



SCHOOL CHOICE

CONTROLLED OPEN ENROLLMENT

Choose Your School. Shape Their Future.

School Choice/Controlled Open Enrollment allows families to apply for their child to attend a Sarasota County school other than their zoned school, based on available capacity.

For the first time, families have two opportunities to apply for the 2027–2028 school year!

FALL WINDOW

October 22 -
November 23, 2026

SPRING WINDOW

February 8 -
March 8, 2027

Magnet applications are also accepted during the fall window.

EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS

Discover schools, programs and pathways designed to prepare students for college, career and what comes next.

LEARN MORE AND APPLY:

www.sarasotacountyschools.net/CHOICE





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HOW TO APPLY

1) FIND YOUR ZONED SCHOOL

Use the district's attendance zone search to identify your assigned school.

2) EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS

Review participating schools, grade levels, programs, tours and SPIN events.

3) APPLY ONLINE

Apply on the Focus Parent Portal during either application window.

4) CHECK YOUR EMAIL

Expect placement decisions in mid-December for fall applicants and mid-April for spring applicants.

5) RESPOND TO YOUR OFFER

Families will have approximately two weeks to accept or decline an offer.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Placements are determined through a random lottery, not on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Placement is based on available capacity and is not guaranteed.
- Transportation is not provided.
- Students not placed in the fall will remain on the waitlist and do not need to reapply in spring.
- Current School Choice students do not need to reapply to remain at the same school.
- Magnet and special programs may require separate applications.

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Questions? Contact:

The Office of School Choice | (941) 927-9000 ext. 32258

