

# Los Angeles Unified School District Office of Special Education and Specialized Programs/Advanced Learning Options Gifted/Talented Programs (213) 241-6500 GATE@lausd.net gate.lausd.org



# Parent/Family Newsletter

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#### **Choices Process for 2026-2027 Enrollment**

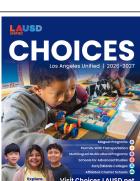
Applying for Gifted Magnets and Schools for Advanced Studies including SAS Single Gender Academies and Individualized Honors Programs

This year's on-time 2026-2027 Choices application window opened on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, and will close on Friday, November 14, 2025. Online applications are encouraged since parents/guardians will receive notification letters via email. To submit your application online, visit: apply.lausd.net. You may also submit a paper application by picking up a Choices brochure at your child's school or Region/District Offices. For descriptions of all Choices programs, visit choices.lausd.net. Here are some helpful tips when applying:

- Be sure to submit your application on or before the Friday, November 14, 2025, deadline (online or postmarked).
- Carefully review all eligibility requirements before applying.
- If you are applying to Gifted Magnets or Schools for Advanced Studies (SAS), including SAS Single Gender Academies and Individualized Honors Programs (IHP), and your child is enrolled in a Los Angeles Unified school, the District will automatically review eligibility through a District verification process in January 2026. Please contact your child's Los Angeles Unified school of attendance for more information about this process.
- If you are applying to Gifted Magnets or Schools for Advanced Studies (SAS), including SAS Single Gender Academies and Individualized Honors Programs (IHP), and your child is enrolled in a non-district school, request and confirm that the school of attendance has submitted the Verification of Eligibility form on or before the Friday, December 5, 2025 deadline (email or postmarked). Forms are available at <a href="mailto:choices.lausd.net">choices.lausd.net</a> (select "SAS" or "Magnet" and "Who is eligible?").
- If you are applying to Gifted Magnets or Schools for Advanced Studies (SAS), including SAS Single Gender Academies and Individualized Honors Programs (IHP), and your child is enrolled in an in-home private school (without a verifying organization) or not enrolled in school, you must contact <a href="mailto:GATE@lausd.net">GATE@lausd.net</a> on or before

the November 14, 2025 deadline to initiate the verification process. Detailed information is available at <a href="mailto:gate.lausd.org">gate.lausd.org</a> (select Program Options and SAS).

- If you are applying to an Individualized Honors Program (IHP), in addition to meeting one of the three SAS eligibility
  criteria, IHP applicants must also receive an eligible score on an IHP assessment to be included in the IHP selection
  process. Parents/guardians of on-time IHP applicants will be contacted directly regarding the in-person assessment
  which will be held in January.
- If you are applying to a Highly Gifted Magnet, parents/guardians may contact Gifted/Talented Programs at (213) 241-4177 or GATE@lausd.net to confirm eligibility.
- Late applications and Verification of Eligibility forms, if applicable, will not be accepted for or included in the on-time Choices process. For non-identified applicants, the eligibility recommendation submitted by the principal of the current school of attendance is final.
- Participate in the GATE Webinar for Families focusing on the Choices process for SAS and Gifted Magnets hosted by Gifted/Talented Programs on October 16, 2025.



# **Important Dates**

- → October 1: 2026-2027 Choices application window opens
- October 4:
   Conservatory of Fine
   Arts begins
- October 8: GATEParent Hour
- → October 11: 2nd Annual BSAP/GATE Family Summit
- October 15: Fall
   Visual and Performing
   Arts referral deadline
- October 16: GATE/ SAS Parent Webinar focusing on advanced learning options
- ◆ October 15: 2nd Annual GATE Student Conference
- November 11:Veterans' Day Holiday
- ◆ November 14: 2026-2027 Choices application deadline
- November 24-28: Thansksgiving Recess

• Attend a virtual or in-person Choices Fair being held in September and October. Information will be provided about all Choices program options. Visit <a href="mailto:choices.lausd.net">choices.lausd.net</a> and select Choices Fairs.

The charts below highlight the different eligibility criteria. For detailed criteria information as well as the process to obtain verification, please refer to the Choices brochure.

## Required criteria to apply for a Gifted Magnet and SAS including SAS Single Gender Academies



#### **BE IDENTIFIED**

Be identified as gifted by LAUSD in the Intellectual, High Achievement, Specific Academic, Creative, or Leadership Ability Category 2

#### **HAVE SCORES**

Scored in the Standard Exceeded range on the 2025 Smarter Balanced Assessment or received a national percentile score of 85 or above on a District-approved standardized test (most recent year only)

3

#### **BE VERIFIED**

Be verified as eligible by the current school of attendance as meeting the Critical Thinking/Problem Solving Skills Criteria.

**Note**: Applicants to SAS kindergarten must also meet kindergarten-specific criteria



#### RESIDE

Reside within LAUSD boundaries at the time of application and while participating in the program

**Note:** This does not apply to applicants of SAS Single Gender Academies

# Required criteria to apply for an Individualized Honors Program (IHP)



#### **BE IDENTIFIED**

Be identified as gifted by LAUSD in the Intellectual, High Achievement, Specific Academic, Creative, or Leadership Ability Category 2

# **HAVE SCORES**

Scored in the Standard Exceeded range on the 2025 Smarter Balanced Assessment or received a national percentile score of 85 or above on a Districtapproved standardized test (most recent year only) 3

### **BE VERIFIED**

Be verified as eligible by the current school of attendance as meeting the Critical Thinking/Problem Solving Skills Criteria.

Note: Applicants to kindergarten SAS must also meet kindergarten-specific criteria



## **RECEIVE**

Receive a qualifying

score on the
interdisciplinary IHP
assessment given in-person
in January

# Required criteria to apply for Highly Gifted Magnets

or



#### **BE IDENTIFIED**

Be identified as highly gifted (percentile score of 99.9) on an Intellectual Ability assessment administered by an LAUSD designated GATE psychologist

2

#### **BE IDENTIFIED**

Be identified as gifted with a percentile score of 99.5-99.8 (considered "highly gifted applicable") on an Intellectual Ability assessment administered by an LAUSD designated GATE psychologist 3

### RESIDE

Reside within LAUSD boundaries at the time of application and while participating in the program

## **Choices Webinar**

Attend the webinar held on October 16, 2025 for information focusing on Schools for Advanced Studies, Gifted Magnets, and Highly Gifted Magnets.

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