

## Multicultural Programs

The following programs prepare students to attend challenging public or private high schools. They do not provide scholarships, but they may help you apply for financial aid from the schools themselves.

### A Better Chance (ABC)

[www.abetterchance.org](http://www.abetterchance.org)

Refers talented minority students to private and public high schools. Support services provided. Very selective.

### The Albert G. Oliver Program

[www.theoliverprogram.org](http://www.theoliverprogram.org)

This program recruits high achieving 7th grade African American and Latino students for placement in private high schools. Two intensive summer immersion programs focus on academic and leadership skills. Community service required. Very selective.

### Breakthrough New York

[www.breakthroughnewyork.org](http://www.breakthroughnewyork.org)

A two-year enrichment program for highly motivated middle school students. Includes a summer program, year-round classes, tutoring, mentoring and placement guidance for private and public high schools. Very selective.

### Prep for Prep

[www.prepforprep.org](http://www.prepforprep.org)

This program recruits African American, Asian and Hispanic 5th and 6th graders for placement in private day schools. The PREP 9 program recruits seventh graders for placement in private high schools, including boarding schools. This is a rigorous 14-month program. Support services provided. Very selective.

## Homeschooling

### About.com

<http://homeschooling.about.com>

About.com covers support groups, curriculum resources, special needs issues and more.

### American Homeschool Association

[www.americanhomeschoolassociation.org](http://www.americanhomeschoolassociation.org)

News, information and resources for homeschoolers. Sponsored in part by the publishers of *Home Education Magazine*.

## New York City Home Educators Alliance

[www.nychea.org](http://www.nychea.org)

Hosts family events like art fairs and field trips. Annual membership fee.

## Special Needs/Gifted & Talented

### The Child's Place for Children with Special Needs

[www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/chilids\\_place.jsp](http://www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/chilids_place.jsp)

The Child's Place for Children with Special Needs is located in six barrier-free locations of Brooklyn Public Library. It offers unique free programs for special needs and other children from birth to age 12. The Parent Information Center at Flatlands Library contains books and other resources for parents and caregivers.

### Flatlands Library

2065 Flatbush Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11234  
718.253.4948 (voice)  
718.253.5034 (TTY)

### GT-CyberSource

[www.gt-cybersource.org](http://www.gt-cybersource.org)

Collects resources for gifted and talented children and teens. Click on "Resources" for links to summer programs, academic competitions and alternative educational options.

### Resources for Children with Special Needs, Inc.

[www.resourcesnyc.org](http://www.resourcesnyc.org)

Provides information and referral, parent support, advocacy services, workshops, library services, directories and publications. The free online database of services and organizations is searchable by disability or categories such as education. For parents and caregivers of children and young adults up to age 26 with special needs or disabilities. *Staff speak English and Spanish.*

Resources for Children with Special Needs, Inc.  
116 East 16th Street, Fifth Floor  
New York, NY 10003  
212.677.4650 (free helpline)

## Classes & Activities

The following websites provide information on after-school and summer programs. Students can also check with their school guidance office for information about special programs offered only through their school.

### After-School Program Directory

#### New York City Department of Youth and Community Development

<http://dycd-app.webscope.com/directory>

Search for free after-school and summer programs for children and teens in your area. Or call 800.246.4646.

### Brooklyn Public Library

[www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org](http://www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org)

Our sixty neighborhood libraries offer free after-school programs and classes for all ages.

### GoCityKids

[www.gocitykids.com](http://www.gocitykids.com)

Search by neighborhood for free or fee-based classes, lessons and more.

### NYS MetroParents

[www.nymetroparents.com/bestbets.cfm](http://www.nymetroparents.com/bestbets.cfm)

A searchable database for private schools and mostly fee-based after-school activities.

### New York State Summer School of the Arts

[www.emsc.nysed.gov/nysssa](http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/nysssa)

Intensive pre-professional training programs for New York State high school students in ballet, choral studies, dance, jazz studies, media arts, orchestral studies, theater and visual arts. Various locations. Tuition assistance available. Selection by audition.

### Office of Arts and Special Projects

#### New York City Department of Education

<http://schools.nyc.gov/artseducation>

Find information on special programs for K – 12 students in visual arts, music, dance and theater. Click on "Resources" to download the Arts & Cultural Education Services Guide, a list of opportunities with over 200 cultural organizations. Some programs are free; others charge a fee.

### SummerOnCampus

[www.summeroncampus.com](http://www.summeroncampus.com)

A directory of fee-based camps and programs at New York State colleges.

## PUBLIC & PRIVATE SCHOOLS & PROGRAMS: GRADES K-12

Brooklyn  
Public  
Library

## Education & Job

## Information Center

# Public & Private Schools & Programs: Grades K – 12

Education & Job Information Center  
Central Library  
10 Grand Army Plaza  
Brooklyn, NY 11238  
718.230.2177

[www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org](http://www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org)

# Public & Private Schools & Programs: Grades K-12

*In this guide for parents and students you'll find many websites to help you choose and apply to public and private schools and programs, grades K – 12.*

*Find more resource guides compiled by the Education & Job Information Center at [www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/ejic.jsp](http://www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/ejic.jsp).*

## General Information

### The Beehive

[www.thebeehive.org](http://www.thebeehive.org)

Click on "School" for help understanding the New York City school system. In English and Spanish.

### Easy School Search

[www.easyschoolsearch.com](http://www.easyschoolsearch.com)

Allows you to search by city or zip code for K – 12 schools. Get a map of schools in your area, and find student-teacher ratios, religious affiliations and racial diversity data.

### Education Helpline

[www.advocatesforchildren.org](http://www.advocatesforchildren.org)

The Education Helpline (866.427.6033) is free and available Monday through Thursday, 10 AM to 4 PM. Staff provides information, referrals and assistance in all school-related matters, in English and Spanish. For students, parents and education professionals.

### New York State Education Department

[www.nysed.gov](http://www.nysed.gov)

Provides information on a wide variety of education topics, including special education, testing and assessment, Regents exams, home schooling and education laws and regulations.

### School Data Direct

[www.schooldatadirect.org](http://www.schooldatadirect.org)

An easy to use, detailed source of financial, student performance and demographic data about individual schools and school districts in the U.S. Includes powerful advanced search and comparison tools.

### School District Index

[www.nysed.gov/admin/admindex.html](http://www.nysed.gov/admin/admindex.html)

Lists public and private schools with the names of their administrators. Scroll down to "NYC" to find New York City school districts.

## Public Schools

### InsideSchools

[www.insideschools.org](http://www.insideschools.org)

One of the best resources about the New York City public school system. Includes reviews of schools, news, survival tips, discussion forums, a calendar of important dates and information about dealing with common problems. Produced by an independent group of parents, children's advocates, journalists and teachers.

### New Visions for Public Schools

[www.newvisions.org](http://www.newvisions.org)

Promotes small public schools in New York City. Click "Find a School" on the top navigation bar for a directory of small public schools.

### New York City Center for Charter School Excellence

[www.nycchartercenter.org](http://www.nycchartercenter.org)

Dedicated to charter schools (independently run public schools created to meet specific goals). Find general information, school locations, test results and more.

## New York City Department of Education

<http://schools.nyc.gov>

An extensive guide to the public school system for students, parents and teachers. Includes a school directory with clickable map, school choices and enrollment information, school transfer request options, calendars and much more.

<http://schools.nyc.gov/daa/schoolreports>

This section of the Department of Education's website lets you look up test results, safety statistics and other information about individual public schools. Available in eight languages.

<http://schools.nyc.gov/offices/dyd/omp>

This section of the Department of Education's website offers alternative routes to a high school diploma for students who have dropped out or are in danger of dropping out, are under-credited or overage for their grade.

## Private Schools

### About.com

<http://privateschool.about.com>

About.com is a good starting point for general information on private schools.

### Board of Jewish Education (BJE) of Greater New York

[www.bjeny.org](http://www.bjeny.org)

Provides many educational resources and links for teachers and families of every Jewish denomination. Includes special needs programs and the BJE High School Entrance Examination.

### Boarding School Review

[www.boardingschoolreview.com](http://www.boardingschoolreview.com)

A searchable directory of boarding schools. Search for single sex, military or religiously affiliated schools, and read student reviews.

### Diocese of Brooklyn

[www.dioceseofbrooklyn.org/catholic\\_ed](http://www.dioceseofbrooklyn.org/catholic_ed)

A directory of Catholic schools in the borough.

### FinAid: Financial Aid for Private Elementary and Secondary Schools

[www.finaid.org/otheraid/privateschool.phtml](http://www.finaid.org/otheraid/privateschool.phtml)

Provides a brief overview of financial aid options for private school education.

### National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)

[www.nais.org](http://www.nais.org)

Provides advice on paying for private school, including a list of scholarships and loans. Link to the School and Student Service for Financial Aid (SSS) website to fill out the Parent Financial Statement (PFS), a financial aid form used by many schools.

### Peterson's K-12 Planner

[www.petersons.com/highschool](http://www.petersons.com/highschool)

Peterson's K-12 Planner is a directory of private schools and fee-based summer programs.

### TABS: The Association of Boarding Schools

[www.schools.com](http://www.schools.com)

A searchable database of accredited college-prep boarding schools.

## Entrance Exams

*Many private and/or specialized schools require applicants to take an entrance exam before being considered for admission.*

### Educational Records Bureau (ERB)

[www.erbtest.org](http://www.erbtest.org)

Provides information about the Early Childhood Entrance Exam (ECEE) and the Independent School Entrance Examination (ISEE).

### New York City Department of Education

<http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/StudentEnroll/HSAmissions/HSDirectory/Specialized>

This section of the Department of Education's website provides a specialized student handbook describing programs and admissions procedures for the highly selective public high schools.

### Specialized High School Institute

No website. Contact your school guidance office to apply for a free 16-month preparation program for the Specialized High Schools Admissions Test. Sixth graders can apply to two summer academies and receive school year tutoring. Applications for 6th graders are available from school guidance counselors in winter/spring.

### TACHS Information

[www.tachsinfo.com](http://www.tachsinfo.com)

Provides information on the Test for Admission into Catholic High Schools (TACHS).