



# PRIVATE SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAMS INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN

Bulletin 01-01

Revised November 2023

## Application Process

This bulletin applies to the Private School Choice Programs which includes the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP), Racine Parental Choice Program (RPCP), and Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP). This bulletin provides information for Choice administrators and their designees on the student application process for parents and schools. The information in this bulletin is based on Wis. Stats. §§118.60 and 119.23 and Wis. Admin. Code PI 35 and PI 48.

- Open Application Periods ..... 2
- Setting School Grades and Seats ..... 3
  - All Grades Offered by School - Grade Changes..... 3
  - MPCP and RPCP - Grade Changes ..... 3
  - MPCP and RPCP - Seat Changes..... 3
  - WPCP - Grade Changes..... 3
  - WPCP - Seat Changes (Including How to Increase Seats After the First Weekday in May) ..... 4
- Parent Application Requirements..... 5
- Information Schools Provide to Applicants ..... 6
  - Disclosure of Information ..... 6
  - Governing Board Meeting Dates Notification..... 6
- School Verification of Applications ..... 7
- Random Selection ..... 8
  - MPCP and RPCP Random Selection - Overview ..... 8
  - WPCP Random Selection - Overview ..... 9
  - WPCP Random Selection - DPI Notifies Parents of Students Chosen..... 11
  - WPCP Random Selection - DPI Notifies Parents of Students on WPCP Waiting List ..... 11
  - WPCP Random Selection - DPI Notifies Schools and Schools Complete Intent to Attend Report ..... 12
  - WPCP Random Selection - Timing for When Student Begins Attending the School and Payments..... 13
  - WPCP Random Selection - Student Applies to Multiple WPCP Schools ..... 13
  - WPCP Random Selection - Parent Wishes to Transfer WPCP Voucher to a Different WPCP School..... 14
    - WPCP Voucher Transfer Option 1 - School Preference Change ..... 14
    - WPCP Voucher Transfer Option 2 - Student Moves ..... 16
  - WPCP Random Selection - Parent Wishes to Transfer Application on WPCP Waiting List to a Different WPCP School ..... 17
  - WPCP Random Selection - Parent Declines or Did Not Contact School/Accept WPCP Voucher by Deadline and Later Wants to Accept Voucher..... 19
  - WPCP Random Selection - Student Moves ..... 20
  - WPCP Random Selection - Student Withdrawals..... 20
  - WPCP Random Selection - Student Withdraws and Later Wants to Accept WPCP Voucher ..... 21
  - WPCP Random Selection - Student Applies to the WPCP and the MPCP or RPCP..... 21
  - WPCP Random Selection - Student Applies to the WPCP and the SNSP ..... 21
- School Notification of Acceptance or Non-Acceptance to Applicants..... 22
- School Submission of Applications in OAS ..... 22
- Timing of Choice Payments ..... 23
- Appendix A: Recommended Steps to Processing Applications ..... 24

### Abbreviations/Definitions

Choice or PSCP = Private School Choice Programs  
 DOR = Department of Revenue  
 DPI = Department of Public Instruction  
 MPCP = Milwaukee Parental Choice Program  
 ITP = Notice of Intent to Participate

OAS = Online Application System  
 Parent = Parent or Guardian  
 RPCP = Racine Parental Choice Program  
 SNSP = Special Needs Scholarship Program  
 WPCP = Wisconsin Parental Choice Program

Please contact the DPI with questions at [privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov) or call 1-888-245-2732 ext. 3.

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction  
 Jill K. Underly, PhD, State Superintendent  
 125 S. Webster Street, P.O. Box 7841  
 Madison, WI 53707-7841

Parental Education Options  
 Private School Choice Programs  
 888-245-2732, ext. 3  
[privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov)

<https://dpi.wi.gov/parental-education-options/choice-programs>

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, or ability and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups.

**Open Application Periods:** Below are the general dates for the open application periods. For the MPCP and RPCP, if the last day for any of these open application periods falls on a weekend, the final day of the open application period is extended to the following Monday. The last day of the December-January application period may be earlier depending on the date for the 2nd Friday in January. Please also note that the April open application period for the MPCP and RPCP may end on a different end date than the WPCP open application period. [See the School Verification of Applications section of this bulletin for the specific open application period dates for the 2024-25 school year.](#)

MPCP	RPCP	WPCP
1 <sup>st</sup> weekday in February-20  March 1-20 April 1-20 May 1-20 June 1-20 July 1-20 August 1-20 September 1-14 October 1-20* November 1-20* December 1- January 7* *2nd semester participation only	1 <sup>st</sup> weekday in February-20  March 1-20 April 1-20 May 1-20 June 1-20 July 1-20 August 1-20 September 1-14	1 <sup>st</sup> weekday in February - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday in April

**MPCP and RPCP:** Schools notify the DPI, on the school’s ITP due annually by January 10, which open application period(s) the school will participate in during the upcoming school year. No amendments related to the open application periods are allowed after January 10. Parents will be able to apply to schools during the open application period(s) the school identifies on the ITP.

Schools should consider the following when selecting the open application periods in which the school will participate: when parent tax information will be available, school breaks, holidays and staffing levels, size of school’s waiting list, [Timing of Choice Payments](#), and the school’s start date.

Schools may allow students applying after school starts to attend the school before the end of the application period in which the student applies; however, the school *may not* notify the family if the student is accepted as a Choice student until the application period ends. Schools must follow the guidelines in the Student Tuition and Fees Bulletin, available on the [Choice Programs: DPI Bulletins](#) webpage, for Choice students once they have accepted the seat. MPCP schools with October, November, and/or December application periods may determine if the student begins attending before the end of the first semester.

**WPCP:** Schools are required to participate in the February-April open application period, and parents will be able to apply to schools during that open application period.

**Setting School Grades and Seats:** On the school's ITP due January 10, all Choice schools notify the DPI of all the grades the school will offer AND the grades the school will offer for each Choice program in which the school will participate (MPCP, RPCP and/or WPCP) for the upcoming school year. Additionally, on the school's ITP, all Choice schools notify the DPI of the number of Choice seats available by grade level at the school for MPCP, RPCP, and/or WPCP for the upcoming school year. Schools should take into account any returning students when determining the grades and number of seats available entered on the ITP and must not exceed any capacity limit for the facility. If the school indicates fewer seats available in a grade than the number of returning students for the MPCP, RPCP or WPCP, some returning students will not receive a seat and will be placed on a waiting list.

**For new and continuing schools with a surety bond,** the ITP will calculate the school's estimated annual Choice payments based on the number of Choice seats the school indicates are available on the ITP. Any changes made to the number of Choice seats available after January 10 (the due date of the ITP) will not impact the required amount of the surety bond due by May 1. If the school's actual 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September pupil count is higher than the number of seats available in the school's ITP, a revised surety bond may be required. See the "Surety Bond Changes" slides in Training 3-5: Surety Bond and New School Budget & Cash Flow Report, available on the [Choice Programs: On Demand Training](#) webpage, for additional information regarding a surety bond.

**All Grades Offered by School - Grade Changes:** Schools who wish to make changes to the grades offered by the school after January 10 (the due date of the ITP), must submit a [School Information Update Form](#) to the DPI. All grades offered by the school may or may not be the same as the grades offered for the MPCP, RPCP, and/or WPCP. If a school contracts with a public school district to provide educational programming for all students in a grade (i.e. K4 in a community based program), the school should not indicate that it offers that grade.

**MPCP and RPCP - Grade Changes:** Grades offered for the MPCP and/or RPCP may be changed prior to an open application period by submitting a [School Information Update Form](#) to the DPI. The form must be submitted to the DPI at least one business day prior to the start of the open application period. **Schools should not submit a School Information Update Form if only revising seat numbers for grades already offered for the MPCP and/or RPCP.** As indicated in the MPCP and RPCP - Seat Changes section of this bulletin, schools do not need to notify or provide the revised MPCP and/or RPCP seat numbers to the DPI, unless requested.

**MPCP and RPCP - Seat Changes:** Prior to each open application period, the school must determine the number of seats still available for the MPCP and/or RPCP at each grade level.

- Schools may only revise (increase or decrease) the number of MPCP and/or RPCP seats available prior to an open application period.
- Schools may change the total number of MPCP and/or RPCP available seats for the school when revising the number of seats by grade.
- After the end of all application periods for the school year, schools may increase the number of MPCP and/or RPCP seats available.
- Schools must fill new MPCP and/or RPCP seats from the school's waiting list first, if applicable.
- Schools may not take a seat away from a student that previously accepted a seat if the number of seats for a grade are decreased.
- Schools must not exceed any capacity limit for the facility when revising the number of seats.

Schools should document any revisions made to the number of MPCP and/or RPCP seats (using a process defined by the school); however, the school **does not need to notify or provide the revised** MPCP and/or RPCP seat numbers to the DPI, unless requested.

**WPCP - Grade Changes:** WPCP schools cannot add grades on or after the first weekday in February (the start of the WPCP application period). WPCP schools who wish to add grade(s) after Jan 10 (the due date of the ITP) and prior to the start of the WPCP application period may email [privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov) to make the request. The request must include the grade(s) the school wishes to add for the WPCP and the number of WPCP seats for those grade(s). If the school is making the request to add grade K4, the school must also indicate whether or not the school will offer outreach. The request must be received least one business day prior to the start of the WPCP application period.

## WPCP - Seat Changes (Including How to Increase Seats After the First Weekday in May):

- WPCP schools who wish to lower seat numbers for any grade(s) after Jan 10 (the due date of the ITP) and prior to the start of the WPCP application period may email [privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov) to make the request. The request must include the grade(s) the school is requesting to lower seat numbers for and the number of available WPCP seats for those grade(s). **The request must be received at least one business day prior to the start of the WPCP application period.**
- **The Available WPCP Seats report in OAS generally has the number of WPCP seats** the school indicated available for each grade on the ITP.
- **WPCP schools must submit the Final WPCP Seats report in OAS indicating the number of seats available by grade level for WPCP students by the first weekday in May.** Schools MUST submit this report by the first weekday in May even if they are NOT increasing WPCP seat numbers for any grade(s).
  - The report will open in OAS around the first weekday in April. Schools may submit the report beginning the day following the end of the WPCP open application period. **The report is due by the first weekday in May.**
  - **Schools should ensure they are clicking on “Final WPCP Seats” on the left menu bar in OAS** and not “Available WPCP Seats” (the Available WPCP Seats report has the seat numbers entered by the school on ITP that was due by Jan 10 and is not a separate report submitted by the school”).
  - Schools should take into account any returning WPCP students. If the school indicates fewer seats available in a grade than the number of returning WPCP students when completing the Final WPCP Seats report in OAS, some returning students will not receive a seat and will be placed on the WPCP waiting list.
  - The number of seats on the Final WPCP Seats Report does not include the school’s private pay students or students that participate in the MPCP, RPCP, or SNSP, if the school participates in these programs.
  - In the report, **WPCP schools may increase (not decrease) the number of WPCP seats available in a grade.**
  - The school’s overall number of WPCP seats will increase if the school increases WPCP seats for any grade(s).
  - If on the Final WPCP Seats Report in OAS the number in the “Total Student Apps” column (*eligible WPCP applications*) for a grade is less than the number in the “Original Number of Seats” column (*WPCP seats entered on ITP*) for that grade, the school cannot decrease the number in the “Final Number of WPCP seats” column on the report in OAS. However, in the WPCP random selection for that grade, the most students that would be offered seats would be the number in the “Total Student Apps” column, regardless of the number in the “Final Number of Seats” column. See the [WPCP Random Selection Overview](#) section of this bulletin for additional information.
- **WPCP schools may request to increase the number of seats for grade(s) after the first weekday in May** (the due date of the Final WPCP Seats Report). If after the first weekday in May the school would like to increase the WPCP seat numbers that were reported on the Final WPCP Seats report for any grade(s), the school’s Choice administrator must email [PrivateSchoolChoice@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:PrivateSchoolChoice@dpi.wi.gov) the request **as soon as possible and also prior to the 3rd Friday in September** as requests must be reviewed, approved (if applicable) and processed by the 3rd Friday in September. The request should include the grade(s) that the school would like to increase seats for, the new total number of seats being requested for those grade(s), and the reason the school is increasing the seats. If the request to increase seats is approved, any additional WPCP seats are filled, if applicable, following the process in the [WPCP Random Selection – Overview](#) section of this bulletin. **Reminders:** In addition to the school having space available in a grade, students on the WPCP waiting list must not be affected by a school district pupil membership limit in order to be offered a WPCP seat. See the next bullet for directions on how to view the current number of WPCP seats by grade. See the [WPCP Random Selection – DPI Notifies Parents of Students on WPCP Waiting List](#) section of this bulletin for directions on how to view student applications that are on the WPCP waiting list.
- **Schools may view the number of WPCP seats by grade as follows:**
  - Log into OAS. Schools participating in multiple Choice programs must log in with their WPCP user name and password.
  - Click “Final WPCP Seats” located on the left side menu bar. *Note: Prior to schools submitting this report, which is due by the first weekday in May, click “Available WPCP Seats” located on the left side menu bar to view the available WPCP seat numbers (data from Notice of Intent to Participate).*
  - Click “Next” on the Instruction page.
  - See the “Final WPCP Seats” page of the report for the number of WPCP seats by grade.
    - See the “Final Number of Seats” column on this page of the report for the number of WPCP seats for each grade.
    - Student applications with a status of “Submitted” or “Verified” on the “App Summary” page in OAS are included in the “Total Student Apps” column.

- Applications with a status of “Submitted” are students that were offered and accepted a WPCP voucher seat and the school entered a response of “Yes, Will Attend” on the Intent to Attend report in OAS.
    - Applications with a status of “Verified” on the “App Summary” in OAS are students on the WPCP Waiting list.
  - After the first weekday in May, schools cannot update the Final WPCP Seats Report. If the school is interested in increasing seats for any grade(s) listed on this report, the school should email the DPI following the process indicated above. *Reminder: WPCP schools cannot add grades on or after the first weekday in February (the start of the WPCP application period).*
  - The number of seats on the Final WPCP Seats Report does not include the school’s private pay students or students that participate in the MPCP, RPCP, or SNSP, if the school participates in these programs.
- **WPCP schools do not need to increase seats on the Final WPCP Seats Report in OAS in order to make a grade change for a student on a membership report** (Preliminary Enrollment Report, the 3rd Friday in September Count Report, or the 2nd Friday in January Count Report) if the school would not have enough WPCP seats with the grade change. Please see the “What if the student’s grade level is incorrect in OAS?” question in the Application Verification and Corrections FAQ, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage, for additional information.

**Parent Application Requirements:** All applicants, regardless of their Choice status in the prior school year, must apply for the program every year and must meet program residency requirements at the time of the application.

Parents must, within the open application period(s) for each program, do the following for ALL students (new and continuing):

1. Complete and submit Choice program applications electronically via the Online Parent Application at [dpi.wi.gov/choice](http://dpi.wi.gov/choice); and
2. Provide the school(s) to which they apply proof of student eligibility including residency documentation and income documentation (if applicable). This documentation must be received by the school prior to the close of the application period in which the application is submitted via the Online Parent Application.

Parents may provide the required application documents to the school electronically. A school can use a pdf, picture, or print screen of a required application document as long as the document includes all of the required components and Wisconsin law permits copying of the document. A partial document is acceptable as long as the document includes all of the required components except for two application related documents. The first is that the school must obtain and retain the first two pages of the federal income tax return if it is required support for the application. The second is that if a lease agreement is used for residency documentation, the lease provided must be a complete, signed lease. The resources available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage include information on the required components for each required application document. Appendix C of the Residency Documentation Bulletin, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage, includes a summary of documents that may be obtained as part of an application that cannot be copied.

The Student Eligibility and the Application Grade or Prior Year Requirement Bulletin, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage, provides a general overview of the Choice program eligibility requirements and in depth information on the additional application grade or prior year requirement students are generally required to meet to be eligible for the RPCP or the WPCP. This additional requirement does not apply to the MPCP.

**Schools may assist parents during the application process, but schools may not submit applications on behalf of parents in the Online Parent Application. Schools may answer questions and have computers available for parents to use.**

Schools may check if their continuing students have applied for the Choice program for the school for the 2024-25 school year by comparing 2024-25 student applications to prior year student application information in OAS. Schools may view student information for both current and prior school years, including the 2023-24 school year, via the “Export to Excel” function in the [Online Application System](#). See [Appendix A \(2. g.\)](#) in this bulletin for additional information.

## Information Schools Provide to Applicants:

**Disclosure of Information:** Schools must provide to each student or parent that applies to the Choice program at the school the information listed in the Disclosure of Information template, available on the [Choice Programs: School Submitted Reports and Forms](#) webpage. Schools must also provide the applicant with a copy of the certificate issued under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, if issued to the school. Schools may maintain a school policy to determine the reasonable period to provide this information to each student or parent that applies to attend the school. Schools may meet the requirement to provide this information a number of ways including: handing out a packet, posting on the school's website, mailing or emailing a copy to the parent, etc. If a school posts the information on its website, the school must communicate to each student or parent that applies that the information is posted on the website. Schools must provide the information to families that do not have access to a computer.

**MPCP and RPCP only: Upon receipt of a complete application** with the required supporting documentation during the open application period, the school shall notify applicants of the information below. Notice of this information may be provided by sending a letter or email to each applicant or by prominently posting the information on the school's website, office or hallway bulletin board.

1. the number of seats available at the grade level of the applicant;
2. the dates of the open application period;
3. the date and location of a random drawing for acceptance if more applications are submitted than there are seats available;
4. that the applicant is not required to be present at the random drawing; and
5. that the applicant will be notified after the drawing (but no later than 60 days after the end of the application period during which an application is received), of their acceptance or non-acceptance into the MPCP or RPCP at the school.

A student application is considered complete only if all of the following are received by the school during the open application period: a completed Choice program student application in the Online Parent Application; proof of income eligibility, if required, (based on the DOR income determination or submitted alternative income documentation as required by the DPI); proof of residency; and a completed "Annotation of Birth Certificate" form and/or immunization record for 4-year-old kindergarten, 5-year-old kindergarten and first grade students (if required by the school).

**Governing Board Meeting Dates Notification:** Schools must notify each student (Choice and non-Choice), or the parent of each minor student, applying to attend the private school or attending the private school of the two meetings for the 2024-25 school year at which members of the governing body of the private school will be present and at which students, and the parents of students, applying to attend or attending the private school may meet and communicate with the members of the governing body.

Schools may meet the notification requirement of the two meeting dates, time, and place in a number of ways including: handing out a printed document, posting on the school's website, mailing or emailing a copy to the parent, etc. If a school posts the information on its website, the school must communicate to each student or parent that applies or who attends the school that the information is posted on the website. Schools must provide the information to families that do not have access to a computer. As a reminder, **the notification must be made at least 30 days before each of the two scheduled meeting dates.**

If a new school is under a Combined School Agreement, the governing body of the private school that the school has the agreement with must be present at the two meetings since this is the school's governing body for purposes of the Choice program.

The school will notify the DPI on the September Count Report in OAS (that is due by the last week of September) the dates of the two meetings that will occur during the 2024-25 school year. See the "School Term, Meeting Dates, and Hours of Instruction" section of Training 9-3: 3rd Friday in September & 2nd Friday in January Count Reports, available on the [On Demand Training](#) webpage for additional information.

**School Verification of Applications:** A Choice school administrator/designee must complete the eligibility determination and verification for all applications in OAS. School administrators/designees are reminded that their signature in the application (i.e. completion of the verification in the App Summary screen in OAS) attests that he or she has closely reviewed the application along with the required supporting documentation and determined the student is or is not eligible for the Choice program. Prior to the end of the application period in which the parent applies, schools may work with a parent who submitted an incomplete application in order to assist the parent in submitting all the required information before the end of the application period. Additional information on the application verification process is available in the Residency Documentation Bulletin, the Income Documentation Bulletin, and the Application Verification and Corrections FAQ document, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage. The DPI recommends schools use the “Student Application Checklist” available at the same link to ensure that each student file includes all required information.

Schools may find applications that have not been verified in OAS as follows:

- Log into OAS. Schools participating in multiple Choice programs must log in with each of their applicable program user names and passwords.
- Click “App Summary” located on the left side menu bar.
- Filter the “Enroll Pd:” drop down located at the top of the screen by open application period month name. *Note: This does not apply for the WPCP since there is only one application period for the WPCP.*
- Check the “Not Yet Verified” filter box located at the top of the screen.
  - Applications that have not been verified by the school for the selected open application period will be displayed. The school must click the student name(s) and complete the verification process for these applications.
  - If the message “No records found” displays, the school has verified all applications for the open application period.

**Reminder: Schools that select the option** “Verification not complete. The parents/guardians have not yet provided all required residency and/or income documentation. The school must return at a later time to complete the verification. Application status will remain 'Not Yet Verified.' Schools must complete the verification by the date in the Application Process Bulletin or the application(s) will be ineligible.” in the Documentation Verification section of the OAS verification screen for application(s) **have not completed the verification of the application(s) and should return at a later time** to complete the eligibility determination and verification of the application(s) in OAS. These applications will continue to have a status of “Not Yet Verified” on the App summary screen in OAS until the school completes the verification of the applications.

**DOR Income Determination Check in Online Parent Application:** For applications where the parent elects to use the DOR Income Determination method and have the DOR determination completed by the school, the school should complete the DOR check prior to the end of the application period. If the DOR does not have records for the parent, the parent may switch to the DPI Income Determination method and re-submit the application in the Online Parent Application during the application period. *Schools may complete the DOR Income Determination after the end of the application period; however, if DOR does not have records for the parent, the application must be determined ineligible.* For applications where the student is determined to be Ineligible per DOR where the parent indicates to the school that the DOR Income Determination is incorrect, the school should see the “Applications Determined Ineligible by DOR” section of the Income Documentation Bulletin, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage, for information on how to proceed. Students who are determined Ineligible per DOR may not switch to the DPI Income Determination Method.

**MPCP and RPCP:** Schools participating in the MPCP and RPCP must complete the eligibility determination and verification for all applications in OAS prior to the next application period, prior to completing a random drawing, if required, within 60 days of the end of an application period during which an application is received by the school, or prior to the next count date, whichever occurs first.

The table below displays the MPCP and RPCP application period start and end dates and the last day to verify applications in OAS for each application period for the 2024-25 school year. The October, November and December application periods are only for the MPCP.

Application Period	Start	End	Last Day to Verify in OAS
Feb	2/1/2024	2/20/2024	4/20/2024
Mar	3/1/2024	3/20/2024	5/19/2024
Apr	4/1/2024	4/22/2024	6/21/2024

May	5/1/2024	5/20/2024	7/19/2024
Jun	6/1/2024	6/20/2024	8/19/2024
Jul	7/1/2024	7/22/2024	9/20/2024
Aug	8/1/2024	8/20/2024	9/30/2024
Sep	9/1/2024	9/16/2024	9/30/2024
Oct	10/1/2024	10/21/2024	12/20/2024
Nov	11/1/2024	11/20/2024	1/19/2025
Dec	12/1/2024	1/7/2025	1/31/2025

Note: Schools must submit applications in OAS prior to completing count reports for an application to be counted and eligible for payment.  
 \*Second semester participation only.

MPCP and RPCP applications that are not verified in OAS within 60 days of the end of an application period or by the last weekday in January for the December open application period will expire. These applications will have a status of “Expired after 60 Days” in OAS and will be ineligible for a voucher. Parents of these students may re-apply in a future application period, if available. If the school does not have any remaining open application periods for the applicable Choice program, the students will not be able to attend the school as Choice students.

**WPCP:** Schools participating in the WPCP must complete the eligibility determination and verification for all WPCP applications in OAS and have no WPCP applications with a status of “Not Yet Verified” by the first weekday in May. The table below displays the WPCP application period start and end dates and the last day to verify applications in OAS.

Application Period	Start Date	End Date	Last Day to Verify in OAS
WPCP	2/1/2024	4/18/2024	5/1/2024

**Random Selection:** The random draw determines which students will be offered a seat and which will be placed on a waiting list. If more MPCP, RPCP, or WPCP applications are received than MPCP, RPCP or WPCP seats available at the school and/or if there are more applications received than allowed per the school district pupil membership limit for the WPCP, a random draw must be held.

**MPCP and RPCP Random Selection - Overview:** After the close of the open application period, if the number of eligible MPCP or RPCP student applications for any grade level exceeds the number of MPCP or RPCP seats available at that grade level, the school will hold a random selection according to the Random Selection Agreement, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage, and determine which applications are accepted and the waiting list order. The random drawing for MPCP and RPCP schools, if required, must be held prior to the next application period, within 60 days after the end of the application period, or prior to the next count date, whichever occurs first.

Schools that conduct a draw will either give an equal chance to all eligible applications **or** give preference to continuing students and siblings per the Random Selection Agreement, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage. Additional information on the random draw is available in the Random Selection Agreement. Schools should note that determining a student’s eligibility for the Choice program and determining preference for enrollment in a random selection once they have been determined eligible are two separate processes.

Schools with a waiting list that have additional application periods must conduct a random drawing to determine the waiting list order for students that apply in these application periods (both new and continuing students) and place the students at the end of the current waiting list for the grade.

The OAS “Export to Excel” function has the data field “Choice Pupil Prior Year” (available in the “App – Miscellaneous” section of the OAS “Export to Excel” screen) that can be used to identify continuing students, who applied to your school, that attended any private school (your school or a different private school) under a Choice program during the previous year. MPCP and RPCP schools may consider using this information when performing a random draw to assist the schools who give preference in the random draw. The “Choice Pupil Prior Year” field will contain the following results:



- “Counted Same School” if the student was counted in the prior school year on either the 3rd Friday September or the 2nd Friday January Count Report at the same Choice school.
- “Counted Different School” if the student was counted in the prior school year on either the 3rd Friday September or the 2nd Friday January Count Report at a different Choice school.
- “Not counted” if the student was not counted in the prior school year on either the 3rd Friday September or the 2nd Friday January Count Report at a Choice school.

For additional information and instructions regarding the “Choice Pupil Prior Year” data field, see the question “How can schools see in OAS if a student participated in the Choice program in the prior school year?” in the Student Eligibility and the Application Grade or Prior Year Requirement Bulletin, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage.

**WPCP Random Selection – Overview:** All students (new and continuing) with eligible WPCP applications by the first weekday in May are included in the WPCP random selection. The DPI will repeat the random selection, as needed, up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in January. **WPCP applications must have a status of “Verified” in OAS to be included in a random selection.**

Under state law, the DPI will conduct the random selection for WPCP schools as follows:

- If a school has fewer applications than seats available and is not affected by the school district pupil membership limit, the DPI will approve all applicants verified as eligible by the school to attend the school.
- If more students apply than available WPCP seats at the school and/or the school received applications from students affected by the school district pupil membership limit, the DPI will randomly fill the available seats giving preference in the order of preference below:
  1. students who attended the private school under any Choice program during the previous year;
  2. siblings of students under number 1;
  3. students who attended any other private school under any Choice program during the previous year;
  4. siblings of students under number 3; and,
  5. siblings of students who have been randomly accepted to attend the private school under the Choice program who did not attend a private school under any Choice program in the previous year.
- If there are students that will not receive a voucher due to the school district pupil membership limit or school’s available WPCP seats, the students will be placed on the WPCP waiting list.

Returning WPCP students are not affected by the school district pupil membership limit; however, if schools indicate fewer seats available in a grade than the number of returning WPCP students, that will result in some returning students not receiving a seat and being placed on the WPCP waiting list.

Under state law, students on a prior year Choice waiting list (MPCP, RPCP, or WPCP) do NOT receive preference in the WPCP random selection for being on the waiting list in the prior year. Additionally, students currently attending the private school to which they applied for the WPCP as non-Choice students do NOT receive preference in the WPCP random selection for attending the school. New students could receive preference, if applicable, under #2, #4, or #5 in the above list of preferences in the [WPCP Random Selection – Overview](#) section.

**On the day of the initial WPCP Random Selection notification for the 2024-25 school year**, the DPI sends an email notification to both schools and parents.

- The initial random selection notification occurs by/in the summer. **No further information is available regarding the date of the initial random selection notification.**
- **Schools are notified** whether or not students who applied for the WPCP for their school are chosen in the random drawing (see the [WPCP Random Selection – DPI Notifies Schools and Schools Complete Intent to Attend Report](#) section of this bulletin for additional information).
  - The students listed on a school’s Intent to Attend Report in OAS are ONLY offered a seat in a random selection at that school and are NOT automatically offered a seat at another school in a future random selection if they do not accept the seat at your school ([click here](#) for additional information from the Intent to Attend Report Reminders section of this bulletin).
  - **If a student is NOT on the school’s Intent to Attend report in OAS AND the student has an application on the school’s Application Summary page** that the school determined eligible in OAS by the first weekday in May (i.e., had a status of “Verified” by the first weekday in May), see the [Student Applied but did NOT Receive Seat at Your School](#) part of this section of this bulletin for additional information. **Reminder:** Schools may click on a student’s name on the App Summary page to see how the school completed the verification of the application.

- The status of the student application on the Application Summary page in OAS is NOT updated with the response from the Intent to Attend until typically the day following the expiration date listed on the Intent to Attend Report in OAS (see the [After a Random Selection is Complete](#) section of this bulletin for additional information).
- **The parents of all students with eligible WPCP applications by the first weekday in May are sent an email** to the email address the parent used for the WPCP application notifying the parent if their student was selected to receive a WPCP seat or if the student is on the WPCP waiting list (see the [WPCP Random Selection – DPI Notifies Parents of Students Chosen](#) and [WPCP Random Selection – DPI Notifies Parents of Students on WPCP Waiting List](#) sections of this bulletin for additional information).
  - Parents may need to check their junk/spam folder(s) for the email.
  - **Parents do NOT have to receive the email in order to accept or decline the voucher and for the school to enter a response on the Intent to Attend report in OAS.**
  - **The DPI requests that schools/parents do NOT ask for copies of emails previously sent.**
  - **If a parent did not receive the email**, the school may inform a parent of student(s) on the school's Intent to Attend Report in OAS that they may accept or decline the voucher(s), regardless if they have the email, and the school should enter the response on the Intent to Attend Report in OAS (see the [WPCP Random Selection – DPI Notifies Schools and Schools Complete Intent to Attend Report](#) section of this bulletin for additional information).
- **Student Applied but did NOT Receive Seat at Your School: If a student that applied and had an eligible application by the first weekday in May to your school did NOT receive a seat at your school:**
  - **There are three possible reasons** why a student who applied to a school did not receive a seat at that school:
    - 1) The student lives in a public school district where the district cap limit was reached, and the student is on the WPCP waiting list;
    - 2) The school did not have space in the grade, and the student is on the WPCP waiting list; and
    - 3) The student applied to more than one school and received a seat at a different school.
  - The school may contact the parents if they have questions regarding the student being on the WPCP waiting list OR receiving/accepting a seat at another school. **Due to school and student privacy, the DPI does not provide further information.**
  - **If a student (who applied and had an eligible application to your school by the first weekday in May) received a seat at a different school and would like to change their school preference and transfer the voucher to your school**, see the [WPCP Voucher Transfer Option 1 – School Preference Change](#) section of this bulletin for information on how to proceed. Schools/parents may follow this process for the initial WPCP random selection and future random selections for the school year. **The parent should accept the voucher offered for the school the student was originally selected in the WPCP random selection to ensure the student's participation in the Choice program and then make the school preference change request.**
  - **If a student is on the WPCP waiting list**, the parent was notified via email, and the email included the reason (i.e., student resides in a public school district where the district cap limit was reached OR the school did not have space in the grade). See the [WPCP Random Selection – DPI Notifies Parents of Students on WPCP Waiting List](#) section of this bulletin for additional information regarding students on the WPCP waiting list.
    - 1) For additional information on the public school district membership limits, please see the “WPCP Public School District % enrollment limits” section of the [WPCP Enrollment and Payment History](#) webpage. The 2024-25 report will be posted mid-October. Schools may also view prior year reports for information.
    - 2) **If a student on the WPCP waiting list due to space limitations at the school wishes to transfer the WPCP application to a different WPCP school that has space available**, see the [WPCP Random Selection – Parent Wishes to Transfer Application on WPCP Waiting List to a Different WPCP School](#) section of this bulletin.
    - 3) If a school wishes to increase the number of WPCP seats for grade(s), see the [WPCP - Seat Changes \(Including How to Increase Seats After the First Weekday in May\)](#) section of this bulletin.

**Reminder: Students chosen in a WPCP random selection for a school do NOT remain on the WPCP waiting list at the school(s) where they did not receive a voucher if the student applied to multiple WPCP schools. Additionally, they are NOT later offered a WPCP voucher at another school even if they do not accept the seat at the school for which they were chosen.** See the [WPCP Random Selection - Student Applies to Multiple WPCP Schools](#) section of this bulletin for additional information. If the student would like to attend a different school to which they applied and had an eligible application than the school where the student was selected for in the WPCP random selection, **the parent should accept the voucher offered at the school the student was originally selected in the WPCP random selection** to ensure the student's participation in the Choice program and then make a school preference change/voucher transfer request if desired. See the [WPCP Random Selection – Parent Wishes to Transfer WPCP Voucher to a Different WPCP School](#) section of this bulletin for information for these students if the parent wishes to transfer the voucher to a different WPCP school to which they also applied.

After a random selection is completed (typically the day following the expiration date for a student on the Intent to Attend Report in OAS), the application in OAS will have the following status:

- Students that the school indicates “Yes, Will Attend” on the Intent to Attend report in OAS will have an application with a status of “Submitted” in OAS on the App Summary page in OAS.
- Students that the school indicates “No, Will Not Attend” or “No Answer” on the Intent to Attend report in OAS will have an application with a status of “Ineligible in Both Semesters” in OAS.
- Students on the WPCP waiting list will have an application with a status of “Verified” in OAS.
- Students that received a seat at a different school will have an application with a status of “Ineligible in Both Semesters” for the school(s) where the student did not receive the seat. See the [WPCP Random Selection – Student Applies to Multiple WPCP Schools](#) section of this bulletin for additional information.

The random selection may be repeated several times, and the DPI will fill available seats from the WPCP waiting list up to the 2nd Friday in January. See the [WPCP Random Selection – DPI Notifies Parents of Students on WPCP Waiting List](#) section of this bulletin for additional information regarding students on the WPCP waiting list.

**WPCP Random Selection – DPI Notifies Parents of Students Chosen:** The DPI notifies parents of WPCP students chosen in the random drawing directly via email. Parents of students chosen in the random drawing are given a deadline to confirm to the school their acceptance and indicate whether or not their students will attend the school. Parents may need to check their junk/spam folder(s) for the email. The email is sent to the email address the parent used for the WPCP application. **Parents do not have to receive the email in order to accept or decline the voucher and for the school to enter a response on the Intent to Attend report in OAS.** Parents may need to check their junk/spam folder(s) for the email. **The DPI requests that schools/parents do NOT ask for copies of emails previously sent. If a parent did not receive the email,** the school may inform a parent of student(s) on the school’s Intent to Attend Report in OAS that they may accept or decline the voucher(s), regardless if they have the email, and the school should enter the response on the Intent to Attend Report in OAS (see the [WPCP Random Selection – DPI Notifies Schools and Schools Complete Intent to Attend Report](#) section of this bulletin for additional information).

**WPCP Random Selection – DPI Notifies Parents of Students on WPCP Waiting List:** The DPI also notifies parents of students on the WPCP waiting list directly via email, and the email includes one of the following reasons: (1) student resides in a district where the number of applicants to the WPCP exceeded the district cap limit OR (2) space limitations at the school. Parents may need to check their junk/spam folder(s) for the email. The email is sent to the email address the parent used for the WPCP application. As noted in the [WPCP Random Selection – Overview](#) section of this bulletin, under state law, students on a prior year Choice waiting list (MPCP, RPCP, or WPCP) do NOT receive preference in the WPCP random selection for being on the waiting list in the prior year (see the [WPCP Random Selection – Overview](#) section for additional information). For additional information on the public school district membership limit, please see the “WPCP Public School District % enrollment limits” section of the [WPCP Enrollment and Payment History](#) webpage.

After a random selection is completed, the DPI will determine how many, if any, additional students from the WPCP waiting list can be offered a seat. If additional seats become available due to students that decline the voucher (response on Intent to Attend in OAS is “No, Will Not Attend” or “No Answer”) or later withdraw from a school, the DPI will fill the available seats from the waiting list following the process in the [WPCP Random Selection – Overview](#) section of this bulletin. The random selection may be repeated several times and the DPI will fill available seats from the WPCP waiting list up to the 2nd Friday in January. Schools should check their email regularly as the DPI will use email to communicate with schools regarding students that have been selected in the random drawing. The DPI will also notify parents of students that have been selected in a random drawing via email.

**If a school has students on the WPCP waiting list due to space limitations at the school and would like to increase WPCP seat(s) for grade(s)** so that selected student(s) who are on the WPCP waiting list may receive a voucher, see the [WPCP - Seat Changes](#) subsection of the [Setting School Grades and Seats](#) section of this bulletin for information on the process and timing for a school to may make a request to the DPI. Seats are filled from the WPCP waiting list, if applicable, following the process in the [WPCP Random Selection – Overview](#) section of this bulletin. **Reminder:** In addition to the school having space available in a grade, students on the WPCP waiting list must not be affected by a school district pupil membership limit in order to be offered a WPCP seat.

Schools may view student applications that are on the WPCP waiting list as follows:

- Log into OAS. Schools participating in multiple Choice programs must log in with their WPCP user and password.
- Click “App Summary” located on the left side menu bar.
- Check the “Verified” filter box located at the top of the screen.

- Students on the WPCP waiting list will have an application with a status of “Verified” in OAS. *Reminder: If a student application with a status of “Verified” on the “App Summary” screen was offered a seat in a recent WPCP random selection, the student application will be listed on the school’s Intent to Attend in OAS. After a random selection is completed (typically the day following the expiration date for a student on the Intent to Attend Report in OAS), the application status on the “App Summary” screen in OAS will be updated. See the [WPCP Random Selection – Overview](#) section of this bulletin for additional information. See the paragraph that starts with “After a random selection is completed...”.*
- If the message “No records found” displays, the school does not have students on the WPCP waiting list.

Students on the WPCP waiting list may attend the school as a non-Choice student in the 2024-25 school year. If the student were to remain on the WPCP waiting list for the entire 2024-25 school year, the student, when applying for the 2025-26 school year for the WPCP, would not be required to provide income documentation and would meet the Prior Year Requirement of “On a waiting list for the RPCP, WPCP or MPCP in the prior year”. Please see the Student Eligibility and the Application Grade or Prior Year Requirement Bulletin, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage, for additional information on Choice program student eligibility requirements.

If a student on the WPCP waiting list due to space limitations at the school wishes to transfer the WPCP application to a different WPCP school that has space available, see the [WPCP Random Selection – Parent Wishes to Transfer Application on WPCP Waiting List to a Different WPCP School](#) section of this bulletin.

**WPCP Random Selection – DPI Notifies Schools and Schools Complete Intent to Attend Report:** School administrators and designees will receive an email when students at their school are chosen in the random drawing. WPCP schools may view students that have been offered a seat at your school on the Intent to Attend Report in the Online Application System (OAS).

WPCP schools must notify the DPI of a parent’s intent to accept or decline the WPCP voucher by completing the Intent to Attend Report in OAS by the deadline indicated in the notification email as follows:

1. Log into OAS. Schools participating in multiple Choice programs must log in with their WPCP user and password.
2. Click on “Intent to Attend” on the left menu bar under “Applications”.
3. Students selected during earlier rounds and whose expiration dates have passed are “grayed-out” or disabled on the Intent to Attend page. Only the newly selected students will be enabled.
4. Enter the parent’s response by clicking on the radio button “Yes, Will Attend”, “No, Will Not Attend”, or “No Answer”.
5. Click “Save” at bottom of page.

### **Intent to Attend Report Reminders**

- **Schools are not required to enter responses for all students at the same time on the Intent to Attend report in OAS.** Schools may enter responses on the report as parents contact the school.
- The parents of all students on the school’s Intent to Attend report in OAS were sent an email, to the email address the parent used for the WPCP application, indicating the students were chosen in the WPCP random selection to attend the school for the 2024-25 school year. Parents may need to check their junk/spam folder(s) for the email.
- **Parents do not have to receive the email in order to accept or decline the voucher and for the school to enter a response on the Intent to Attend report in OAS.** Parents may need to check their junk/spam folder(s) for the email. **The DPI requests that schools/parents do NOT ask for copies of emails previously sent. If a parent did not receive the email,** the school may inform a parent of student(s) on the school’s Intent to Attend Report in OAS that they may accept or decline the voucher(s), regardless if they have the email, and the school should enter the response on the Intent to Attend Report in OAS.
- **The DPI does not require schools to receive a written response from parents** in order for the school to enter a student response on the Intent to Attend report in OAS. Schools may follow their school policy for how responses may be received (i.e. email, phone call, letter, signed school form, etc.).
- **The DPI requests schools enter a response of “Yes, Will Attend” or “No, Will Not Attend” for all students** on the Intent to Attend report. While schools may have a response of “No Answer” for a student, **the DPI requests schools contact families** listed on the report if they do not contact the school and determine if their student(s) will attend for the 2024-25 school year. If a parent fails to contact your school by deadline indicated in the notification email (i.e. student’s response is a “No Answer” on the Intent to Attend Report) or the student’s response is a “No, Will Not

Attend”, the voucher will be offered, if possible, to the next student chosen in the random selection which may not necessarily be a student that applied to your school.

- **The status of the application on the Application Summary page in OAS is not updated** with the response from the Intent to Attend until typically the day following the expiration date listed on the Intent to Attend Report in OAS (see the [After a Random Selection is Complete](#) section of this bulletin for additional information).
- **Students listed on the school’s Intent to Attend report in OAS are only offered a seat at that school** for the expiration date listed on the report. Students that have a response of “No, Will Not Attend” or “No Answer” on the school’s Intent to Attend report **are not automatically offered a seat at a different school and do not remain on the WPCP waiting list** for a different school if the student applied to and had eligible applications to multiple schools. Applications for all of these schools for the student would have a status of “Ineligible in Both Semesters” in OAS after the expiration date listed on the Intent to Attend report.
  - See the [WPCP Random Selection - Student Applies to Multiple WPCP Schools](#) section of this bulletin for additional information.
  - See the [WPCP Voucher Transfer Option 1 - School Preference Change](#) section of this bulletin for the process for students to make a school preference change request and the [WPCP Random Selection - Parent Declines or Did Not Contact School/Accept WPCP Voucher by Deadline and Later Wants to Accept Voucher](#) section of this bulletin for the process if a parent fails to contact the school or does not accept (declines) the WPCP voucher by the deadline and wants to accept the voucher after the deadline. *Parents must work with the school and make requests under these sections to the school, not the DPI.* Schools should forward the request to the DPI **as soon as possible and also prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September** as requests must be reviewed, approved (if applicable) and processed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September.

### **WPCP Random Selection – Timing for When Student Begins Attending the School and Payments:**

Students who are offered and accept a WPCP seat may start attending the school as indicated below:

- Students who are offered and accept a WPCP seat prior to the start of school may start attending the school as a WPCP student when the school resumes classes in the fall or in the summer if the school offers summer school.
- Students who are offered and accept a WPCP seat after the start of school and before the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September may immediately start attending the school as a WPCP student.
- Students who are offered and accept a WPCP seat after the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September may immediately start attending the school as a WPCP student or the school may determine if the student begins attending before the end of the first semester.

See the [Timing of Choice Payments](#) section of this bulletin for additional information about state aid payments for WPCP students based on when the student is offered and accepts a seat.

The school may not charge the student any tuition once they have accepted the WPCP seat regardless of when the student starts attending.

**WPCP Random Selection – Student Applies to Multiple WPCP Schools:** Parent of students that apply to the WPCP to multiple schools indicate their school preference in the Online Parent Application. See the “Student Screens” section of the “Online Parent Application Print Screens” at [dpi.wi.gov/choice](http://dpi.wi.gov/choice) for sample screens. The information below provides an overview of how the WPCP random selection works for students who apply to and have eligible applications for the WPCP at multiple schools.

- **Students not affected by a school district pupil membership limit in the WPCP random selection:** If the student’s first school preference does not have a waiting list for the student’s grade when the student is chosen in the WPCP random selection, the student would be offered a seat at the student’s first school preference. If the student’s first school preference has a waiting list for the student’s grade, the student would be offered a seat at the student’s second school preference as long as the school has seats available in the grade. This continues until the random selection goes through all the student’s school preferences and the student is either offered a seat or remains on the WPCP waiting list.
  - If these students are chosen in the WPCP random selection and accept the seat at the school that is offered, the application will have a status of “Submitted” in OAS for the school where these students accept the seat. The application(s) at the school(s) where these students do not receive the seat will have a status of “Ineligible in Both Semesters”.
  - If these students are chosen in the WPCP random selection and do not accept the seat at the school that is offered (response on Intent to Attend in OAS is “No, Will Not Attend” or “No Answer”), the students are not automatically offered a seat at a different school, the students do not remain on the WPCP waiting list, and

applications for all of these schools for the student would have a status of “Ineligible in Both Semesters” in OAS. See the [WPCP Voucher Transfer Option 1 – School Preference Change](#) section of this bulletin for the process for students to make a school preference change.

- If these students are not chosen in the WPCP random selection because the schools to which they applied do not have seats available in their grade, the students will be placed on the WPCP waiting list and their applications will have a status of “Verified” in OAS.
- *Students affected by a school district pupil membership limit in the WPCP random selection:* Students placed on the WPCP waiting list. These students will have applications with a status of “Verified” in OAS.

**Reminder:** Students chosen in a WPCP random selection for a school do NOT remain on the WPCP waiting list at the school(s) where they did not receive a voucher if the student applied to multiple WPCP schools. Additionally, they are NOT later offered a WPCP voucher at another school even if they do not accept the seat at the school for which they were chosen. See the [WPCP Random Selection - Student Applies to Multiple WPCP Schools](#) section of this bulletin for additional information. If the student would like to attend a different school to which they applied and had an eligible application than the school where the student was selected for in the WPCP random selection, **the parent should accept the voucher offered at the school the student was originally selected in the WPCP random selection** to ensure the student’s participation in the Choice program and then make a school preference change/voucher transfer request if desired. See the [WPCP Random Selection – Parent Wishes to Transfer WPCP Voucher to a Different WPCP School](#) section of this bulletin for information for these students if the parent wishes to transfer the voucher to a different WPCP school to which they also applied.

### **WPCP Random Selection – Parent Wishes to Transfer WPCP Voucher to a Different WPCP School:**

Please see the information below for the [TWO OPTIONS \(School Preference Change or Student Moves\)](#) for a student selected in the WPCP random selection to transfer the voucher to a different WPCP school.

#### **Reminders:**

- *If the WPCP open application period has not ended*, parents may update the school(s) and school preference(s) and re-submit the application in the Online Parent Application during the WPCP open application period.
- *The parent should accept the voucher offered at the school the student was originally selected in the WPCP random selection* to ensure the student’s participation in the Choice program and then make the school preference change/voucher transfer request. The preference change/voucher transfer will not be approved if the student did not have an eligible WPCP application for that school, that school does not have space available in the applicable grade, and/or the student did not accept the original voucher and the student resides in a school district affected by a school district membership cap.
- *Schools may increase seats for WPCP grade(s)*. See the [WPCP - Seat Changes](#) section of this bulletin and the bullet that begins with “WPCP schools may request to increase the number of seats for grade(s)...” for the process, requirements, and timing of a request to the DPI.
- This section of the bulletin applies to students that are selected and offered a WPCP voucher in the WPCP Random Selection. *If a student on the WPCP waiting list due to space limitations at school(s) wishes to transfer the WPCP application to WPCP school that has space available*, see the [WPCP Random Selection – Parent Wishes to Transfer Application on WPCP Waiting List to a Different School](#) section of this bulletin.

### **TWO OPTIONS to Transfer WPCP Voucher- School Preference Change or Student Moves:**

**If the student selected in the WPCP random selection does NOT meet one of the two options below**, the student cannot transfer the WPCP voucher from the school that the student was selected for in the WPCP random selection to another WPCP school for the 2024-25 school year. [Click here](#) for additional information if the student does not meet one of the two options below.

**If the student selected in the WPCP random selection qualifies for either option below**, the parent must work with and provide information to the school to which they would like to transfer the WPCP voucher and that school will make the request to the DPI.

**WPCP Voucher Transfer Option 1 – School Preference Change:** The school to which the parent would like to transfer the WPCP voucher should follow [School Preference Change Steps 1-5](#) below to make this request to the DPI.

- To be eligible to request a WPCP School Preference Change, the parent of a student selected in the WPCP random

selection must have applied for the WPCP for the student to the school to which they wish to transfer the voucher during the WPCP open application period and have had an eligible application (application with a status of "Verified") to that school by the first weekday in May.

- The parent should contact the school to which they want to change their school preference, **as soon as possible and also prior to the 3rd Friday in September** as requests must be reviewed, approved (if applicable) and processed by the 3rd Friday in September, and that school will make the request to the DPI.
- This process must be followed to transfer the voucher from a higher preference school to a lower preference school (i.e., *student received seat at preference 1 school and wants to switch to preference 2 school*) OR from a lower preference school to a higher preference school (i.e., *student received seat at preference 2 school and wants to switch to preference 1 school because space became available*).
- The parent should accept the voucher offered for the school the student was originally selected in the WPCP random selection to ensure the student's participation in the Choice program and then make the school preference change request.

**School Preference Change Steps 1-5:** Below are the 5 steps the school (that the parent wants to transfer the voucher to) and the parent must follow. The DPI will notify the school whether or not the application may be transferred shortly after the receipt of the request.

1. The school to which the parent wants to transfer the WPCP voucher(s) should determine if the student(s) applied and had an eligible WPCP application to the school by the first weekday in May by viewing the App Summary screen and the Verification screen in OAS for the student application(s).
  - **If the student(s) had an eligible application on your school's App Summary screen in OAS** for the WPCP by the first weekday in May (regardless if the application status is "Ineligible in Both Semesters" due to the student receiving a seat at a different school), the school should continue to step 2. Schools may click on the student's name on the App Summary Screen in OAS to view how the school completed the verification of the application by the first weekday in May.
  - **If the student(s) did not have an eligible application on your school's App Summary screen in OAS** for the WPCP by the first weekday in May, the school should inform the parent that the student(s) do not meet the requirements for a school preference change request to your school. *Reminder: If a WPCP student moved between the day after the end of the WPCP open application and the 3rd Friday in August, see the [WPCP Voucher Transfer Option 2 - Student Moves](#) section of this bulletin for information on the, process, requirements, and timing for the request to the DPI to transfer the voucher.*
2. The parent should send a letter\* or email\* to the school to which they applied and want to change their school preference with the information below.
  - a) Parent Name(s)
  - b) Student Name
  - c) Statement requesting the student change their WPCP school preference to the school for the 2024-25 school year (statement must include the school name).

If there is more than one student for which the parent is making a request, the parent should include the above information for each student.

*\*A letter must be signed by a parent on the WPCP application, and an email must be from a parent on the WPCP application and include the email heading information (i.e. To line, From Line, Date, Subject).*

3. The school should review the letter or email request from the parent to make sure it includes the required information.
4. The school should then determine if the school has space available in the grade(s) for the student(s).
  - **If the school has space available in the grade(s) for the student(s)**, the school should send an email to [PrivateSchoolChoice@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:PrivateSchoolChoice@dpi.wi.gov), **as soon as possible and also prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September** as requests must be reviewed, approved (if applicable) and processed by the 3rd Friday in September, with the following:
    - The letter or email the parent sent to the school under number 2 above. A letter must be signed by a parent on the WPCP application, and an email must be from a parent on the WPCP application and include the email heading information (i.e. To line, From Line, Date, Subject); **AND**
    - A statement that the school has space available in the grade(s) for the student(s); **AND**
    - The student name(s), grade(s) and **OAS application number(s) for your school** that were

determined eligible by the first weekday in May in OAS by your school. *Reminder: Schools may click on the student's name on the App Summary Screen in OAS to view how the school completed the verification of the application by the first weekday in May, regardless if the application status is "Ineligible in Both Semesters" due to the student receiving a seat at a different school.*

*Note: If the school does not have enough seats on the Final WPCP Seats Report for the grade(s) for the student(s) and the school indicates the school has space available in the grade(s), the DPI will increase the seats on the report for the applicable grade(s) by the number related to the request. Seats are filled following the process in the [WPCP Random Selection - Overview](#) section of this bulletin.*

The DPI will review the request and notify the school via email whether or not the request is approved shortly after the receipt of the request.

- If the school preference change request is approved, the school will receive an email indicating (1) the request has been approved and (2) the general timeframe of when both the school and parent(s) will be notified via email that the student will be selected in a future WPCP random selection to attend your school for the 2024-25 school year. If the request is approved and the student does not meet the 3rd Friday September count requirement at the school, the student would be ineligible for the WPCP for the 2024-25 school year.
- If the school preference change request is not approved, the school will receive an email indicating (1) the request has not been approved and (2) the reason not approved (i.e., student did not have an eligible application to the school by the first weekday in May, parent did not accept the original voucher and student resides in a district affected by a public school district membership limit, or timing of the request does not meet requirements).
- **If the school does not have space in the grade(s) for the student(s)**, the school should inform the parent that the school does not have space for the student(s).

*Reminder: Schools may increase seats for WPCP grade(s). See the [WPCP - Seat Changes](#) section of this bulletin and the bullet that begins with "WPCP schools may request to increase the number of seats for grade(s)..." for the process, requirements, and timing of a request to the DPI.*

5. Schools should inform parents that if the request is approved, they may not be able to change their mind to switch back to the original school as a WPCP voucher student. This is because the seat that was offered to the parent at the original school may be filled by another student from that school's waiting list, if applicable.

**WPCP Voucher Transfer Option 2 – Student Moves:** The school to which the parent would like to transfer the WPCP voucher should follow the process in the "WPCP Student Moves and Wishes to Transfer to a Different School" section of the Residency Documentation Bulletin, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage, for the for the process, requirements (**including the 7 pieces of information needed**), and timing to make this request to the DPI.

- To be eligible to request a WPCP Student Mover Voucher Transfer, a WPCP student must move between the day after the end of the WPCP open application period (April 19, 2024 for the 2024-25 school year) and the 3rd Friday in August (August 16, 2024 for the 2024-25 school year) to a different Wisconsin school district outside the City of Milwaukee and the Racine Unified School District.
- Students who meet the move requirements are NOT required to have applied for the WPCP to the school to which they wish to transfer the voucher during the WPCP application period.
- The parent should accept the voucher offered for the school the student was originally selected in the WPCP random selection to ensure the student's participation in the Choice program and then make the voucher transfer request.
- The request must be made by the school to the DPI **by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in August AND must include the 7 pieces of information** listed under #2 in the "WPCP Student Moves and Wishes to Transfer to a Different School" section of the Residency Documentation Bulletin.
- The DPI will review the request and notify the school whether or not the voucher may be transferred shortly after the 3rd Friday in August.

For information regarding WPCP students who move that wish to stay at the same school OR students who are on the WPCP waiting list that move, see the [WPCP Random Selection – Student Moves](#) section of this bulletin.



**If the student was selected in the WPCP random selection and does not meet one of the [TWO OPTIONS \(School Preference Change or Student Moves\)](#)**, the student cannot transfer the WPCP voucher from the school that the student was selected for in the WPCP random selection to another WPCP school for the 2024-25 school year.

- Since the WPCP application period ends on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in April per state law, students cannot apply for the WPCP for the 2024-25 school year to include the additional school to which they want to transfer the voucher after this date. **There are no exceptions to this deadline.**
- The student may attend a private school as a non-Choice student for the 2024-25 school year and apply for the Choice program in a future school year **if they meet the eligibility requirements**. Please see the Student Eligibility and the Application Grade or Prior Year Requirement Bulletin, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage, for information on Choice program student eligibility requirements.
- The student may attend the school at which they received the WPCP voucher for the 2024-25 school year as a WPCP student and apply for a different private school for the Choice program in the following school year.

Note: A voucher for the MPCP or RPCP cannot be transferred to the WPCP. These students, **if they move and meet the eligibility requirements**, may apply to the WPCP for the current school year if the application period has not ended or apply for the WPCP in a future school year. See the Student Eligibility and the Application Grade or Prior Year Requirement Bulletin, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage, and the “Transferring, Student Records, and Changing Choice Schools” section of the [Choice Programs: Frequently Asked Questions for Parents](#) webpage for additional information.

### **WPCP Random Selection – Parent Wishes to Transfer Application on WPCP Waiting List to a Different WPCP School:** The parent must work with and provide information to the school to which they would like to transfer the WPCP application, and that school will make the request to the DPI.

- To be eligible to request a transfer of an application on the WPCP waiting list to a different school, the student must be on the WPCP waiting list **only** due to space limitations at school(s).
  - Students on the WPCP waiting list that reside in a district affected by a public school district membership limit are NOT eligible to transfer the application to a different school. *Note: If a student affected by a public school district membership limit moves between the day after the end of the WPCP application period and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in August, and wishes to transfer the application to a different WPCP school, that school must email [PrivateSchoolChoice@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:PrivateSchoolChoice@dpi.wi.gov) as soon as possible and also by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in August with the student name, new student address, and school district of new address.*
  - If a student is on the WPCP waiting list, the parent was notified via email, and the email included the reason. See the WPCP Random Selection – DPI Notifies Parents of Students on WPCP Waiting List section of this bulletin for additional information regarding students on the WPCP waiting list.
  - Students chosen in the WPCP random selection to attend a school, regardless of whether or not the student accepts the voucher, are not on the WPCP waiting list and are not eligible to transfer the application to a different school under this section. See the [WPCP Random Selection – Parent Wishes to Transfer WPCP Voucher to a Different WPCP School](#) section of this bulletin for information for these students if the parent wishes to transfer the voucher to a different WPCP school.
- Students on the WPCP waiting list **only** due to space limitations at school(s) are NOT required to have applied for the WPCP to the school to which they wish to transfer the application during the WPCP application period.
- The parent should contact the school to which they want to transfer the application to, **as soon as possible and also prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September** as requests must be reviewed, approved (if applicable) and processed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September, and that school will make the request to the DPI.
- The school to which the parent would like to transfer the WPCP application should follow the [WPCP Waiting List Application Transfer Steps 1-4](#) below to make this request to the DPI.

**WPCP Waiting List Application Transfer Steps 1-4:** Below are the 4 steps the school (that the parent wants to transfer the application to) and the parent must follow. The DPI will notify the school whether or not the application may be transferred shortly after the receipt of the request.

1. The parent should send a letter\* or email\* to the school to which they want to transfer the WPCP application with the information below.
  - a) Parent Name(s)
  - b) Student Name
  - c) Statement requesting the student’s WPCP application be transferred to the school (statement must include

the school name).

If there is more than one student for which the parent is making a request, the parent should include the above information for each student.

*\*A letter must be signed by a parent on the WPCP application, and an email must be from a parent on the WPCP application and include the email heading information (i.e., To line, From Line, Date, Subject).*

2. The school should review the letter or email request from the parent to make sure it includes the required information.
3. The school should then determine if the school has space available in the grade(s) for the student(s).
  - **If the school has space available in the grade(s) for the student(s)**, the school should send an email to [PrivateSchoolChoice@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:PrivateSchoolChoice@dpi.wi.gov), as soon as possible and also prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September as requests must be reviewed, approved (if applicable) and processed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September, with the following:
    - The letter or email the parent sent to the school under number 1 above. A letter must be signed by a parent on the WPCP application, and an email must be from a parent on the WPCP application and include the email heading information (i.e. To line, From Line, Date, Subject); **AND**
    - A statement that the school has space available in the grade(s) for the student(s).

*Note: If the school does not have enough seats on the Final WPCP Seats Report for the grade(s) for the student(s) and the school indicates the school has space available in the grade(s), the DPI will increase the seats on the report for the applicable grade(s) by the number related to the request if the request is approved. Seats are filled following the process in the [WPCP Random Selection - Overview](#) section of this bulletin.*

The DPI will review the request and notify the school whether or not the request is approved shortly after the receipt of the request.

- If the request to transfer the WPCP application is approved:
  - The school will receive an email indicating (1) the request has been approved (2) the general timeframe of when the application will be transferred and when both the school and parent(s) will be notified via email that the student will be selected in a future WPCP random selection to attend your school for the 2024-25 school year and (3) the school must obtain the required supporting documentation\* that must be included in the student(s) file for the auditor review. Schools must obtain residency documentation. Schools must also obtain income documentation if indicated on the OAS verification screen for the application.
 

*\*After the application has been transferred, the school may view the Application Summary screen and the student verification screen in OAS to determine the supporting documentation needed. The documentation must meet the requirements specified on the OAS verification screen (including the dates for the residency documentation). The school should contact the school to which the parent had an accepted application to obtain the documentation. Schools may contact the parent to determine which school to contact. Schools must follow up to receive the documentation as soon as possible. If the school is not able to obtain the documentation from the other school, the school should work with the parent to provide documentation to the school that meets the requirements per the Residency Documentation Bulletin and Income Documentation Bulletin, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage. The documentation must be available for the auditor to review as part of the September Enrollment Audit. If the additional documentation is not available by that time, the application will be determined ineligible.*
  - If the student does not meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday September count requirement at the school, the student would be ineligible for the WPCP for the 2024-25 school year.
- If the request to transfer the WPCP application is not approved, the school will receive an email indicating (1) the request has not been approved and (2) the reason not approved (i.e., student is not on the WPCP waiting list due to space limitations at school(s) or timing of the request does not meet requirements).
- **If the school does not have space in the grade(s) for the student(s)**, the school should inform the parent that the school does not have space for the student(s).

**Reminder:** Schools may increase seats for WPCP grade(s). See the [WPCP - Seat Changes](#) section of this bulletin and the bullet that begins with "WPCP schools may request to increase the number of seats for grade(s)..." for the process, requirements, and timing of a request to the DPI.

4. Schools should inform parents that if the request is approved, they may not be able to change their mind to transfer the application back to the original school. Students are not automatically offered a seat at the school to which the student originally applied if space becomes available at the original school.

**WPCP Random Selection – Parent Declines or Did Not Contact School/Accept WPCP Voucher by Deadline and Later Wants to Accept Voucher:** The WPCP random selection notification emails sent to the parents and schools state that if parents fail to contact the school by the deadline in the email, the vouchers are offered, if possible, to the next student chosen in the random drawing. If a parent fails to contact the school or does not accept (declines) the WPCP voucher by the deadline and wants to accept the voucher after the deadline, the parent should contact the school **as soon as possible and also prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September** as requests must be reviewed, approved (if applicable) and processed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September. After the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September, the student would not be able to participate in the WPCP for that school year.

Below are the 3 steps the school and the parent must follow to make a request to accept the voucher after the deadline. The DPI will notify the school whether or not the request to accept the voucher is approved shortly after the receipt of the request.

1. The parent should send a letter\* or email\* to the school with information below.
  - a) Parent Name(s)
  - b) Student Name
  - c) School name that student was chosen to attend in the random selection
  - d) Statement requesting the student attend the school as a WPCP student for the 2024-25 school year

If there is more than one student for which the parent is making a request, the parent should include the above information for each student.

*\*A letter must be signed by a parent on the WPCP application, and an email must be from a parent on the WPCP application and include the email heading information (i.e. To line, From Line, Date, Subject).*

2. The school should review the letter or email request from the parent to make sure it includes the required information.
3. The school should then determine if the school has space available in the grade(s) for the student(s).
  - **If the school has space available in the grade(s) for the student(s)**, the school should send an email to [PrivateSchoolChoice@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:PrivateSchoolChoice@dpi.wi.gov), **as soon as possible and also prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September** as requests must be reviewed, approved (if applicable) and processed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September, with the following:
    - The letter or email the parent sent to the school under number 1 above. A letter must be signed by a parent on the WPCP application, and an email must be from a parent on the WPCP application and include the email heading information (i.e. To line, From Line, Date, Subject); **AND**
    - A statement that the school has space available in the grade(s) for the student(s).

*Note: If the school does not have enough seats on the Final WPCP Seats Report for the grade(s) for the student(s) and the school indicates the school has space available in the grade(s), the DPI will increase the seats on the report for the applicable grade(s) by the number related to the request if the request is approved.*

The DPI will review the request and notify the school via email whether or not the request is approved shortly after the receipt of the request.

- If the request is approved, the school will receive an email indicating (1) the request has been approved and (2) the application status has been changed to "Submitted" in OAS and the response has been changed to "Yes, Will Attend" on the Intent to Attend Report in OAS. If the request is approved and the student does not meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday September count requirement at the school, the student would be ineligible for the WPCP for the 2024-25 school year.

- If the request is not approved, the school will receive an email indicating (1) the request has not been approved and (2) the reason not approved (i.e., the student resides in a district affected by a public school district membership limit or the timing of the request does not meet requirements).
- **If the school does not have space in the grade(s) for the student(s)**, the school should inform the parent that the school does not have space for the student(s).

**Reminder:** Schools may increase seats for WPCP grade(s). See the [WPCP - Seat Changes](#) section of this bulletin and the bullet that begins with "WPCP schools may request to increase the number of seats for grade(s)..." for the process, requirements, and timing of a request to the DPI.

**WPCP Random Selection – Student Moves:** The "WPCP ADDRESS CHANGES" section of the Residency Documentation Bulletin, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage, has information on how to proceed if a WPCP student moves. If the student moves after the 3rd Friday in September, the address change does not need to be reported to the DPI. For all other address changes, the school should complete the following:

- For WPCP students that move between the day after the end of the WCP application period and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in August:
  - Student wishes to transfer to a different school: See the [WPCP Random Selection – Parent Wishes to Transfer WPCP Voucher to a Different WPCP School](#) section of this bulletin for information on the process, requirements, and timing of the request to the DPI.
  - Student wishes to stay at the same school: See "WPCP Student Moves and Wishes to Stay at Same School" under the "WPCP ADDRESS CHANGES" section of the Residency Documentation Bulletin for information on how to proceed.
- For WPCP students that move between the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in August and the last weekday in September, see "WPCP Incoming Pupil Address Verification" under the "WPCP ADDRESS CHANGES" section of the Residency Documentation Bulletin for information on how to proceed.
- If the student is on the WPCP waiting list student, the school must email [PrivateSchoolChoice@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:PrivateSchoolChoice@dpi.wi.gov) as soon as possible with the student name, new student address, and school district of new address.

**WPCP Random Selection – Student Withdrawals:** WPCP schools must notify the DPI immediately at [privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov), when a WPCP student with an eligible application withdraws from the school or decides to no longer participate in the WPCP, so the DPI can determine if a student from the waiting list may receive a voucher. When students withdraw from the school or WPCP, the DPI will fill available seats from the WPCP waiting list, if applicable, up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in January. See the [WPCP Random Selection – Overview](#) and the [WPCP Random Selection – DPI Notifies Parents of Students on WPCP Waiting List](#) sections of this bulletin for additional information. For information about payments for students counted on membership report(s) that withdraw, see the [Timing of Choice Payments](#) section of this bulletin for additional information.

Schools should follow the process below when a student with an eligible application (application has status of Submitted or Verified in OAS) withdraws from the school or decides to no longer participate in the WPCP. Schools should obtain the withdrawal from the parent, regardless if the student voluntarily withdraws or is expelled from the school.

- **Schools must notify the DPI immediately at [privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov)** with the following information:
  1. Student name.
  2. Attach **one** of the following\*:
    - a. School form showing the student has withdrawn from the WPCP or will not be attending the school for the current school year. The form must include the student name and be signed by a parent on the WPCP application. Please note that a request for records does not meet this requirement.
    - b. A letter or email from a parent on the WPCP application sent to the school which includes the parent(s) name, the student name and the school name stating the student has withdrawn from the WPCP or will not attend the school for the current school year. A letter must be signed by a parent on the WPCP application, and an email must be from a parent on the WPCP application and include the email heading information (i.e. To line, From Line, Date, Subject).

\*For students that will participate in the SNSP instead of the WPCP, the WPCP withdrawal **must clearly state** the student has withdrawn from the WPCP. Please be aware if the WPCP withdrawal also indicates the parent would like the student to participate in the SNSP rather than the WPCP, the DPI does not determine whether the student has met all SNSP

requirements prior to processing the WPCP withdrawal. The school should ensure the pupil meets all of the SNSP eligibility requirements before sending the WPCP withdrawal to the DPI.

- **In the situations below, schools are not required to provide the withdrawal** to the DPI:
  - For students that have ineligible WPCP applications (application has status of Ineligible in Both Semesters or Parent No Show) in OAS for their school.
  - For students that the school marks as “No, Will Not Attend” or “No Answer” on the Intent to Attend Report in OAS.
  - For students who withdraw after the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in January. Students on the WPCP waiting list are not offered a seat if students withdraw after the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in January.
  - For students that withdraw from the MPCP or RPCP.

**WPCP Random Selection – Student Withdraws and Later Wants to Accept WPCP Voucher:** If a parent withdraws the student and later wants to accept the WPCP voucher, the parent should contact the school **as soon as possible and also prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September** as requests must reviewed, approved (if applicable) and processed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September. After the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September, the student would not be able to participate in the WPCP for that school year. For this request, the school should follow steps 1-3 in the [WPCP Random Selection – Parent Declines or Did Not Contact School/Accept WPCP Voucher by Deadline and Later Wants to Accept Voucher](#) section of this bulletin.

**WPCP Random Selection – Student Applies to the WPCP and the MPCP or RPCP:** WPCP schools must notify the DPI immediately at [privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov) when a parent determines a WPCP student will participate in the MPCP or RPCP so the DPI can determine if a student from the WPCP waiting list may receive a voucher. Schools should follow the process under the [WPCP Random Selection - Student Withdrawals](#) section of this bulletin. The letter or form from the parent may indicate the student is withdrawing from the WPCP and not the school. For students that apply to the WPCP and either the MPCP or RPCP where the parent chooses to withdraw from the MPCP or RPCP, no communication to the DPI is required.

**WPCP Random Selection – Student Applies to the WPCP and the SNSP:** WPCP schools must notify the DPI immediately at [privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:privateschoolchoice@dpi.wi.gov) when a parent determines a WPCP student will participate in the SNSP so the DPI can determine if a student from the WPCP waiting list may receive a voucher. Schools should follow the process under the [WPCP Random Selection - Student Withdrawals](#) section of this bulletin. The WPCP withdrawal the parent provides to the school **must clearly** state the student has withdrawn from the WPCP. Please be aware if the WPCP withdrawal also indicates the parent would like the student to participate in the SNSP rather than the WPCP, the DPI does not determine whether the student has met all SNSP requirements prior to processing the WPCP withdrawal. The school should ensure the pupil meets all of the SNSP eligibility requirements before sending the WPCP withdrawal to the DPI. Schools may view the first question in the “FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS” section of the SNSP Initial Student Eligibility Bulletin, available on the [SNSP: Student Applications & Transfer Requests](#) webpage, for additional information. Note: For students that apply to the SNSP and either the MPCP or RPCP where the parent then chooses to withdraw from the MPCP or RPCP, the school is not required to notify the DPI the student has withdrawn.

## School Notification of Acceptance or Non-Acceptance to

**Applicants:** MPCP and RPCP schools must notify applicants of acceptance or non-acceptance. Under state law, for the WPCP only, the DPI will notify applicants of their acceptance or waiting list status. WPCP schools notify applicants determined ineligible.

A Choice application may only be denied if the student does not meet the residency, income (if applicable), and age requirements (for grades K4, K5 and 1) or there is no space available at the school (i.e. there were more applications than seats available therefore the student would be placed on the waiting list). Generally, for the RPCP and WPCP, students must also be applying to certain grades or meet a prior year attendance requirement. Once a student has accepted the Choice voucher, the student is considered to be enrolled in the school and the school's policies apply. Once a Choice student is enrolled in a Choice school, the school may enforce its policies related to expulsion, if applicable. Please note, state law requires Choice schools to have written procedures in place regarding student suspensions and expulsions, including procedures for appealing a suspension or expulsion.

**MPCP and RPCP:** MPCP and RPCP schools must notify the parent of each applicant of their acceptance or non-acceptance via mail or email within **60 days** of the end of the application period during which an application is received. If a student is placed on the waiting list, a notice of non-acceptance must be sent to the parent and indicate the student's place on the waiting list. If the school rejects a student application, the notice of non-acceptance must include the reason why the student was not accepted.

Applicants accepted into the Choice program shall have a reasonable period of time to confirm enrollment. The schools may maintain a school policy to determine the reasonable period to confirm enrollment and the method of confirmation (i.e. email, phone call, letter, signed school form, etc.). The school may include on the notice of acceptance or non-acceptance that the seat will be considered to be declined by the parent if the parent does not respond in the timeframe provided on the notice. The school may maintain a policy that applicants are responsible for having current contact information on file at the school for the school to notify the applicant of their status.

**WPCP:** WPCP schools with applications that have been determined ineligible through the application verification process should notify the parent of each WPCP applicant via mail or email that their application is ineligible and will not be included in the random drawing **after the last day of the WPCP open application period but no later than the first weekday in June**. If the school denies a student application, the notice of non-acceptance must include the reason the student was not accepted. Ineligible WPCP applications will have a status of Parent No Show, Ineligible per DOR, or Ineligible in Both Semesters in OAS.

The DPI will notify parents of WPCP students chosen in the WPCP random selection and students on the WPCP waiting list via email. WPCP schools should not send a notice to the parents of these students. See the [WPCP Random Selection – DPI Notifies Parents of Students Chosen](#) and [WPCP Random Selection – DPI Notifies Parents of Students on WPCP Waiting List](#) sections of this bulletin for additional information.

**School Submission of Applications in OAS:** Applications must have a status of "Submitted" in OAS in order for students to be included in any of the three membership reports. The membership reports count students by grade level for purposes of state aid payments to Choice schools. These membership reports include the Preliminary Enrollment Report (due by the last weekday in August), the 3rd Friday in September Count Report (due by the last weekday in September), and the 2nd Friday in January Count Report (due by the last weekday in January).

**MPCP and RPCP:** MPCP and RPCP schools may submit eligible applications in OAS only after the end of the open application period. Only applications that have a status of "Verified" in OAS may be submitted. If a student is offered a seat, the DPI recommends the school submit the application in OAS after the student has accepted the seat. Schools should not submit applications for students on the school's MPCP or RPCP waiting list. These applications should remain in "Verified" status in OAS until the student is offered and accepts a seat.

To submit applications in OAS, MPCP and RPCP schools should click on "Submit Apps to DPI" on the left OAS menu bar. Please see the helpful tips below for the "Submit Apps to DPI" function in OAS:

- **Student has \* under the “Multi App \*\*” column:** Applications with an asterisk indicate multiple applications exist for the student with a status of: Not Yet Verified, Verified, Submitted, or Ineligible per DOR. Each student should only have one submitted application. If the student has an application that was determined ineligible by DOR, any subsequent applications for the student must be marked as ineligible (i.e. the school should mark the application as “The family is not eligible for the MPCP/RPCP/WPCP based on the information provided” on the verification screen).
- **Student name not listed:** Only applications that have been verified will be displayed under “Submit Apps to DPI”. The school should go to the “App Summary” screen and complete the application verification for the student.
- **Student has a “Too early to submit” message:** The school must wait until the end of the application period to submit the application.
- **Student has a “Verification Not Complete” message:** The school should check that the verification for all students (i.e. new and continuing students) on the family’s application has been completed.

**WPCP:** DPI will change the application status to “Submitted” for applications the school indicates on the Intent to Attend in OAS will attend the school.

## Timing of Choice Payments:

- **For the MPCP, RPCP and WPCP,** eligible student applications counted on the Preliminary Enrollment Report will generate a September payment. Students counted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September Count Report will generate a November payment, and if counted on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday January Count Report, will generate a February and May payment.
- **For MPCP and RPCP schools only,** eligible student applications accepted during the September open application period will not generate a September payment. These applications will generate a double payment in November if the student is counted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September Count Report. These students, if counted on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday January Count Report, will generate a February and May payment.
- **For WPCP schools only,** eligible student applications accepted prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September, where the timing of students on the WPCP waiting list being offered and accepting seats results in the student not being counted on the Preliminary Enrollment Report, will not generate a September payment. These applications will generate a double payment in November if the student is counted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September Count Report. These students, if counted on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday January Count Report, will generate a February and May payment.
- **For MPCP schools only,** eligible student applications accepted during the October, November and December open application periods will generate February and May payments, if the student is counted on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday January Count Report.
- **For WPCP schools only,** eligible student applications accepted after the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September will generate February and May payments, if the student is counted on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday January Count Report.
- **For the MPCP, RPCP and WPCP,** see the information below about **payments for students that withdraw** from the school and/or the Choice program:
  - If students that are counted on the Preliminary Enrollment Report withdraw and are not counted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September Count Report, the amount of the September payment for those students will be deducted from the school's November payment.
  - If students that are counted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September Count Report withdraw after the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September, the school will receive a November payment for the students.
  - If students that are counted on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in January Count Report withdraw after the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in January, the school will receive a February and May payment for the students.
- See the [Choice Program Payments - Frequently Asked Questions](#) webpage and Training 9: Payments & Count Reports, available on the [Choice Programs: On Demand Training](#) webpage, for additional information.

# Appendix A: Recommended Steps to Processing Applications

See the following information for recommended steps for (1) prior, (2) during and (3) after the open application period(s).

## 1. Prior to start of the open application period:

- a. Determine the number of Choice seats available in each grade (MPCP and RPCP schools only).
- b. Provide application information to interested parents/guardians ([dpi.wi.gov/choice](https://dpi.wi.gov/choice)).

## 2. During the application period:

- a. OAS will show applications submitted electronically by parents applying to your school.
- b. For all applications, parents must submit residency documentation to the school prior to the end of the open application period during which the parent submitted the application.
- c. The DPI recommends schools complete the income verification in the OAS prior to the end of the open application period. For new students who do not use the DOR Income Determination method, parents must submit income documentation to the school prior to the end of the open application period during which the parent submitted the application. For applications where the parent elects to use the DOR Income Determination method and have the DOR determination completed by the school, the school should complete the DOR check prior to the end of the application period. If the DOR does not have records for the parent, the parent may switch to the DPI Income Determination method and re-submit the application in the Online Parent Application during the application period. Schools may complete the DOR Income Determination after the end of the application period; however, if the DOR does not have records for the parent, the application must be determined ineligible. For applications where the student is determined to be Ineligible per DOR where the parent indicates to the school that the DOR Income Determination is incorrect, the school should see the Income Documentation Bulletin, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage, for information on how to proceed. Students who are determined Ineligible per DOR may not switch to the DPI Income Determination Method.
- d. Determine whether the students meet the program eligibility requirements. **A Choice school administrator/designee must complete the eligibility determination and verification for all applications in OAS.** Complete the application verification process via OAS and confirm the appropriate documentation has been received. Refer to the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage for information on what is needed to determine if the application is eligible and complete the verification.
- e. Provide the Disclosure of Information packet to each student or parent that applies to the Choice program at the school.
- f. MPCP and RPCP schools: Provide to all applicants with a complete application with the required supporting documentation the following: notify the applicant of the number of seats available at the grade level of the applicant; the dates of the open application period; the date and location of a random drawing for acceptance if more applications are submitted than there are seats available; that the applicant is not required to be present at the random drawing; and that the applicant will be notified after the drawing (but no later than 60 days after the end of the application period during which an application is received) of their acceptance or non-acceptance into the Choice program at the school.
- g. Schools may check if their continuing students have applied for the Choice program for the school for the 2024-25 school year by comparing 2024-25 student applications to prior year student application information in OAS. Schools may view student information for both current and prior school years, including the 2023-24 school year, via the "Export to Excel" function in the [Online Application System](#). For additional information, see the question "How can schools see in OAS if a student participated in the Choice program in the prior school year?"



in the Student Eligibility and the Application Grade or Prior Year Requirement Bulletin, available on the [Choice Programs: School Application Processing](#) webpage.

### 3. After the open application period:

- a. **WPCP schools:** Under state law, the DPI is required to conduct the random selection for WPCP schools. WPCP schools have until the first weekday in May to complete the eligibility determination and verification process in OAS. WPCP schools should notify parents of students whose applications were determined ineligible by the first weekday in June. The DPI notifies the parents of the students chosen in the random selection and parents of the students on the waiting list.
- b. **MPCP and RPCP schools:** Determine if more eligible applicants applied for a grade than seats available prior to the next application period, within 60 days after the end of the application period, or prior to the next count date, whichever occurs first. If so, conduct a random selection according to the random selection agreement and determine the waiting list order. Send notice of acceptance and non-acceptance to parents via letter or email within 60 days of the end of the application period during which an application is received. If a student is placed on the waiting list, a notice of non-acceptance must be sent to the parent and should indicate the student's place on the waiting list. Schools should submit accepted applications in OAS after the end of the open application period. Schools should not submit applications of students on the waiting list.
- c. **All schools:** At least 30 days before each of the two scheduled governing board meeting dates, schools must notify each student (Choice and non-Choice), or the parent of each minor student, applying to attend the private school or attending the private school of the two meetings for the 2024-25 school year at which members of the governing body of the private school will be present and at which students, and the parents of students, applying to attend or attending the private school may meet and communicate with the members of the governing body. See the [Governing Board Meeting Dates Notification](#) part of the [Information Schools Provide to Applicants](#) section of this bulletin for additional information.