

# High School Application Process

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Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy  
MS/HS 141  
October 10, 2023



# Agenda

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- A bit about RKA HS
- High School Application and Admissions
  - Timeline
  - Methods
  - Application
- Specialized & Audition High Schools
- Private Schools
- Notification Timeline
- Q & A

# Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy

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- Enrollment priority to articulating students
- ~1,500 applicants for a handful of seats
- Capacity
  - Normal 9th Grade is ~160 students
  - Current 8th Grade ~ 230 students
  - Could be as much as surplus of 70 students
- It is very difficult -if not impossible- to find room for students wishing to return in September once we have created our classes and student programs

**RKA's code  
in MySchools  
is x80A**

# Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy

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- 10 AP or Dual Enrollment courses
- [Course guide on website](#)
- 15 Varsity Sports
- Many social clubs and academic clubs such as Model UN, Science Olympiad, Debate
- Lots of activities- dances, student leadership, contests, community service
- College services with lots of support from our HS Guidance office and Triple C Days.

# RKA Recent College Acceptances

RKA's code  
in MySchools  
is x80A

- SUNYS- Binghamton, Cobleskill, New Paltz, Buffalo, Albany, Stony Brook,
- CUNYS- Baruch, Hunter, City College
- Private- Temple, Brandeis, Fordham, St. John's, Manhattan, Hofstra, College of Mount St. Vincent, Mercy, Bucknell, USC, George Washington, Cornell, Carnegie Mellon, Quinnipiac
- Public Out of state- Delaware, Pennsylvania, Morgan State, , University of Rhode Island, FSU

# RKA Articulation Events

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- Open Houses
  - In Person 11/06, 11/20, 11/21
  - Virtual 11/14
- RKA Accepted Students Night 5/1/24
- Summer Orientation 8/29/24

Info at [RKA141.org/admissions](http://RKA141.org/admissions)

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# Bottom line:

ALL students must complete a high school application!!

If you want your child to attend RKA for High School above all other non-specialized schools, you must enter RKA first in your HS application.



RKA's code  
in MySchools  
is **x80A**

# Admissions Process Timeline

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- **September – December 1<sup>st</sup>** – Visit schools (websites, tours & MySchools)
- **Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>** – High school applications & Specialized High Schools Admissions Test (SHSAT) & LaGuardia Registration opens
- **Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>** – The Bronx High School Fair
- **Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>** – SHSAT Registration closes
- **Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>** – High School Application closes; Deadline to submit LaGuardia audition materials
- **Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>** – High School offer release

*\*All dates subject to change*



# 3 Ways to Learn about High Schools

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1. Admissions guides are available online
2. Visit high school tours, information sessions and contact high schools directly with questions
3. Explore programs at [MySchools.nyc](https://www.myschools.nyc.gov/)

# High School Admission Methods

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- **Open & Educational Option** – These programs serve a wide range of students and maintain an academically diverse population through incoming students
- **Screened** – For Fall 2024 admissions, screened programs will admit the top-performing applicants from across each middle school and citywide. Students will fall into a screened admissions group based on the average of their final seventh grade core course grades (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies) \*\*\*Like RKA for new HS Applicants\*\*\*
- **Audition** – students ranked based on audition (with the exception of LaGuardia high school, audition programs will not use an applicant's academic data)
- **Test** – Specialized High Schools Admissions Test (SHSAT) required

# High Schools Admission Methods (cont.)

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- **Screened Language** – English Language Learners
- **Zoned**- priority to students who live in the geographic zone of the high school
- **Open** – 100% of offers are to students who are randomly selected
- **Get the most up-to-date information on a specific program's admissions method and selection criteria on the MySchools page**

# When selecting a school, consider the following:

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- Learn about the school
- Location & Travel Time
  - [MySchools.nyc](http://MySchools.nyc)
  - [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info)
- Student's Career Interests
- Student's Capabilities
- Test or Audition Requirements
- Special Programs & Student Support Services

# Questions to ask when visiting a school:

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1. Where is the school located? What is the travel time?
2. What are the eligibility requirements for the school?
3. How many students attend the school?
4. What academic programs are offered?
5. What extracurricular activities, clubs, and sports are offered?
6. What after school academic support is available to students?
7. Does the school provide any assistance in transitioning students into high school?

# HS Application

Starting in October 3<sup>rd</sup>, you can begin adding programs to your online application in MySchools.

- All students apply on-line
- Rank up to 12 school programs in order of preference
- **Make sure to enter the name of the school/program correctly on your application**
- Specialized High Schools or LaGuardia HS are not included on this application
- **Students are matched to the highest ranked school that accepts them.**
- If there is no match, students will receive an offer to a program close to home that has remaining availability
- Prioritize very carefully
- **Be sure that every school listed on the application is a school that your child wants to attend**

\*\*Applications are due on December 1, 2023

# How we are working with your child?

- Classroom Visits
- Presentation about the process and our high school offerings
- One on one support through the process as needed

# Specialized and Audition High Schools



# Specialized High Schools

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- 8 specialized HS that use SHSAT exam + LaGuardia which requires audition= 9 total
  - Acceptance depends on student's test score and **priority order of schools**
  - Students must rank the schools they want to attend in their MySchools account.
  - **October 27<sup>th</sup> - *Deadline*** to register for the SHSAT
  - Test ticket will have test date, arrival time, and location.
  - **Testing Dates**
    - **November 8<sup>th</sup> -In School testing???**
    - **November 18 or 19 -???? Hold these weekend dates**
  - **December 3<sup>rd</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>** – Students who miss their scheduled SHSAT date & are approved for a make-up test date. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students who register late for the SHSAT, and students with testing accommodation will take test at a central DOE location.

# LaGuardia Audition

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- Step 1: Register for LaGuardia auditions by **December 1, 2023**
- Step 2: Audition tickets will be available approximately two weeks after the registration deadline. Audition tickets indicate the audition date, time, location, and accommodations (if applicable).
- Parents and guardians can print their audition tickets from MySchools. Students must bring their printed ticket on the day of the audition.

# Specialized HS Admission Process

**The process is designed to match students based on their SHSAT scores and how they ranked the Specialized High Schools.\***

- Acceptance to a Specialized High School is based first on the student's test score, then on the priority order in which the student placed the Specialized High Schools and on seat availability.
- All scores of the students taking the test are ranked from highest score to lowest score.
- The student with the highest score is placed in his/her first choice (highest prioritized school).

*\* This process was implemented beginning with the entering class of September 2003.*

## Specialized HS Admission Process cont.

- Starting from the highest score on down, each student, in turn, is placed in his/her highest prioritized school in which seats are still available. Therefore, if all the seats in the student's first-choice school have been offered to students who scored higher, he/she is placed in his/her second-choice school if seats are available. If all the seats in his/her second-choice school have been given to students who scored higher, the student is offered a seat in his/her third-choice school if there are still seats available, and so on. This process continues until there are no seats available in any of the eight Specialized High Schools.

From year to year, the number of offers and projected seats for each Specialized High School may be subject to an increase or decrease based on school enrollment.

# Private & Independent High Schools

# Catholic Schools

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- [www.tachsinfo.com](http://www.tachsinfo.com) including Open House info & application
- The last day to register for the TACHS exam is October 26<sup>th</sup>
- November 1<sup>st</sup> - Students will receive an email confirming test date, time, and site
- November 4<sup>th</sup> - Deadline to enter your high school choices on [www.tachsinfo.com](http://www.tachsinfo.com)
- TACHS exam will be administered on November 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>
- Applicant Record must be printed by the family from the TACHS website
- **\*Students must have “portion A” completed before emailing it to Ms. Aponte-Acosta; give to Ms. Aponte Acosta with 2 weeks notice**
- Deadline for submission to individual schools by the family is December 13, 2023
- HS acceptance letters are mailed on January 17, 2024
- February 2024 - Response Cards due back to high schools

# Private/Independent Schools

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- Check with individual schools for their admissions practices
- Staff are available for recommendations, but you must provide reasonable time with requests
- Charter high schools have a separate admissions process- you cannot add them to your high school application. If you would like to apply to a charter high school, please contact that school directly to find out how to apply.

# Notification Timeline

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# Notification Process – March 2024

## Get your high school offer letter!

- Families can log into MySchools ([myschools.nyc](https://myschools.nyc)) to get their results.

This letter will include:

- **Your high school offer and/or, if applicable, your specialized high schools results**, which may include an offer from a Specialized high school and/or any offers from LaGuardia studios. If you get more than one offer, you will be given a deadline to choose one. After offers are released, you can use your MySchools account to: Access your offer information and choose between multiple offers (\*if applicable).
- **Waitlists:** You'll be automatically added to the waitlist of any program that you listed higher on your application than the program where you received an offer. *For example, if you get an offer to your third-choice program, you will also be waitlisted at your first-choice and second-choice programs.*
- **Note:** There will be no High School Appeals.
- **Note:** The Specialized High Schools will **not** have waitlists.

# Notification Process continued....

## SPRING AND SUMMER

- You will be able to check where you are on the waitlist for any school, in real time.
- If and when seats become available at a program, waitlist offers will be made.
- Look in MySchools to see if a waitlist offer has been made.
- Waitlist offers will be made based on seat availability, admissions priorities, and admissions methods.
- You will also be able to add yourself to waitlists during this time. However, please note that your best chance of getting an offer to any program is include it as a choice on your original application.
- \*If a school can make you a waitlist offer, they will enter it into MySchools, and you will have **5 days to accept or decline that offer**. If you accept a waitlist offer, it replaces your current offer.

# Resources for Families

MySchools directory, registration, & application:

**MySchools.nyc**

Admissions information and videos: **schools.nyc.gov/High**

Admissions methods:

**Schools.nyc.gov/HowAdmissionsWorks**

Specialized High Schools: **schools.nyc.gov/SHS**

Auditions: **schools.nyc.gov/HSAuditions**

2023 NYC High School Admissions Guide:

**Schools.nyc.gov/HSGuide**

Waitlist Information: **Schools.nyc.gov/Waitlists**

Call the Office of Student Enrollment: **718-935-2009**

# Get Help

## **AT RKA:**

Mrs. Aponte-Acosta, Guidance Counselor  
(718)796-8516 Extension: 2301 Office  
JAponte-Acosta@schools.nyc.gov

## **HS Enrollment:**

For online support, please contact 718-935-2009 or email the High School Enrollment office at [HSEnrollment@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:HSEnrollment@schools.nyc.gov)