



Area Cooperative Educational Services

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. When will applications be available?

- **November 4, 2026:** ACES Chase Academy (Grades 9–12)
- **January 4, 2027:** ACES Chase Academy (Grades 6–8) & ACES Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School (Grades K–8)

2. What is the application process?

To apply, visit [ACES.org](https://www.aces.org), navigate to **Schools & Programs > Magnet School Parent Choice**, and scroll to the applications section.

Students are selected through a blind lottery. If you are applying for grades 6 through 8, you will have the option to select a second-choice school. Please note that selecting a second choice is optional and not a required field.

3. Do I have to reapply every year?

- **Current Students:** No. Once your child is enrolled, you will receive an electronic "Intent to Return" form to complete each year. Completing this form holds your seat for the following school year.
- **Waitlisted Applicants:** Yes. Waitlists **do not** roll over from year to year. If your child is not placed during the school year, you must submit a new application for the following year.

4. Can we apply to Open Choice, Magnet Schools, Charter, and Private Schools at the same time?

Yes, you may apply to multiple school types simultaneously.

5. Does the ACES Magnet Choice Program offer sibling preference?

Yes, under the following conditions:

- Both siblings must attend the school during the same school year.

www.aces.org

370 James Street, Suite 303 • New Haven, CT 06513 • Phone (203) 498-6800 • Fax (203) 498-6890

The Regional Educational Service Center Serving South Central Connecticut.

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- The application must list the school the current sibling attends as the **first choice**.
- Sibling preference is subject to seat availability and applies **only to on-time applications**.

6. What happens if we move to a different city or town?

You must submit an updated **Residency Verification Form**. You can request this form directly from your school's main office secretary.

7. Which towns qualify to participate in the ACES Magnet Choice Program?

Any student residing and attending school in Connecticut is eligible to apply to an ACES Magnet School.

8. How does transportation work?

ACES Magnet School bus routes utilize group stops to serve students safely and efficiently. While many bus stops remain consistent from year to year, stops and routes may be adjusted based on annual enrollment.

A letter containing your student's bus number, stop location, and pick-up/drop-off times will be mailed to your home the week before school begins. Please note that routes and times are subject to change throughout the school year.

District Transportation Guidelines

- **ACES Chase Academy:** Transportation is provided for all participating districts. If a district has fewer than 20 enrolled students, families will be assigned to a central group stop, which may be located in a neighboring town.
- **ACES Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School (WIMS):** Direct bus transportation is provided for **Hamden, Meriden, New Haven, North Haven, Wallingford, Waterbury, and West Haven** (districts with 20 or more enrolled students). If a student resides in a district with fewer than 20 students attending WIMS, ACES does not provide busing; however, eligible families may receive a transportation stipend of **\$5.00 per day, per family**, each day that their student(s) is present in school.

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