

The Hartford Region Open Choice Program

Application Guide — Hartford Residents

Eligible Applicants

- Applicants who live in Hartford
- Open to students entering preschool (i.e., age 4 by December 31, 2017) through Grade 10
- Student must remain a Hartford resident to continue in the program

How to Apply

- Apply online as part of RSCO lottery application at <http://www.choiceeducation.org>.
- Apply for placement in a suburban, non-magnet public school within residential zone.
- Rank up to five (5) suburban districts in order of preference.
- You may also choose to be considered for an available seat in any Open Choice suburban district by selecting All Districts.
- If a student is currently enrolled in the Hartford Region Open Choice Program and wishes to be considered for a seat in another district, the student’s parent/legal guardian must submit a new RSCO lottery application.
- Current students who live in Hartford and wish to remain in their district do not need to re-apply to Open Choice.

Lottery Placement Procedures

- Applicant Sibling
- Enrolled Sibling
- Open Choice Only
- Residential Zone

Hartford students residing in the zones below may select from the suburban public school districts listed on the right	Suburban Public School Districts
Zone 1	Avon, Canton, East Granby, Granby, Simsbury, Suffield, West Hartford
Zone 2	Bolton, East Windsor, Ellington, Enfield, Somers, South Windsor, Tolland, Windsor Locks
Zone 3	Berlin, Farmington, Newington, Plainville, Southington, West Hartford, Wethersfield
Zone 4	Berlin, Cromwell, Glastonbury, Newington, Portland, Rocky Hill, Wethersfield

What is the “All Districts” option?

Hartford families have the opportunity to be considered for an “All Districts” option on the Open Choice portion of their on-time lottery application. RSCO may be seeking to fill Open Choice seats with waitlisted applicants in districts that exhaust their waitlist for the grade you are applying to. If you respond yes to “All Districts” RSCO may call you in early summer 2017 about a placement in a district you did not apply to. If RSCO does contact you, you may choose to: 1) decline the offer and remain on all waitlists for schools/districts you did apply to; or 2) accept the “All Districts” placement. If you accept the “All Districts” placement you will then be removed from all waitlists.

Open Choice District Offerings:

Hartford Residents

Avon Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.avon.k12.ct.us>

Location: 10 miles west of Hartford

With supportive government agencies and a beautiful location, Avon is considered to be one of the most desirable communities in the state. There are five schools that make up the school system, Roaring Brook School (grades PreK – grade 4), Pine Grove School (grades K-4), Thompson Brook School (grades 5-6), Avon Middle School (grades 7-8) and Avon High School (grades 9-12). The mission of Avon Public Schools is to inspire in each student a joy and passion for learning and a commitment to excellence, personal integrity, and social responsibility. Through a strong focus on culture, student achievement, and communications in addition to collaborating with educators, students, families, and the community; Avon is recognized for its academic excellence and rich co-curricular programs.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 19.5:1 for Grades K–4

Zone: 1

Seats Previously Offered In: PK, K, Grade 1, and to siblings of currently enrolled students

Berlin Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.berlinschools.org>

Location: 15 miles south of Hartford

Along with parents, public schools in Berlin stimulate and guide the intellectual, emotional, and physical growth of all students in the community toward responsible, self-disciplined, creative, contributory, and perceptive citizenship in a free society. To accomplish this purpose, the system of education must recognize individual differences while helping each student to develop toward their full potential. Every student in Berlin Public Schools will achieve established and rigorous performance standards in all areas of student learning by becoming independent strategic readers, problem solvers, and critical thinkers.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 13:1

Zones: 3 & 4

Seats Previously Offered In: Kindergarten and to siblings of currently enrolled students

Bolton Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.boltonpublicschools.com>

Location: 15 miles east of Hartford

Bolton Public Schools offers families a welcoming learning community in which students engage in academic and co-curricular opportunities that prepares them to become innovative and influential global citizens. Students receive personalized attention and are taught by dedicated faculty in a school system with a low student-to-faculty ratio. The school system's curriculum is aligned with the Connecticut Common Core and is combined with the opportunity to take college-level courses. This helps students prepare for higher education and develop the leadership skills required of the careers of the future.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 10:1

Zone: 2

Seats Previously Offered In: K-Grade 5, and to siblings of currently enrolled students

Canton Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.cantonschools.org>

Location: 13 miles west of Hartford

As a leader among schools and a source of pride in our community, the Canton Public Schools enrich the present and shape the future of its students by opening minds and transforming lives. Our mission is to prepare independent, productive, respectful and responsible citizens who contribute to an ever changing world. We pursue continuous improvement while honoring our strong educational legacy and traditions. We unite with families and the community to provide challenging educational experiences that promote the intellectual, physical, social and emotional potential of our students. We believe all students will successfully master Canton's Community Expectations for Learning; all students benefit from high quality resources and experiences that foster intellectual, physical, social and emotional growth; all students flourish in a safe and healthy learning environment that values differences while respecting cultures, abilities and perspectives; all children are entitled to a childhood. Many activities are planned throughout the year to facilitate the bond between students and families. Students have the opportunity to extend their learning by participating in after-school tutoring and in extracurricular clubs and activities. Late bus transportation is provided, which allows students to take advantage of these opportunities. The Canton Board of Education hopes that its participation in the Open Choice Program will continue to grow to allow all students to continue to achieve academically at high levels and to expose all students to diverse cultures. This prepares them to be respectful, responsible citizens in a global community.

Zone: 1

Seats Previously Offered In: K-Grade 9, and to siblings of currently enrolled students

Cromwell Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.cromwell.k12.ct.us>

Location: 13 miles south of Hartford

Cromwell Public Schools is comprised of four educational facilities including Cromwell High School (Grades 9–12); Cromwell Middle School (Grades 6–8); Woodside Intermediate School (Grades 3–5); and the Edna C. Stevens Elementary School (Grades PreK–Grade 2). About 2,000 students are enrolled in the district. Cromwell's four schools are located in close proximity to one another, and this affords the district the opportunity to share resources and personnel in the most educational and cost-effective manner possible. Cromwell's commitment to 21st Century learning is enhanced through a multi-year commitment to technology improvements. These upgrades connect all buildings via cable for data, voice, and video exchange for internal communications. In addition, the entire district has access to the Internet through the district's Connecticut Education Network affiliation. Cromwell Public Schools strives to educate and inspire all students to apply the essential skills needed to become productive and responsible citizens in a rapidly changing world. In pursuing this mission, Cromwell believes that all students are valued and that all students deserve an education that addresses their academic, physical, and social and emotional needs. It also believes that all members of the community must uphold high expectations, be accountable, and demonstrate a commitment to excellence.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 12:1

Zone: 4

Seats Previously Offered In: PK, K, and to siblings of currently enrolled students

East Granby Public Schools

District Website: http://www.eastgranby.k12.ct.us/pages/East_Granby_Public_Schools

Location: 13 miles northeast of Hartford

East Granby Public Schools is comprised of four schools that engage students in high-quality learning experiences. The Carl D. Allgrove School houses the preschool through grade two program. R. D. Seymour School is a newly-renovated facility that houses grades three through five. East Granby Middle School includes grades six through eight, and East Granby High School includes grades nine through twelve. East Granby Public Schools is a learning community where students are inspired and engaged in rigorous and authentic learning experiences that prepare them to meet the demands of a changing world. Students pursue knowledge in 21st Century learning environments that foster development of individual talents, skills, and interests so they may achieve their personal and career goals. Educators, parents, students, and community partners are important stakeholders in the success of the East Granby Public Schools. Together, we work to ensure that students achieve high expectations and are prepared for productive and successful futures.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 19:1

Zone: 1

Seats Previously Offered In: Kindergarten and to siblings of currently enrolled students

East Windsor Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.eastwindsork12.org>

Location: 16 miles north of Hartford

East Windsor Public Schools provides a climate that inspires the school community to achieve their full potential through continuous improvement and mutual trust and respect. The administrative team includes nine professionals throughout the district, including a principal and assistant principal in each of East Windsor's three schools; an assistant superintendent of PreK–12 education; a director of special education; and a school superintendent.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 12:1

Zone: 2

Seats Previously Offered In: Grades 1, 3, 8, and 9

Ellington Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.ellingtonpublicschools.org>

Location: 18.9 miles north of Hartford

The Ellington Public Schools (EPS) is a high performing school district that values diversity. EPS grows exceptional learners and leaders who are courageous, reflective, and contributing citizens of the world. A culture of learning exists that challenges and inspires all students on their personalized educational journey. Our four primary areas of focus are:

- Mastery-based Learning
- Equitable Opportunities
- Innovative Practices
- Personalized Learning

EPS is an ascending school district. We are on the rise and welcome all who want to contribute to the collective while honoring his or her individual journey.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 14:1

Zone: 2

Seats Previously Offered In: K, Grade 1, and to siblings of currently enrolled students

Enfield Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.enfieldschools.org>

Location: 20 miles north of Hartford

Enfield Public Schools offers students outstanding opportunities to grow and develop as thoughtful learners through its instructional programs and rich co-curricular opportunities. Enfield embraces a multi-disciplinary learning approach that focuses on developing students' skills and knowledge in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics. The Pre-Kindergarten STEAM Academy will offer the Early Beginnings preschool program for 4-year-old students. The center will be located at the Stowe Early Learning Center, formerly known as the Harriet Beecher Stowe School. Enfield Public Schools partners with the LEGO Group to offer LEGO Education products that support student learning in the classroom. Partnerships with Asnuntuck Community College and Mass Mutual prepare students for advanced study and career readiness. The district offers a wide variety of college dual-enrollment programs, including Advanced Placement courses, UConn's Early College Experience, and Asnuntuck College's College and Career Pathways courses.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 13:1

Zone: 2

Seats Previously Offered In: K-Grade 9

Farmington Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.fpsct.org>

Location: 12 miles west of Hartford

Farmington Public Schools believes that all students are capable of acquiring the knowledge, skills, and dispositions needed for productive, ethical, and responsible citizenship in an evolving world. As an innovative learning organization, the school district is deeply committed to continuous improvement. Thus, collaborative interactions among students, educators, parents, and families emphasize the importance of clear expectations, rigorous standards-led curriculum, inspired instruction, personal effort, and engaged relationships that lead to high levels of achievement for all learners. The mission of Farmington Public Schools is to enable all students to achieve academic and personal excellence; to exhibit persistent effort; and to live as resourceful, inquiring, and contributing global citizens.

Zone: 3

Seats Previously Offered In: PK and to siblings of currently enrolled students

Glastonbury Public Schools

District Website: <https://www.glastonburyus.org>

Location: 6.9 miles east of Hartford

Glastonbury Public Schools, in partnership with the entire community, prepares and challenges every student to become a successful and productive member of a diverse and evolving global society. There are nine schools that make up the school system, including one high school; one seventh and eighth grade middle school; a sixth grade school; and six kindergarten through fifth grade elementary schools. About 95 percent of the town's school-aged children attend Glastonbury Public Schools. About 7,000 students are enrolled in the district.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 13:1

Zone: 4

Seats Previously Offered In: Kindergarten

Granby Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.granby.k12.ct.us>

Location: 20 miles north of Hartford

Granby Public Schools, a professional learning community, provides a comprehensive educational program for about 1,900 students in preschool through grade 12, and it is dedicated to every student graduating on time and being prepared for 21st Century citizenship. Granby is an outstanding rural school district with a dedicated and talented staff, enthusiastic student body, and an extremely supportive community. The district is characterized by its academic excellence; a rich variety of athletic, artistic, and co-curricular opportunities; community service; and high standards of personal behavior. A 21st Century vision and mission drives the work of the district. Granby has actively and successfully participated in Open Choice for more than 30 years. The district embraces cultural diversity. Students from Hartford start school in Granby in kindergarten and are fully included in the life of each school. Equity of outcomes for Hartford students is a district expectation.

Student/Teacher Ratio: PK-Grade 2: 17:1; Grades 3-5: 21:1; Grades 6-8: 22:1; Grades 9-12: 21:1

Zone: 1

Seats Previously Offered In: Kindergarten and to siblings of currently enrolled students

Hartford Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.hartfordschools.org>

At Hartford Public Schools (HPS) we are committed to ensuring every one of our students thrive and that each of our schools are high performing. Our vision at HPS is for students to transform their world, with a mission of inspiring and preparing all students to create their own success in and beyond school. Our schools offer the most diverse themed options in the Greater Hartford Region focusing on science, technology, engineering, law, journalism & media and more! Families have many options to choose from when selecting a school for their child. We lead the way by providing students with real opportunities to learn professional business skills through paid internships in the field, or develop renewable power systems for remote villages in Nepal as a high school student. These are just a few examples of how HPS prepares the next generation of innovative leaders.

Newington Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.npsct.org>

Location: 8.9 miles south of Hartford

The Newington Public Schools' curriculum provides a comprehensive, diverse, and challenging array of rich learning experiences to meet the needs of all students. Based on state and national standards, the curriculum provides the framework for a student's educational journey from kindergarten through their senior year in high school. Measurable student learning objectives and methods of assessing learning allow the monitoring of every student's progress and achievement.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 21:1

Zones: 3 & 4

Seats Previously Offered In: Kindergarten and to siblings of currently enrolled students

Plainville Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.plainvilleschools.org>

Location: 14 miles west of Hartford

The district promotes higher student achievement in English and language arts, mathematics, and science through continuous improvement. Plainville Schools' consistently exceeds the state and district reference group averages in all grades. A strong intervention program has decreased the number of students who do not achieve proficiency in mathematics, reading, and writing. Plainville features a safe, secure, and positive learning environment.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 15:1

Zone: 3

Seats Previously Offered In: PK, K, and to siblings of currently enrolled students

Portland Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.portlandctschools.org>

Location: 17.9 miles south of Hartford

Portland Public Schools prides itself on its exciting 21st century schools that feature small class size and dedicated, caring, and talented educators. Our commitment to the core subjects, information technology skills, life and career skills, all grounded in innovative and creative teaching, engages successful readers, writers, and mathematicians. All of our schools promote respect and dignity where each and every student achieves both academically and socially in safe, respectful, and positive classroom environments. Portland is also devoted to fostering opportunities for students to excel in the arts, with its well-established and award-winning music and drama programs. Our high school musicians recently competed at Disney World in Florida and won several competitions. In addition, Portland Public Schools provides its students with a comprehensive physical education & health curriculum that focuses on the education of healthy minds, the development of healthy bodies, and the promotion of positive attitudes towards lifetime physical activity. Portland Secondary School (high school and middle school) provides life-long lessons through athletic competition. Our teams compete in 18 different sports as a member of the Shoreline Conference. Many of our athletes and our teams have won both regional and statewide recognition. Two of our schools have received the National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award, and the Town of Portland has been recognized as one of America's Top 100 Small Towns.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 18:1

Zone: 4

Seats Previously Offered In: K, Grade 2, and to siblings of currently enrolled students

Rocky Hill Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.rockyhillps.com>

Location: 9 miles south of Hartford

Rocky Hill Public Schools is committed to providing an educational environment in which all students discover and achieve their maximum potential in preparation for productive, meaningful lives and responsible citizenship. All Rocky Hill students will demonstrate knowledge, understanding, and mastery of communications skills (reading, writing, speaking, and listening), mathematics skills, physical and life sciences skills, and social studies skills. All Rocky Hill students will also develop habits conducive to health, personal responsibility, and good citizenship, which are essential for living cooperatively and productively in an increasingly complex world.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 19:1

Zone: 4

Seats Previously Offered In: Grades 5-9 and to siblings of currently enrolled students

Simsbury Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.simsbury.k12.ct.us>

Location: 12.7 miles west of Hartford

Simsbury Public Schools prepares students for a global, interconnected society, with emphasis on building strong interpersonal relationships, higher-order thinking, communication, and technology. Teachers are experts in instruction and content knowledge, emphasizing 21st Century skills across all curricular areas. Positive rapport with students is a priority, as teachers strive to instill excitement and joy into the learning environment. The curriculum emphasizes critical and creative thought; problem solving; effective written and oral communication; artistic expression; an understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures; and physical, social, and emotional wellness.

Zone: 1

Seats Previously Offered In: PK, K, Grades 3 and 4, and to siblings of currently enrolled students

Somers Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.somers.k12.ct.us>

Location: 26 miles north of Hartford

The vision of the Somers Public Schools is to challenge our students and staff to pursue excellence, foster creative expression, and to develop a concern for the quality of life for all. Our vision embraces a culture and environment that: promotes lifelong learning; develops self-worth; supports uniqueness and diversity; and empowers individuals to make choices that lead to lives filled with dignity, respect, happiness, and opportunity.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 16:1

Zone: 2

Seats Previously Offered In: Siblings of currently enrolled students

Southington Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.southingtonschools.org>

Location: 17 miles south of Hartford

In Southington schools, students engage in a range of educational experiences to become informed and adaptive problem solvers. They effectively communicate, rise to challenges, and are committed to improving themselves and their communities.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 17:1

Zone: 3

Seats Previously Offered In: Kindergarten and to siblings of currently enrolled students

South Windsor

District Website: <http://www.southwindsorschools.org>

Location: 8 miles north of Hartford

South Windsor Public Schools promotes an engaging and dynamic culture of learning that prepares students to achieve their own individual excellence. Within an emotionally safe environment, educators foster students' academic, social, and personal growth. Students demonstrate critical and creative thinking, self-direction, collaboration, adaptability, compassion, and civic responsibility in an ever-changing global society.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 20:1

Zone: 2

Seats Previously Offered In: Kindergarten and to siblings of currently enrolled students

Suffield Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.suffield.org>

Location: 19 miles north of Hartford

Suffield Public Schools believes that one of its most important responsibilities is to work with parents and the community to prepare students to be confident, thoughtful, contributing citizens both now and throughout their lives. Suffield believes that its school system helps to develop these qualities by creating an atmosphere that fosters a sense of belonging and acceptance. This supports students as they learn and grow and prepare to take their place in our rapidly changing world, global citizenship, and personal wellness.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 19:1

Zone: 1

Seats Previously Offered In: Kindergarten

Tolland Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us>

Location: 24 miles Northeast of Hartford, just off I-84

The Tolland Public Schools include four school facilities, Birch Grove Elementary School (Grades K-2), Tolland Intermediate School (3-5), Tolland Middle School (6-8), and Tolland High School (9-12). Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, and Culturally Responsive Education are of crucial importance to our vision and our work. Educators in this district work hard to provide a strong educational experience with love, and humanity. The Tolland Public Schools perform well on measures of success for students, and endeavor to focus on mastery education and learning. Our schools are invested in programs that emphasize great writing like Writers Workshop, and rigorous mathematics through Singapore math. The school system has embraced positive behavioral interventions and supports, and works hard to give students opportunities to focus inward to improve themselves, and outward to create positive change in this world. The school system has a relationship with the University of Connecticut, and offers UCONN ECE college credit programs.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 12.1

Zone: 2

Planning To Offer Seats In: Kindergarten, Grade 1

West Hartford Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.whps.org>

Location: 4 miles west of Hartford

Clear Paths. Bright Futures. No Limits. The West Hartford Public Schools provide all students with high expectations, a rigorous and relevant curriculum, and dynamic teaching through a commitment to continuous improvement. The district's mission, core values, and goals all serve to drive the purpose, focus, and work of West Hartford Public Schools. The District Model of Continuous Improvement is driven by the established goals and community expectations of the district's schools. West Hartford Public Schools expect every child to develop into a confident, responsible, respectful, and compassionate student who is academically well-prepared, physically fit, and emotionally healthy to journey through the 21st century.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 15:1

Zones: 1 & 3

Seats Previously Offered In: K-Grade 2, and to siblings of currently enrolled students

Wethersfield Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.wethersfield.k12.ct.us/>

Location: Borders Hartford to the south

Education in Wethersfield is the shared responsibility of schools, students, families, and other community agencies. They work together so that Wethersfield students may realize their full potential. Accordingly, the mission of the Wethersfield Public Schools is to ensure that all students will acquire skills and knowledge for lifelong learning; will be able to compete in a global economy; will develop self-discipline and function as responsible citizens of society; and will develop and understand their ethical, cultural, aesthetic, and intellectual values and respect those of others.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 19:1

Zone: 3 & 4

Seats Previously Offered In: Kindergarten and to siblings of currently enrolled students

Windsor Locks Public Schools

District Website: <http://www.wlps.org>

Location: 22 miles north of Hartford

Windsor Locks Public Schools creates and sustains a community of life-long learners where all students are engaged, empowered, and expected to achieve at the highest levels. They are also expected to become responsible, contributing citizens in an ever-changing global society. The district has worked diligently to create a student-centered, mastery-based learning system. Not only are students expected to master academic standards, but they do so within a learning system that is tailored to their unique goals and needs. Students are more engaged than ever before in their learning, and our district has become a model for other schools seeking to develop a student-centered, mastery-based approach. Our students are making significant growth in performance indicators, such as the NWEA Measures of Academic Progress assessment, specifically in Reading and Math. We offer students the chance to participate in individualized pathways programs where they can explore career paths, college experiences, and job opportunities beginning in the high school.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 15:1

Zone: 2

Seats Previously Offered In: K, Grade 1, and to siblings of currently enrolled students