# Glossary

The following provides a brief overview of the types of schools and programs available. The list includes within-school programs (e.g., AP, CTE), in which you can participate once you are enrolled in a school.

#### **Advanced Placement**

Advanced Placement (AP) is a curriculum in the United States and Canada sponsored by the College Board which offers standardized high school courses that are generally recognized to be equivalent to undergraduate courses in college. Participating colleges grant credit to students who obtained high enough scores on the exams to qualify. Students enrolled in AP courses engage in intense discussions, solve problems collaboratively, and learn to write clearly and persuasively. AP is a within-school program; students can take advantage of this program after they are enrolled in a school.

# AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination)

Students take academically rigorous courses and an elective called AVID, where they receive tutoring, improve their self-image, develop critical thinking and organizational skills, and become leaders and role models for other students. AVID is a within-school program; students can take advantage of this program after they are enrolled in a school.

#### **Career Academies**

Career Academies offer intensified resources that provide students with hands-on experiences and the opportunity to visit local businesses and shadow business professionals in various career areas.

#### **Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs**

CTE Programs are available in many high schools, and provide students with the chance to get a head start on preparing for college and careers. Three years of training provide skills for students to succeed in a variety of career fields. CTE Programs are within-school programs; students can take advantage of the program after they are enrolled in a school.

#### **Charter Schools**

Charter schools are independently operated schools that are authorized by CPS or the State Charter School Commission under Illinois Charter Schools Law. The schools authorized by CPS are funded and monitored by the Chicago Public Schools district, but can exercise autonomy over many studentrelated policies. Charter schools are governed by school-selected Boards of Directors and operate under contractual agreements with the authorizing entity; typically, these contracts are for five-year terms.

#### **Contract Schools**

Contract schools are district schools that are managed by external operators. These schools are funded and monitored by the district and must adhere to all student-related district policies. Contract schools are governed by school-selected Boards of Directors and operate under contractual agreements with the district; typically, these contracts are for five-year terms.

#### **CTE-College and Career Academies**

CTE-College and Career Academies (CCAs) feature a unique approach to prepare students for college and career success. While in high school, in addition to taking all CPS college prep core courses, such as math, science and English, students participating in CCAs experience hands-on training in their chosen industry. Students participating in CCAs may have the opportunity to earn college credit, attain industry-recognized certifications, and participate in job shadows and internships.

#### **Dual Enrollment**

Through Dual Enrollment, students take college courses while in high school, earning both high school and college credit. Participation in Dual Enrollment may ease students' transition from high school to college and save college costs, as course costs are covered by the students' high school. Dual Enrollment is a within-school program; students can take advantage of the program once they are enrolled in a school.

# Early College STEM [Science, Technology, Engineering, Math] Schools (ECSS)

The ECSS connects high school, college, and the world of work through dynamic partnerships and a new vision for college and career readiness. Partnerships allow students to pursue a career in technology and gain skills for the 21st century workforce; students have the opportunity to graduate with industry certifications and up to two years of college credit. In addition, students benefit from workplace learning experiences through internships, and they are matched with professional mentors in their career path so that they gain valuable knowledge and experience.

# **Fine and Performing Arts Programs**

These programs encourage students' creative and artistic expression, and develop their interest in art, music, dance, and/or drama. Faculty and students work with some of the city's premier arts institutions and artists, both in the schools and throughout the city.

#### **General Education**

Schools that fall in this category offer a curriculum of general education that includes a wide variety of subject areas, including the core subjects of English/language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies, and may also include world language, art, music, and physical education. The general education program does not specialize in one particular area of the curriculum.

#### International Baccalaureate (IB) High Schools

The International Baccalaureate® is a non-profit educational organization guided by the mission to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. IB programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners. Founded in 1968, IB works with more than 3,500 schools in 145 countries, serving more than 1 million students aged 3 – 19 years. Additional information is available at www.ibo.org.

#### IB Middle Years Programme (MYP):

The International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme provides a flexible curriculum framework suitable to meet the needs of all students. At the high school level, the MYP is offered to grades 9 and 10. The MYP model places the learner at the center. This underscores IB's belief in educating the whole person, and the central importance of student inquiry.

# IB Diploma Programme (DP):

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme is a comprehensive and challenging preuniversity program for academically advanced and highly motivated students in grades 11 and 12. Students begin preparing for the full Diploma Programme as early as the ninth grade, when they are enrolled in CPS' rigorous Diploma Programme preparatory course of study (Diploma Prep). The Diploma Programme is widely recognized for its high academic standards and the impressive success of its graduates in colleges and universities around the world. DP graduates enter the world culturally and internationally aware, open-minded, and confident in a language other than English.

#### IB Career-related Certificate (IBCC):

The IBCC is designed for students in grades 11 and 12. It incorporates the educational principles, vision, and learner profile of the IB into a unique offering that specifically addresses the needs of students who wish to engage in career-related education. The IBCC encourages these students to benefit from elements of an IB education through a selection of two or more Diploma Programme courses in addition to a unique IBCC core, comprised of an "Approaches to Learning" course, language development, a reflective project, and community and service. The IBCC is a within-school program; students can take advantage of the program after they are enrolled in a school.

#### **JROTC**

The Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) Program in the Chicago Public Schools offers an award-winning curriculum that incorporates leadership and character development, and dates back to 1919. The program develops students to their fullest potential and prepares them for college, careers, and citizenship by utilizing various components of the military model. Students receive rich, interactive, technology-driven instruction on a number of civics topics by a professional staff of retired military instructors. Students also have opportunities to socialize with students across the city and develop their leadership skills through such events such as summer camp, leadership camp, citywide sports competitions, orienteering, local and national drill competitions, and field trips. JROTC is a withinschool program at 50 of CPS's high schools; students can take advantage of this program after they are enrolled in a school. Visit www.ChicagoJROTC.com to see videos, meet the students, and learn about the schools with these programs.

#### **Magnet Programs**

High school magnet programs are offered in neighborhood high schools to enhance and enrich the curriculum. The programs accept students from throughout the city. Magnet programs have minimum eligibility requirements in order for students to apply.

#### **Magnet Schools**

Magnet High Schools (with the exception of Curie Metropolitan High School) do not have neighborhood attendance boundaries, accept students from throughout the city, and offer one or more specialty programs. Magnet High Schools have minimum eligibility requirements in order for students to apply.

#### **Military Academies**

The Military Academies are unique four-year high schools that prepare students for college and subsequent careers. Although students wear uniforms and operate in a structured environment, these schools are not intended to prepare students for the military. Rather, students take part in unprecedented leadership opportunities and co-curricular activities, including college trips and citywide competitions, in a nurturing, safe, and healthy environment in which they can realize their full potential. Visit www.ChicagoJROTC.com to view videos, see testimonials, and learn more about these schools.

#### **Military Academies Within a School**

Military Academies Within a School offer all the benefits of a traditional Military Academy education – a safe, supportive environment with unique leadership opportunities and co-curricular activities – within a neighborhood high school. Cadets in a Military Academy Within a School wear a uniform every day and take all of their classes with their fellow Academy cadets. Military Academies Within a School accept applicants from outside the school's attendance boundary. Visit <u>www.ChicagoJROTC.</u> <u>com</u> to view videos, see testimonials, and learn more about the Academies Within a School.

#### **One Goal**

One Goal aims to make college graduation possible for all students. The organization identifies, trains and supports teachers to lead underperforming high school students to reach their full potential. It serves students in high schools in Chicago and Houston.

#### **Project Lead The Way**

Project Lead The Way (PLTW) provides rigorous and innovative science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education programs for middle and high schools across the U.S. It provides curriculum, software, and professional development to participating schools and engages students in hands-on, problem-based classroom experiences. PLTW students create, design, build, discover, collaborate, and solve problems while applying what they learn in math and science, and are exposed to STEM fields through professionals from local industries.

# School Performance

The School Performance information provided on the school profiles is derived from the following sources of information:

# PSAE:

The Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE) is administered each spring in Illinois to high school juniors (11th grade). Each profile provides school-level results from 2012, indicating the percent of students who met or exceeded state standards, combining PSAE scores for reading, mathematics and science ("composite score"). The highest possible score is 99%.

# ACT:

The ACT is a standardized test for high school achievement and college admissions in the United States produced by ACT, Inc. (originally American College Testing). It includes English, mathematics, reading, and science. It is administered in Illinois as part of the PSAE. Each profile provides the average score received by students in 11th grade at the school in spring 2012.

#### Graduation Rate:

The CPS "five-year cohort graduation rate" follows a group of students who enter the Chicago Public Schools as freshmen and calculates the percent of these students who graduate within five years after their freshman year. For example, the 2007 rate tracks ninth grade students who started in CPS in the 2002-2003 school year and graduated from CPS by August of the 2006-2007 school year. The rate is calculated by dividing the number of students from an adjusted ninth grade cohort who graduated over the five-year time period by the total number of students in that cohort. The graduation rate provided in the profiles in this guide is the 2012 rate.

#### College Enrollment:

The CPS college enrollment rate is calculated using data acquired from the National Student Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse is a not-for-profit corporation that serves as a national, central depository of information on postsecondary student enrollment, degrees, and diplomas. The college enrollment rate is the percent of CPS graduates who enrolled in college by November 1st of that same year — the standard timeframe used to calculate national college enrollment statistics. The information provided in the profiles in this guide is the 2011 rate.

# Selective Enrollment High Schools

Selective Enrollment High Schools provide academically advanced high school students with a challenging and enriched college preparatory experience. Each of the Selective Enrollment High Schools offers a rigorous curriculum with mainly honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses. The schools strive to develop students' critical and analytical thinking skills, and promote diverse academic inquiry by bringing together students from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences.

# **Small Schools**

With total enrollments of 500 students or less, small schools offer intimate and personalized learning environments. These schools serve as vehicles for teachers, students, parents, and other school community members to implement strategies that are specifically designed to serve the needs of their populations. In addition, the small size facilitates the ability of teachers to work together to design educational programs and to create a cohesive vision.

# World Language and International Studies Program

World Language and International Studies is an academically enhanced program at Morgan Park High School. The program emphasizes fluency in a world language, along with the development of international communication skills and understanding. All coursework is taken on an honors or Advanced Placement level. Students take four years of the same world language (French or Spanish are offered), four years of social studies, and a minimum of two Advanced Placement courses.

# APPENDIX

# **School Choice Worksheet**

This worksheet is provided for your convenience. You may wish to use it to assist you in identifying the schools where you want to apply.

**Supportive Data** – Write down your standardized test (ISAT, Terra Nova, etc.) stanines and percentiles, seventh grade final grades, and calculate your GPA below.

Test Score Stanines	Test Score Pe	Test Score Percentiles		Final Grades and GPA				
Reading Total Science Comp Math	Reading Tot Comp Mar		Reading N	1ath Science	Social Studies	GPA		
Extracurricular Activ	vities – List ext	racurricular ac	tivities in which	you are inter	ested in partic	cipating:		
<b>Sports</b> – List sports ad	ctivities in whicl	h you are inter	rested in partic	ipating:				
Other Check below if	you are interes	ted in any of t	the following:					
<ul> <li>Advanced Placement</li> <li>World language: Wh</li> </ul>								
Career & Technical E	0 0 1		ich courses?					

**Identify Schools** – Identify all of the schools in which you are interested. At this stage, include all of the schools where you would like to apply. Review the profiles at each school to help determine if the school has offerings that are important to you; check these areas in the appropriate columns below. Use this information, along with impressions you gain at Open House events, details from your Eligibility Letter, and other resources, to help you identify your choices.

School	Extra- Curr.	Sports	AP	AVID	World Lang.	CTE	Perf.

# Admission Screenings – Centrally Managed Processes

Five school types have application processes that are centrally managed by the Office of Access and Enrollment: CTE-College and Career Academies, International Baccalaureate High Schools, Magnet High Schools and Programs, Military Academies, and Selective Enrollment High Schools.

Most of these processes require admission screenings, such as testing, auditions, or attendance at information sessions. Below is an overview of the screenings required for each school type. You can schedule your appointments for your screenings at www.apply.cps.edu. If you do not wish to schedule your own appointments, the Office of Access and Enrollment will schedule your appointments and you will be notified of the times, dates, and locations.

If you have any questions, contact the Office of Access and Enrollment at (773) 553-2060 or oae@cps. edu.

# **CTE-College and Career Academies**

No admission screenings required.

# International Baccalaureate Programmes

All students applying for the Diploma Prep track must attend an Information Session at each school for which they are eligible and plan to apply. Eligibility is based on students' seventh grade ISAT scores in reading comprehension and total math (or scores from a different accepted standardized test) and students' seventh grade final grades in reading, math, science, and social studies. Each school sets its own cutoff score to determine eligibility for attendance at its Information Session. To find out if you are eligible to attend an Information Session at a specific IB School, go to www.apply.cps.edu and click 'Scheduling.' If you do not have internet access, contact your school counselor or the Office of Access and Enrollment at (773) 553-2060 or oae@cps.edu.

# **Magnet High Schools and Programs**

Senn High School – Fine and Performing Arts Program requires eligible applicants to participate in an audition/portfolio process.

Von Steuben High School – Scholars Program requires eligible applicants to submit teacher recommendations and an essay. For details, see Von Steuben's website, <u>www.vonsteuben.org</u> (click 'Academics' and 'Admissions').

# **Military Academies**

Eligible applicants are required to attend one Information Session at one of the six Military Academies. For information on Information Session dates, times, and locations, visit <u>www.ChicagoJROTC.com</u>.

# Selective Enrollment High Schools

Eligible applicants are required to take one admissions exam. Testing for Selective Enrollment High Schools will be administered on October 26th, November 23rd, December 14th, January 11th, and January 25th.

# **Application Checklist**

Please review the following checklist to ensure that your applications are completed to your satisfaction and contain all the information that we require. If you have any questions or concerns, contact the Office of Access and Enrollment at (773) 553-2060 or oae@cps.edu.

# All applicants:

- Review your Eligibility Letter to ensure that you are eligible for the schools to which you are applying. If you are a CPS or charter school student and you did not receive an Eligibility Letter, contact your school counselor. If you are a non-CPS student and submitted a Non-CPS Eligibility Letter Request Form along with your seventh grade standardized test scores and final grades, you should receive an Eligibility Letter within two weeks of submitting your material. If you do not receive your Eligibility Letter within this timeframe, contact the Office of Access and Enrollment at (773) 553-2060 or oae@cps.edu.
- Use the resources in the guide to help you identify all of the schools that interest you. Do all of your research, including attending the Open Houses of the schools in which you are interested, BEFORE you submit your application.
- Ensure that you are only applying to schools where you would enroll if you receive an offer.
- □ If you have a sibling currently enrolled (and who will still be enrolled in 2014-2015) in the school(s) to which you are applying, and the school gives preference to sibling applicants, be sure to include the last name and CPS ID number of the currently enrolled student.
- □ Make sure that all address fields have been completed.
- □ If you are a twin, triplet, or other multiple, indicate this by checking the "multiple" box.

# If you are applying online:

- □ If you schedule appointments for testing, Information Sessions, or auditions, print your Confirmation Forms and keep them in a safe place. You will need to take the forms to your appointments.
- □ You must schedule your screening appointments (if required) BEFORE you submit your applications.
- □ Be sure to click SUBMIT when you are ready to turn in your application. If you only click SAVE FOR LATER and do not click SUBMIT, we will not receive your application.
- Once you successfully submit your application, a confirmation page will appear on the application site that states "Successfully Submitted" at the top of the page; print this page for your records this will be your only documentation that lists the schools to which you applied.
- □ A confirmation letter will be emailed to you for each program to which you apply check your spam or junk mail file if you do not receive it. If you do not receive this email confirmation, contact the Office of Access and Enrollment at (773) 553-2060 or oae@cps.edu.

# If you are submitting a paper application:

- □ Include your CPS ID number (if you are a Chicago Public Schools or charter school student).
- □ Have your parent/guardian sign the application.
- □ Include a self-addressed stamped postcard or envelope with your application if you mail it.
- □ If you submit your application to your counselor, request a receipt as proof that you submitted it.
- □ Retain all receipts until the end of the application period.

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