

# My Future Schools FAQs

## What are My Future Schools?

My Future Schools are a select group of schools that are open to students across the district, giving students educational opportunities beyond their neighborhood zoned school.

There are four categories of My Future Schools:

- Magnet Schools
  - Magnet Schools offer a curriculum that is built around a focused theme. (i.e. arts, STEM, etc.)
    - [Barger Academy](#)
    - [Battle Academy](#)
    - [Brown Academy](#)
    - [Calvin Donaldson Environmental Science Academy](#)
    - [Center for Creative Arts \(CCA\)](#)
    - [Chattanooga School for the Arts & Sciences \(CSAS\) - Lower](#)
    - [Chattanooga School for the Arts & Sciences \(CSAS\) - Upper](#)
    - [Chattanooga School for the Liberal Arts \(CSLA\)](#)
    - [East Lake Academy](#)
    - [Lakeside Academy](#)
    - [Normal Park Museum Magnet - Lower](#)
    - [Normal Park Museum Magnet - Upper](#)
    - [STEM School](#)
    - [Tyner Academy](#)
    - [Tyner Middle Academy](#)
- Future Ready Institutes
  - Future Ready Institutes are CTE programs housed within our high schools. These institutes provide students with a unique learning environment that tailors their education to career-themed subjects. All of the institutes provide opportunities for college credits and forms of industry-based certifications.
    - [Brainerd High School](#)
      - The Institute of Aviation
      - The Institute of Law, First Responders and Forensic Science
    - [Central High School](#)
      - The Institute of Advanced Manufacturing and Mechatronics
    - [East Hamilton Middle High School](#)
      - The Bryan College Institute of Leadership, Business, and Marketing
      - The Tinker, Innovate, and Engineer Institute
    - [East Ridge High School](#)



- The Institute of Building and Design
  - [Hixson High School](#)
    - The Institute for Future Business Leaders and Owners
    - The Institute of Advanced Agriculture, Food, Natural Resources, and Technology
    - The Institute for Health Careers and Medical Advancement
  - [The Howard School](#)
    - The Erlanger Institute of Healthcare and Innovation
    - The Institute of Hospitality and Tourism Management
  - [Lookout Valley Middle High School](#)
    - The Institute of Digital Media
  - [Ooltewah High School](#)
    - The Institute of Architecture and Engineering
    - International Baccalaureate
  - [Red Bank High School](#)
    - The Institute of Engineering and Computer Science
  - [Sequoyah High School](#)
    - The Institute of Industrial Manufacturing
  - [Signal Mountain Middle High School](#)
    - International Baccalaureate World School
  - [Soddy Daisy High School](#)
    - *The Institute of Media and Entrepreneurship*
  - Tyner Academy
    - The EPB Institute of Technology and Networking
    - The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Institute of Teaching and Learning
- Early College Schools
  - Early College Schools are specialized programs that offer a unique blend of high school, dual credit and dual enrollment courses designed to give students a jump start on their education and career paths.
    - [Hamilton County Collegiate High School](#)
    - Mechatronics Akademie at Volkswagen
    - [Polytech Academy](#)
- Open Enrollment Schools
  - Open Enrollment Schools are elementary and middle schools open their enrollment to students living outside of their zoned area.
    - [Dalewood Middle School](#)
    - Howard Connect Academy (new in 2019-2020)
    - [Lookout Valley Middle High School](#)
    - [Red Bank Middle School](#)
    - [Rivermont Elementary School](#)
    - [Soddy Daisy Middle School](#)
    - [Woodmore Elementary School](#)



### **What are the benefits of going to a My Future School?**

Every student has different interests, hopes, and dreams and must have access to opportunities that best open doors to exciting pathways to possibilities for their future. My Future Schools expand the options for students to attend schools that best fit their individual interests and skill sets. These schools offer students opportunities that will propel them forward and ensure they are future ready for college, career and beyond.

### **Who can apply for My Future Schools?**

Any student living in Hamilton County is eligible to apply for a My Future School for the 2019-2020 school year.

### **How do I apply for a My Future School?**

Students can apply for My Future Schools through [PowerSchool](#).

Application Dates:

- Magnet Schools - **Nov. 5, 2018 - Jan. 31, 2019**
- Future Ready Institutes, Early College and Open Enrollment Schools - **Feb. 1, 2019 - March 15, 2019**

### **How can I learn more about My Future Schools?**

Hamilton County Schools will provide multiple opportunities for families to visit and learn more about the schools and options available:

- Magnet Schools
  - Jan. 14, 2019 - Magnet Schools Fair
  - Jan. 15, 16, 22, 23 - Magnet Schools Open Houses (dates tentative)
- Future Ready Institutes, Early College and Open Enrollment Schools
  - Feb. 19, 2019 - School Choice Fair for Future Ready Institutes, Early College and Open Enrollment Schools
  - Date TBD - Open House for Future Ready Institutes, Early College and Open Enrollment Schools

### **What is the selection process?**

There are no academic requirements for My Future Schools. Students are selected based on seat availability. If a school's applications exceeds its seat number, students will be chosen by lottery. Placements will be announced on the following dates:

- Magnet Schools - **Feb. 23, 2019**
- Future Ready Institutes, Early College and Open Enrollment Schools - **April 1, 2019**

*\*Note: CCA does require an audition for admission.*

### **Do students have to reapply every year?**



No, students do not have to reapply each year. However, the privilege of continuing enrollment depends on acceptable behavior, attendance and parent commitment. Parents will be required to attend an orientation at their child's new school. Parents may be asked for a letter of intent for returning students to secure their seat, provided the student has met all other expectations for continuing enrollment.

**Is transportation offered for My Future Schools?**

Currently, Magnet Schools provide centralized drop off/pick up points. Transportation options for other My Future Schools are currently being evaluated; however, at this point, parents must provide transportation for their child for Open Enrollment, Future Ready Institutes, and Early College options.

**If my child is in elementary or middle school, what is their pathway when they leave a My Future School?**

My Future Schools does not require reapplication to a school in a student's current grade-level tier. Continuing enrollment depends on acceptable behavior, attendance and parent commitment. When a student is entering a new tier, they have the option to apply for a new My Future School or return to their zoned school. *Note: CSLA currently has a transition agreement with CSAS for 8th and 9th grade students.*

**What if a student is admitted to a My Future School but decides he or she wants to return to their zoned school or move to another My Future School?**

Students and parents are expected to commit for a full school year. At the end of the school year, families may choose to reevaluate and switch to another school (either apply to another My Future School option or return to their zoned school).

**How does this affect hardship transfer requests?**

Hardship transfers are available to students who meet specific criteria. This includes medical needs and/or other extenuating circumstances. My Future Schools are not part of the hardship transfer request process. Hardship transfer requests will open **April 1, 2019**.



## Future Ready Institute FAQs

### **Is the institute for college preparation only?**

No. The institutes support career- and college-ready experiences. Integrated experiences within each institute will foster the critical thinking skills necessary for future success.

### **What benefits do students receive when joining an institute?**

Students enrolling in a Future Ready Institute will have the opportunity to jumpstart their lives after high school. Institutes will provide unique learning experiences including: hands on project development, guest speakers from business and industry, job shadowing, internships, workforce certifications, college credits, and so much more. A Future Ready Institute also incorporates the small learning community approach. Smaller learning communities allow for students to grow in their collaboration with each other as well as giving teachers the chance to build deeper, positive relationships with students while gaining a clear understanding of their needs for success.

### **What is the application criterion for Future Ready Institutes?**

The application criterion for an institute is based only on student interest and enrollment at the school offering institute.

### **Once a student has applied, what process is followed for selection?**

The number of students accepted into an institute will be based on the school's capacity, with at least 25% of the school institute's enrollment designated for students living outside of a school's zone. A lottery will be held to determine the placement of students if interest is greater than the allotted institute positions. Students and parents will be notified of their placement status soon after the application deadline. Parents will be notified by individual institute schools regarding processes for the start of the 2019-2020 school year.

### **If a student is not selected for the institute will he or she still have a chance to attend?**

Each institute will maintain a waiting list until at least July 31, 2019. If other students who were selected choose not to register, the institute will contact students on the waiting list.

### **What is the withdrawal policy if a student changes his or her mind about attending the institute?**

It is critical that a student who applies for an institute does so based on his or her interest in the college and career theme of the institute. If a student withdraws from an institute, he or she must return to his or her zoned high school. Although a student may withdraw at any point in the school year, it is important to note this could impact a student's ability to complete a career and technical education (CTE) pathway. Parents and students should consult the school administration and guidance counselor prior to withdrawal.



**What if a student is admitted to the institute but decides he or she no longer wants to take the institute pathway classes?**

If students are attending the institute out of zone, they must be enrolled in the institute classes to remain at the school of choice. If the student, at the end of a school year, decides to enroll in classes that are not aligned with the institute pathway, he or she will be withdrawn from the institute and asked to return to his or her zoned high school.

**If a freshman student enrolls in a new school in the middle of the 2019-2020 school year, can he or she enroll in the school's institute?**

Pending availability, a student who has transferred as a freshman in the middle of the 2019-2020 school year can be enrolled in the school's institute.

**If a student decides to withdraw from an institute, will that impact his or her ability to compete in sports?**

Once a student has been accepted to an institute, he or she is now considered a member of that school. If a student withdraws from the institute, he or she must return to their zoned high school. If a student chooses to practice or play on a school sports team and then leave the institute, the student should speak with the Athletic Director about eligibility rules for transfer students before withdrawing, as he or she must follow the existing transfer or hardship policies established by the TSSAA. See the TSSAA website <http://www.tssaa.org> for further clarification.

