This document contains information about admissions testing for students applying to K-8th grade Selective Enrollment Elementary Schools (SEES). **All applicants to SEES programs MUST participate in admissions testing. The following program types are considered SEES programs:** Classical programs, Regional Gifted Centers, Regional Gifted Centers for English Learners (EL-Gifted programs), and Academic Centers (grades 7-8 only). **Note:** Magnet programs are NOT considered SEES programs and do not require testing. A complete list of SEES programs can be found on the GoCPS Website.

Test Details

Classical Exam - An academic achievement test. Applicants are scored in the areas of Reading & Math.

Regional Gifted Exam - A reasoning skills test that taps into the student's ability to form abstract concepts and solve problems using novel information.
- The Academic Center admissions exam is the Regional Gifted Exam.

EL-Regional Gifted Exam - A reasoning skills test that is administered in the student's native language (Spanish or Polish). *Families must note in the application that Spanish or Polish is spoken by the student &/or spoken in the home to apply to an EL-Gifted program.*

When: Applying to...

Kindergarten - Classical and Regional Gifted Center exams are administered in a single test session. EL-Gifted exams must be scheduled separately. All kindergarten testing is administered individually and is untimed.

Grades 1-8 - All admissions exams must be scheduled as separate events. Students are tested in groups (unless student has accommodations that require individual administration).
Approximate testing time:

Exam	Time
Regional Gifted Exam	2 hours
Classical Exam	1.5 to 1.75 hours
EL-RGC Exam	30-60 min

Test Rescheduling

No-shows will NOT be automatically rescheduled.

Applicants can reschedule directly in the application until the 'Deadline to schedule' noted in the event section of the application has passed. If you can no longer reschedule in the application, please contact (773) 553-2060 or gocpstestingteam@cps.edu

➤How long until I receive my new test date? You will be contacted within 2 weeks of a rescheduling request.
➤ After the deadline to reschedule in the application has passed, students applying for SEES Testing may be offered up to ONE reschedule per examination (Classical or Gifted). All other requests will require a review.

All testing is for placement purposes only. CPS does not provide or endorse any test prep material.

How do I sign up for Selective Enrollment Elementary School (SEES) testing? All test registration takes place directly within the GoCPS application. You will be automatically prompted to sign up for a test session if you select at least one Selective Enrollment program. **In order for your test registration to process, you must fully submit the application within one hour.** You can edit your application through November 15, 2024 at 5pm.

I am trying to apply for SEES programs for my rising 7th grade student, but I can't find any in the program selection step of the application. Why? There are minimum GPA requirements for applicants to **5th-8th grade** SEES programs:

Classical/ Regional Gifted Centers	Minimum 3.0 GPA
Academic Centers (Grades 7-8)	Minimum 2.5 GPA
Regional Gifted Centers for ELs	Minimum 2.5 GPA

Families of current CPS students should contact their school directly if they believe there are errors with the grades on file in their student's account. Families of non-CPS students can input grades and upload a transcript containing 2023-2024 final (cumulative) grades in the "Age & Enrollment Status" tab of the student's EnrollWise profile. If your student's school does not provide traditional letter grades, please refer to the guidance document linked in the application.

Are students who test earlier at a disadvantage due to their younger age or because they have less time to prepare? No. Test results are normed to the student's age/grade at the time of testing. Therefore, we strongly recommend that families select from available dates and make arrangements to have their child attend their scheduled date. It's also important to note that scheduling an earlier test date will allow families a greater opportunity to reschedule their session if their child is sick or they are otherwise unable to attend their scheduled testing appointment.

I am being prompted to schedule a testing session, but when I click 'Book Session,' I get a message that indicates no sessions are available. What should I do? Please email gocps@cps.edu or call 773-553-2060. Make sure to mention the type of test you are trying to schedule (Classical, Gifted, or EL-Gifted), as well as the grade level your student is applying for and — if applicable/known — any relevant testing accommodations.

Test Results

➤ Results of Selective Enrollment exams will be provided to parents by the Office of Access & Enrollment in Spring 2025 on the same date that initial offers are released.
➤ To understand how tests are scored, please review the scoring rubrics available on the GoCPS website.

Test Protocols:

- It is highly recommended that only one parent or legal guardian accompanies the student into the testing facility. **Parents must wait for their child during testing.** In and out privileges are discouraged.
- **When to arrive?** Students should arrive at the testing site 15-20 minutes before the time of the test to allow for check-in.
- Families will be sent a reminder email and testing ticket 3-5 days prior to their student's scheduled test session. If you are unsure of your student's test date, please log into your child's GoCPS online portal to check the date and time. on the left-hand side of the page.
- Families may print their testing ticket or show it virtually on a smartphone. If families forget to bring their entrance ticket, a duplicate ticket will be provided for them at the testing site.
- We encourage you to take your child to the restroom prior to the examination.
- If a student begins to feel sick during the test, they must tell a staff member. We will then transport the student back to the parent.
- Prohibited materials include all personal electronic equipment not related to testing (e.g., cell phones, iPods, personal document scanners, eBooks, electronic pens, smart watches, Fitbit, calculators) and must be left with the parent/guardian. No food can be brought into the testing space.
- Students who engage in disruptive behavior at the testing site and/or who do not cooperate with the examiner may not be permitted to complete testing. Students who do not abide by the [Academic Honesty Policy](#) will be disqualified from testing.
- **What to bring?** Students applying to grades 2-8 (current 1st-7th graders) should bring two sharpened #2 pencils. Pencils will be provided to students applying to grades K-1 (current PreK/kindergarten students). Applicants to all grade levels may also bring a water bottle if desired.

Where to Go 📍

Most testing, with the exception of EL-Gifted testing, takes place at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT). The specific building location of your student's test will be provided in your testing ticket.

Click the Map to Enlarge

ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Public Transportation
➤ Red Line: Sox-35th
➤ Green Line: 35th- Bronzeville-IIT
➤ Metra (Rock Island): 35th St. - Lou Jones
➤ CTA Bus: 1, 4, 24, 29, 31, 35

Parking
➤ Street: Pay at the pay box or using the ParkChicago app
➤ Lot: Parents/ guardians should park in the following lots: B5, B4, C1, C2, or A4 South. Free on weekends
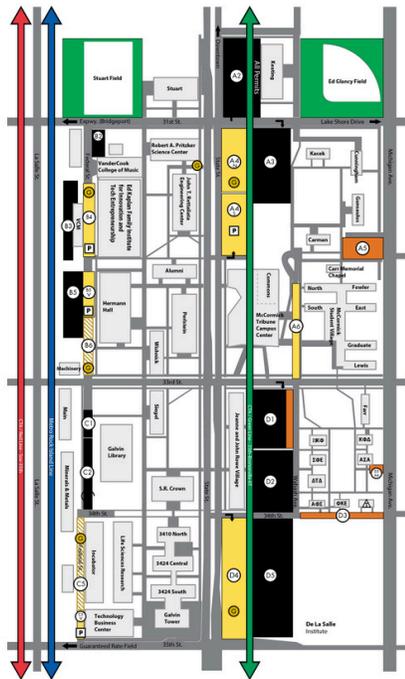
Accommodations

- If your student has an active Individual Education Program, a 504 Plan, or Service Plan from Chicago Public Schools, we can access and review this to plan for eligible accommodations, which will be provided.
- If your documents are from a different public school district and have been provided to our office for review in advance of the test date, eligible accommodations will be provided.
- Please note that providing accommodations may impact a student's testing parameters (for example, students with extended time will likely take longer to complete testing than is outlined elsewhere in this document).
- If there are questions in advance of testing, please contact gocpstestingteam@cps.edu or 773-553-2060. If you have questions on the day of the assessment, speak with a testing supervisor and address your concerns.

Health & Safety

- CPS employs a mask-optional model. If you desire your child to wear face coverings, they must be provided by the family.
- Students experiencing any of the symptoms below should not come to the test center and should follow the rescheduling procedures outlined on the previous page of this document:

  - Fever (100.4°F or higher)
  - Headache
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Cough
  - Sore throat
  - Vomiting or nausea
  - Diarrhea
  - New loss of sense of taste or smell
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Congestion or runny nose