



## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: I want to transfer to a school that is not my assigned neighborhood school. What do I need to do?**

A: Complete a School Choice application by the transfer deadline indicating the school(s) to which your student will apply for transfer. Submit the application to the Enrollment and Transfer Center, online or by paper application, by the deadline.

**Q: What are my options for kindergarten?**

A: All PPS schools offer a full-day kindergarten program (fee-based or free). To learn more about kindergarten options at different schools, go to the Early Childhood Education website at <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/departments/kindergarten/index.htm>.

**Q: Do I need to fill out a School Choice Application every year?**

A: No, your child may continue to the highest grade of the school he/she is approved to. After completing the highest grade, a family can request a school other than your neighborhood school for the following year, but you will need to submit a School Choice application to be considered in the lottery.

**Q: Will the District provide transportation to my child's transfer school?**

A: Transportation is generally the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

**Q: What happens if we decide to return to our neighborhood school from a transfer school?**

A: To return to their neighborhood school for the next school year, families must fill out a School Choice application and submit it by the deadline. If your student is on transfer and there are no lottery slots for your neighborhood school, complete a Return-to-Neighborhood Placement form by March 9<sup>th</sup> for your student to receive guaranteed approval. Download form at [http://www.pps.k12.or.us/files/enrollment-transfer/Return\\_to\\_Neighborhood\\_Placement\\_Form\\_1213.pdf](http://www.pps.k12.or.us/files/enrollment-transfer/Return_to_Neighborhood_Placement_Form_1213.pdf).

**Q: My daughter has listed three transfer schools on her School Choice Application. Is she guaranteed a space in one of her three choices?**

A: No. Transfer slots are limited. Students are not guaranteed a space in a school that is not their neighborhood school. The centralized lottery determines student placement for transfer requests based on space availability and preferences.

**Q: My daughter is in fifth grade this year, her last year at a transfer elementary school. We want her to continue on with her friends to the feeder middle school next year. Is that possible?**

A: Yes, it may be possible to continue on in her feeder middle school if she is successful in the lottery process. The District does not guarantee a space at the transfer feeder school unless it is a continuing curriculum such as language immersion. To be considered in the lottery, you must submit a School Choice application by the deadline.



**Q: If I link my twins in the lottery, what does that mean?**

A: Linking your twins (currently same grade applying for same school/program) in the lottery means both students' lottery result will be the same. Both will have same result, whether approved, not approved or wait listed.

**Q: I'm moving to another school in the PPS District in the middle of the year, but want my child to remain in his current school. Is that possible?**

A: Yes. Students who are moving within PPS District boundaries may remain in their current school or enroll in their new neighborhood school. Families must notify the school of the new address and provide to school two pieces of proof of their new residency.

**Q: We just moved to Portland. How do we find out about our neighborhood school?**

A: To locate your neighborhood school, visit the Portland Public School website at <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/departments/enrollment-transfer/6478.htm>.

**Q. What happens if I miss the student transfer deadline?**

A: If you miss the transfer deadline, you must wait until the next year's lottery to apply again. If your student is experiencing an exceptional hardship that may inhibit his/her ability to attend school regularly, please contact the Enrollment and Transfer Center at 503-916-3205 for additional placement options.