

# A Choice in Public Education

The ACES Choice Program is a free interdistrict program managed by Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES).

## PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS

(From New Haven to the Suburbs)

- Ansonia
  - Bethany
  - Branford
  - Cheshire
  - East Haven
  - Milford
  - Woodbridge
  - New Haven
  - North Branford
  - North Haven
  - Orange
  - Reg. Dist. #5
  - Wallingford
- **Participating districts currently have Open Choice students attending**
  - **All districts, other than New Haven can participate to attend New Haven Schools**
  - **Specific schools will be designated by the districts during the application process**



## About ACES

Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES) has been living its mission: to enhance and transform lives through education, innovation and leadership for fifty years. ACES is the regional educational service center for the twenty-five communities in New Haven and Middlesex Counties. ACES is both a non-profit service organization and a school district that serves over 2,000 students in three magnet and six special education schools.

ACES' dedication to better serve its community and its commitment to equity and social justice is demonstrated by the wide array of services and programs offered. These programs include adult and vocational programs, interdistrict programs, Open and Magnet School Parent Choice programs, Minority Teacher Recruitment initiatives, behavior services for individuals on the autism spectrum, occupational/ physical therapy, professional development, and technology services.

To learn more about ACES, visit [www.aces.org](http://www.aces.org).



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OpenChoice

A TUITION-FREE CHOICE  
IN PUBLIC EDUCATION



[www.aces.org](http://www.aces.org)

## About Open Choice

The Area Cooperative Educational Services Choice Program is part of the statewide Open Choice program that allows urban students to attend public schools in nearby suburban towns and suburban students to attend public schools in the urban center (New Haven).

The Open Choice program is intended to improve academic achievement; reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation; and provide a choice of educational programs for public school students.

Enrollments are offered by school districts on a space available basis by grade. A lottery is used to place students when applications exceed spaces.

To assist in the transition, ACES - Open Choice provides a Family/School Liaison to support participating students, parents, and schools. School visits, home visits, parent meetings, principal meetings, student forums, and student profiles are all available to help students achieve in the program.



## Educational Programs

The educational program is set by participating districts. Parents are encouraged to become acquainted with the participating districts' educational offerings in order to select the best program for their children. To help with the selection process, strategic school profiles are available on district websites as well as the Connecticut State Department of Education, <http://edsight.ct.gov/SASPortal/main.do>.

## Transportation

Transportation is coordinated by ACES and paid for by the State of Connecticut. Bus travel of one to two hours each way may be required. Pickups and drop-offs are at nearby corners to the home. Limited transportation is provided for high school students participating in supervised after school activities.

## Eligibility

To be eligible for the ACES Open Choice program, students must be residents of New Haven to apply to schools in the suburbs or residents of suburban districts to apply for a New Haven school. **Students enrolled in private or other non-public schools are eligible for this program.**

Please note that suburban residents cannot apply for other suburban districts. Eligible siblings are given priority when applying for the same district 1st choice as a sibling currently in the program. If you do not have a child currently in the program and you apply for more than one child in the same district for the 1st choice, sibling preference will apply.



## How to Apply

To apply go to: [aceschoicelottery.org](http://aceschoicelottery.org)

Information, including the application deadline date for is available on our website at or by calling (203) 498- 6843. Applications must be received by the deadline in order to be placed into the lottery.

If your child is not placed, you may reapply the following year. If your child is placed, you do not need to reapply each year.

**aces**  
**OpenChoice**

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