environment.

The school's curriculum is carefully structured to demonstrate connections among the different core subjects of English, math, science and social studies.



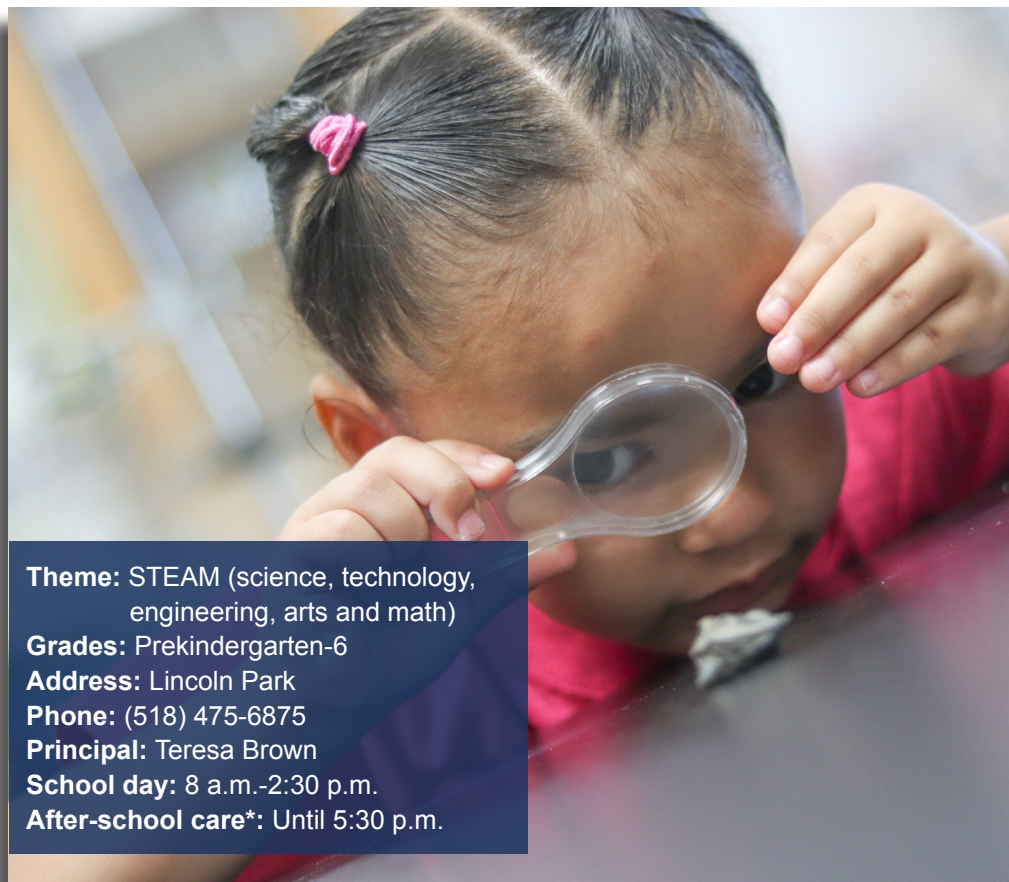
Theme: The Montessori philosophy
Grades: Prekindergarten-5
Address: 45 Tremont St.
Phone: (518) 475-6675
Principal: John Powell
School day: 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
After-school care*: Until 5:30 p.m.

Thomas O'Brien Academy of Science and Technology (TOAST)

At TOAST, learning involves curiosity, observation, problem-solving, inquiry, creativity and discovery, allowing students to build their own understanding of the world and how its parts fit together.

The school's STEAM theme – science, technology, engineering, arts and math – is reinforced with specialized instruction in the state-of-the-art computer lab, the dedicated science room and an outdoor pavilion and geologic rock park.

Hands-on learning and community collaborations actively involve children in acquiring the skills, knowledge and attitudes required to succeed in high school, college and beyond.



Theme: STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math)
Grades: Prekindergarten-6
Address: Lincoln Park
Phone: (518) 475-6875
Principal: Teresa Brown
School day: 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
After-school care*: Until 5:30 p.m.

*There is a cost for after-school care, and it is offered at the discretion of outside providers when there is sufficient enrollment. The Albany County Department of Social Services may be able to help you pay. Contact them at (518) 447-7435 or DSSchildcaresubsidyunit@albanycounty.com for more information.

Important information to consider as you rank your choices

How you decide your first, second, third and fourth choices may be affected by the location of the program or school, whether you have other school-age children, whether additional child care is offered and other personal preferences. However, certain other factors go into play in the lottery that will influence your child's eventual assignment.

The names of children with a sibling preference (*see below*) are drawn first in the lottery. The names of those with neighborhood preference (*see below*) are drawn second in the lottery. All other names are drawn for remaining seats.

Sibling preference

A child with a brother or sister already in a magnet school or program will have a better chance of getting into that school or program. This is called "sibling preference." Children with sibling preference are drawn first in the magnet lottery. Sibling preference works only if your first-choice program is located at the elementary school your other child currently attends AND will attend in 2019-20. Sibling preference will not apply if your child currently in the magnet school or program moves up to middle school in 2019-20.

Neighborhood preference

A child who lives within a half-mile of a magnet school or program will have a better chance of getting into that magnet school or program. This is called "neighborhood preference." Children with neighborhood preference are drawn second in the magnet lottery. Neighborhood preference works only if your first-choice magnet school or program is located a half-mile from your home.

Number of applicants versus number of seats

Some programs are in greater demand than others, meaning more families apply to those programs. Also, these limited seats often fill quickly with students who have sibling or

neighborhood preference. This can affect your child's chance of being assigned to your first-choice program. Please visit the Magnet page at albanyschools.org to find out the number of seats available for 2019-20.

Sibling linking

You can choose how you want the district to process the lottery applications for two or more siblings (twins, triplets, etc., or children of different ages).

You have two options:

1) Link your children's applications and have them move through the lottery process together; your children with linked applications will be assigned to a particular school or program only if they all receive spots. If a school or program does not have enough room for all your children, then none of them will be assigned there.

2) Do not link your children's applications together. Your children's applications will move through the lottery process separately, which could result in them being assigned to different schools or programs. If you opt to not link your children's applications, you can accept a spot in the school or program one of your children gets into, and your other child's or children's application(s) will have sibling preference in the waiting pool for the next available seat.

Applying for the lottery

Complete the application on pages 7 and 8. Please print legibly so that all information can be entered accurately. Review your application carefully to make sure the information is accurate.

Mail or hand-deliver your application to:

City School District of Albany
Magnet Schools Office
1 Academy Park
Albany, NY 12207

Application deadline:

Thursday, Jan. 31

Lottery date:

Wednesday, March 13
10 a.m., TOAST, Lincoln Park

Remember:

1. To be eligible for a spot in a magnet school or program through the magnet lottery, your child must be at least 5 years old by Dec. 1, 2019 (born Dec. 2, 2013 through Dec. 1, 2014)
2. To be considered siblings, children must share at least one parent
3. ONLY Albany residents can participate in our magnet programs
4. Special-education placements are determined by the Special Education Department. Availability of programs varies at each school.

Questions?

For more information, call:
(518) 475-6551

Frequently asked questions

Q: Will my child receive transportation to and from a magnet school or program?

A: Beginning in kindergarten, your child will be eligible for yellow bus transportation if your home is 1.5 miles or more from the school. This does NOT apply to children in prekindergarten.

Q: How are twins and other siblings handled in the lottery?

A: You can choose how you want the district to process the lottery applications for two or more siblings (twins, triplets, etc., or children of different ages). You have two options:

1) Link your children's applications and have them move through the lottery process together. Your children with linked applications will be assigned to a particular school or program only if they all receive spots. If a school or program does not have enough room for all your children, then none of them will be assigned there.

2) Do not link your children's applications together. Your children's applications will move through the lottery process separately, which could result in them being assigned to different schools or programs. (See page 3 for more information about "sibling linking.")

Q: If one of my children gets a seat but the other doesn't, do I now have sibling preference?

A: Once you accept and register for a seat for the first child, the child in the waiting pool will have sibling preference. (See page 5 to learn more about sibling preference.)

Q: What are my chances of getting my first choice?

A: Your chances of getting your first choice depend on a

number of factors:

- The number of seats available at the school or program versus how many families select that program as a first choice
- The number of first-choice applicants that have sibling preference at that school or program (See page 5 to learn more about sibling preference.)
- The number of first-choice applicants that have neighborhood preference at that school or program (See page 5 to learn more about neighborhood preference.)

Q: What are my chances of getting a neighborhood preference or sibling preference school or program if I do not put it as my first choice?

A: Sibling preference and neighborhood preference only apply to your first choice. They do not apply to your second or subsequent choices.

Q: Can I be in a waiting pool for more than one magnet school?

A: Yes. If your child did not get into any of the magnet schools you selected, your child will be placed in a waiting pool for all of your choices. If you get into a magnet school that is not your first choice, you can remain in the waiting pool for your first-choice school.

Q: Who can I contact for more information?

A: For information about the lottery, contact Kahla Kuchta at kkuchta@albany.k12.ny.us or (518) 475-6551. For information about registering your child, contact Central Registration at (518) 475-6125.

After the lottery

Once lottery seats are assigned, the district will mail you one of two letters: an acceptance letter or a waiting-pool letter. This notification will also be sent to the email address you provide on the application.

If you receive an acceptance letter

If your child is selected in the lottery, you will receive an acceptance letter. You must register your child by the deadline indicated in the letter. Visit albanyschools.org or call (518) 475-6125 to learn more about registration. If you do not register your child by the deadline, his or her spot will be given to another child. Our Central Registration Office is located at 75 Watervliet Ave.

If you receive a waiting-pool or waiting-list letter

If you applied for but were not assigned a spot at Albany School of Humanities (ASH), Montessori Magnet School or Thomas O'Brien Academy of Science and Technology (TOAST), you will receive a waiting-pool letter. That means your child's name will be placed in a waiting pool and be

eligible for monthly drawings through December based on available seats. This process allows families to enroll in another district school and still have a chance of getting a spot in a magnet school. The waiting pool is "weighted," meaning that students with a sibling and/or neighborhood preference will have priority over other students. All other students will be weighted equally regardless of when they apply throughout the year. Again, a monthly lottery will select students from the waiting pool every month through December.

If you applied for but were not assigned a spot in the Dual Language Program, you will receive a waiting-list letter. That means your child's name will be put on a waiting list that is created after the lottery. Families will receive a waiting-list number and be offered the opportunity to choose another school that has available seats. Also, applications received after the Jan. 31 deadline will be placed at the end of the waiting list in the order they are received. There will not be sibling or neighborhood preference consideration for Dual Language applications received after the Jan. 31 deadline.

City School District of Albany 2019-20 Magnet Lottery Application

Deadline Jan. 31 • Lottery held March 13



- OFFICE USE ONLY**
- Attendance zone
 - Sibling pref.
 - Neighborhood pref.
 - Processed

A separate application must be completed for each child. Please print clearly and **complete both sides**. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Child's last name Child's first name

Parent/guardian last name Parent/guardian first name

Street address Zip code

Phone Work phone Email

Child's date of birth Child's gender Does the child speak English? If no, please indicate primary language.

Does the child receive any special-education services? If yes, please list services received.
NOTE: Placement of students who receive special-education services, including placement in an integrated classroom, must be determined by the Committee on Special Education.

Name of school child attends now Current grade

Grade in September 2019: K 1 2 3 4 5 6

Will you enter more than one child in the magnet lottery for 2019-20? Yes No

If yes, do you want your children's applications "linked"? Yes No
(See page 3 to learn more about linking and whether this is an option for your children)

Does a sibling currently attend the City School District of Albany? Yes No
(If yes, please complete below)

Sibling name Sibling school Sibling grade

The following information is necessary to assist in state and federal monitoring efforts and will not affect a student's assignment.

Ethnic origin (check one): Hispanic/Latino NOT Hispanic/Latino

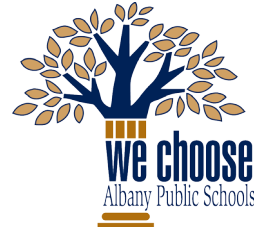
Race (check all that apply): Asian Black or African-American White
 American Indian or Alaskan Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

PLEASE TURN OVER TO FINISH APPLICATION

City School District of Albany 2019-20 Magnet Lottery Application

Deadline Jan. 31 • Lottery held March 13

A separate application must be completed for each child. Please print clearly and **complete both sides**. Incomplete applications will not be considered.



Magnet Selection

Please select your top four choices (1, 2, 3 and 4), with 1 being your first choice. If you are only choosing one school it is not necessary to select a second, third or fourth choice. If you select the Dual Language Program at Delaware Community School as one of your options, please be sure to indicate whether English or Spanish is your child's dominant language.

Choice	School/program
	Albany School of Humanities (ASH) Prekindergarten-grade 6 • 108 Whitehall Road • (518) 475-6625
	Dual Language Program at Delaware Community School Prekindergarten-grade 5 • 43 Bertha St. • (518) 475-6750 <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-right: 10px;"> To choose this program, you must also complete this section. </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Dominant ENGLISH speaker (incoming kindergarten to grade 1 only) <input type="checkbox"/> Dominant SPANISH speaker (all grades) </div> </div>
	Montessori Magnet School Prekindergarten-grade 5 • 45 Tremont St. • (518) 475-6675
	Thomas O'Brien Academy of Science and Technology (TOAST) Prekindergarten-grade 6 • Lincoln Park off Delaware Avenue • (518) 475-6875

A note about after-school care

All four options have after-school care available until 5:30 p.m. However, please be aware that there is a cost to after-school care, and that it is offered at the discretion of outside providers when there is sufficient enrollment. The Albany County Department of Social Services may be able to help you pay for after-school care. Contact them at (518) 447-7435 or DSSchildcaresubsidyunit@albanycounty.com.

I affirm that the information included in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that completing this application does not guarantee my child admission. Upon acceptance into a magnet program, I, as parent or guardian, agree to attend any meetings or orientations that may be required by the school.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

PLEASE REVIEW YOUR APPLICATION CAREFULLY TO MAKE SURE THE INFORMATION IS ACCURATE.

Your completed application can be mailed or hand-delivered to:

City School District of Albany Magnet Schools Office • 1 Academy Park, Albany, NY 12207 • (518) 475-6551

THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS IS 4 P.M. ON THURSDAY, JAN. 31. MAILED APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY THAT DATE. Applications received after the deadline will be eligible for future lottery drawings as seats become available. The lottery will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 13 at TOAST.

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE COMPLETED BOTH SIDES OF THIS APPLICATION