



Magnet School Frequently Asked Questions

Is the lottery for kindergarten students only?

Yes. The lottery is only for students enrolling in kindergarten for the first time.

How many kindergarten spots are available?

At RSIS, there are 132 spots for incoming kindergarten students. At SEA, there are 66 spots---it is a much smaller school.

Can I apply to RSIS and SEA? Will it affect my chances in the lottery?

Yes, you can apply to both magnet schools. You will have equal opportunity in the lottery.

Can I apply to the magnet schools and my attendance area school?

Yes. It is recommended that families also apply to their attendance area school, as a limited number of spaces are available at RSIS and SEA.

Can I apply if I do not live in the Robbinsdale school district?

Yes. A percentage of seats are reserved for non-resident applicants.

What if I have twins/triplets applying?

You can enter the information for multiple students on one application form. *"In the event that siblings from the same grade apply, only one name shall be entered into the lottery and if selected, each of those students shall be admitted."* Administrative Procedure 599AP

If my child's older sibling is currently enrolled at RSIS, SEA, or in the middle school Spanish Immersion (PMS) or STEM (RMS) programs, do I need to fill out an application?

Yes, you must submit an application in order for your child to be included in the lottery.

Is transportation provided?

Free transportation is provided to residents of Robbinsdale Area Schools. If you are a Minneapolis resident, your student may qualify for transportation through the Choice is Yours program. Please keep in mind that bus routes to the magnet schools may be longer than to other schools. Bus stop information is mailed to all district residents in late August.

When do I find out the results of the lottery?

Visit magnetlottery.rdale.org using your passcode/password generated during the online application process. Lottery results will be available online starting March 9th, 2015. (Lottery results will be mailed to those families who submitted paper magnet lottery applications on March 9th.)

Notification of admission status will be updated online for online applicants only. The lottery will be run frequently until all the seats are accepted. It will then be run when kindergarten seats become available throughout the school year.

How can my older child get into RSIS or SEA?

RSIS Gr 1-5: Robbinsdale students in grades 1-5 can submit a school transfer form for possible admission. Other prospective students residing outside the district can submit an open enrollment form for possible admission. According to Administrative Procedure 509AP – Enrollment Options, new students requesting entrance to RSIS must have prior language immersion experience or demonstrate grade level language competency. Typically, new students are able to demonstrate grade level language competency if they are transferring from another immersion school, have a native Spanish speaker in the family, or have an extensive Spanish background.

SEA Gr 1-5: Robbinsdale students in grades 1-5 can submit a school transfer form for possible admission. Other prospective students residing outside the district can submit an open enrollment form for possible admission.

Do I need to re-apply each year?

No. Once enrolled, students may remain at the magnet school as long as their enrollment continues uninterrupted.

Why am I being asked to submit the Family Financial Determination form?

A certain number of seats are reserved for those families meeting specific income guidelines. If you are unsure of whether you qualify, we encourage you to submit the form.

How do I know that my application and Family Financial Determination form have been received?

We will send e-mail confirmation regarding receipt of both the magnet lottery application and Family Financial Determination form to all online applicants. Families who submit paper applications will receive confirmation via U.S. mail. *If you do not receive an e-mail or written confirmation stating that the application and/or Family Financial Determination form have been received, it is your responsibility to contact us at magnetapplication@rdale.org or by calling Mechelle Allen at 763-504-8027.* Application and Family Financial Determination forms received after the deadline of 5:00 p.m. on February 27, 2015 will not be accepted.

How can I find out more about the program at RSIS or SEA?

Visit their websites: rsi.rdale.org OR sea.rdale.org

Please join us at the upcoming information nights for parents:

SEA Information Night: Tuesday, January 27, at 6:00 p.m. The school is located at 1751 Kelly Drive, Golden Valley. Spanish-speaking families, please arrive by 5:30 p.m.

RSIS Information Night: Thursday, January 29, at 6:00 p.m. The school is located at 8808 Medicine Lake Road, New Hope.