

Henrico County Public Schools

Frequently Asked Questions

Application/Selection Process

Maggie L. Walker Governor's School for Government & International Studies
2018-19 School Year

The admissions process is explained in the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School (MLWGS) **ADMISSIONS HANDBOOK 2018-2019**.

How many available student slots does Henrico County Public Schools (HCPS) have for the 2018-2019 School Year? HCPS has a total of 180 allocated student slots (grades 9 – 12) at MLWGS. The number of rising seniors, juniors, and sophomores subtracted from the total number of HCPS student slots determines the number of entering freshmen. Based on CURRENT (09/2017) enrollment, we anticipate 42 slots available for 2018-2019. This number WILL vary as student enrollment fluctuates and slots are redistributed based on the School Board's discretion.

Who determines the total number of MLWGS student slots allocated to Henrico County? The MLWGS Regional Board, comprised of a School Board member from each of the participating school divisions, establishes the number of positions allocated to each school division.

What criteria are used in determining student selection? The categories that determine a student's composite score are: two teacher recommendations, grades (core areas from 2nd semester of 7th grade year and the 1st semester of 8th grade), rigor (comparison of the courses listed on the transcripts with the most challenging courses offered in the local public middle school, i.e. courses receiving high school credit as determined by HCPS), ability tests, an out-of-level achievement test in social studies, and a writing prompt.

What are the maximum points a Henrico County student receives in each of the categories?

Category	Maximum Points
Recommendations	15
Transcript (grades & rigor)	35
Standardized Tests	35
Writing Prompt	15
Total Points	100

When is the due date for students offered admission or designated as an alternate? The enrollment form, indicating whether the student accepts or declines admission to MLWGS, is due by **March 23 , 2018**, to the HCPS Gifted Education Program Office. The wait list form for students designated as an alternate is also due by March 23.

What is the average number of Henrico County students who are usually on the alternate/wait list? For the past three years, the average number of students designated as alternates and placed on the wait list for HCPS is 20.

What does wait list status mean? If a student who is offered admission declines, then the next student on the wait list is notified by a telephone call from the Educational Specialist for Gifted Education offering admission. Students on the wait list are ranked according to the student's composite score. **Should a student accept a position at a specialty center they may only remain on one waitlist until March 30, 2018.**

Is the ranking on the wait list for Henrico County students released to parents and schools? The ranking of wait list status is released in writing to the individual student. The ranking of students offered admission remains confidential.

How long do students remain on the wait list for HCPS high school programs including MLWGS? Students may remain on the wait list of multiple high school programs only if they have not accepted a place to a specific high school program by March 23, 2018. If a student accepts a place to a high school program by March 23, they may remain on the wait list of only one other program until March 30, 2018. After March 30, students who have accepted a high school program, including MLWGS, will be removed from any wait list.

If a student on the wait list receives a letter offering admission to another high school program (i.e. Specialty Center), what should the student do? If the student is interested in participating in the program that offers admission, the student should accept the offer. The student may choose to remain on the MLWGS wait list until March 30, 2018. After March 30, the student will be removed from the wait list.

Are students on the wait list offered the opportunity to shadow a student at MLWGS? Yes, the shadow date for waitlisted students is March 21, 2018

If a student who is offered admission declines the offer, can the student enter MLWGS at a later time? No, the available position will be offered to a student on the wait list.

May students reapply for admission? No, applications are only accepted from a student during his/her eighth grade year according to the time line stated in the ADMISSIONS HANDBOOK.

Where may I obtain information on bus transportation to MLWGS? HCPS provides bus transportation to and from the MLWGS. Students offered admission to MLWGS will register and obtain information through HCPS Zipslip.

Where may I obtain further information on MLWGS? The MLWGS web site provides information on the diverse opportunities offered at the school. The website is: www.gsgis.k12.va.us.

If I have questions regarding the admissions/selection process for any of the Specialty Centers, whom should I contact? Each of the Specialty Centers has a chairperson who coordinates the program at each site. Parents and students can obtain information on the HCPS website.

Link: <http://henricoschools.us/specialty-centers/>

Data from Last Year's Student Application Pool

How many Henrico County students completed the 2017-2018 application process? 481 students completed the process.

How many available student slots did HCPS have for the 2017-2018 school year? HCPS had 45 student slots. HCPS had a total of 180 allocated student slots (grades 9-12) at MLWGS.

What were the average scores of Henrico County applicants selected and offered admission for 2017-2018?
The average total score for students offered admission was 94.60

Recommendations: 14.8	out of a possible score of 15.0
Grades (GPA): 3.99	out of a possible score of 4.0
Program Rigor: 4.86	out of a possible score of 5.0
Achievement Test: 91.0%	out of a possible score of 99%
Ability Test: 89.0%	out of a possible score of 99%
Writing Prompt: 3.58	out of a possible score of 4.0

