



HCS 2014/15 Majority to Minority Student Transfers

To enhance desegregation, the Huntsville City School System (HCS) permits a student to transfer from one school where his/her race (Black or Other) is in a majority to a school where his/her race (Black or Other) is in the minority if space is available. This is called a **Majority to Minority (M-to-M) Transfer**.

Because there are more requests for Majority to Minority (M-to-M) Transfers than spaces available, a random lottery selection process is the fairest way to fill available spaces at HCS schools.

- The first step in this process is for the Department of Student Support Services to determine the number of available openings in all schools.
- Many schools will not have available openings and, therefore, will not be accepting transfers.
- Available openings in each school are determined by subtracting, from the school's program capacity at each grade level, current and projected enrollment of (a) students residing within the school's geographic attendance zone plus (b) students attending the school during the previous school year because they had been granted an M-to-M Transfer during a prior school year.

Application Process:

Parents submit an online application during the annual transfer application window. (May 1-31, 2014) Parents may indicate up to two choices, in order of preference, on the application. Students eligible for M-to-M Transfers must be zoned for a school where their race (Black or Other) is in the majority.

Available choices are limited to those schools where the student's race (Black or Other) is in the minority in accordance with HCS Board Policy 6.3.1a.

- Only students currently attending (or for rising Kindergarteners, registered at) a school within HCS are eligible to apply for M-to-M Transfers.
- The electronic application process will only accept one application (which may contain up to two choices) per student.
- The parent is required to enter the student's student ID and confirm that the address in the I-Now system (which is displayed) is accurate.
- A system generated confirmation number will appear on the screen to confirm and track each application.

Random Numbers:

The computer gives each submitted application a random number using an algorithm. Random numbers are used to break "ties" between students who have the same priorities for the school.

How does this work? Let's say there is one seat left for first grade at Blossomwood Elementary School. Three students listed Blossomwood as their first choice. The student with the lowest ("best") random number will be assigned.

M-to-M Notification Process:

Parents will be notified of Round One approved transfers mid-June. They will have five (5) days to accept or decline approved transfers. If they do not accept or decline an awarded transfer, the space will be added back to available spaces and will be awarded to another student during Round Two. Parents will be notified of Round Two approved transfers in late June. They will have five (5) days to accept or decline approved transfers. Parents will be notified they were not awarded a M-to-M Transfer for the 2014/15 school year by July 5. M-to-M Transfer requests are awarded and remain in effect in accordance with HCS Board Policy 6.3.1.