

MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER'S



2024 BACK TO SCHOOL GUIDE



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Letter from Mayor Muriel Bowser

Dear Families,

One of the best parts of my job is that I get to visit our schools and see the many fantastic things happening inside them. Last school year, I saw the joy of our second graders as they celebrated learning how to ride a bike. I visited a fifth grade class for Career Day where our young people asked me insightful questions about DC and my job. I cooked with elementary school students, celebrated our teacher of the year, read “Paddington” with our young learners, and watched high school students train for high-demand jobs. During each school visit, one thing was the same—our students were engaged, they were curious, and they were surrounded by teachers and adults who are passionate about their work and the very best at what they do.

Like so many families in DC, I am proud that our schools are places of love, joy, and opportunity. We know this is why for the past two years, enrollment in our public schools has increased to record levels.

One of the brightest spots of last school year was our Advanced Technical Center (ATC). The ATC is modern vocational learning—a unique blend of high school, college, and workforce training. Last school year, the ATC served almost 200 students from all eight wards, representing 15 public high schools. The students acquired professional skills, earned industry credentials, and gained college credits in high-demand, high-wage careers such as cybersecurity and general nursing. The ATC is a central piece of our efforts to reimagine the high school experience for students; it is also an example of our ongoing commitment to creating programs and experiences that match the needs of our students, our families, and our communities.

As we approach nearly two decades of transforming our public schools into the bright spot that they are today, there is so much progress for our city to look back on and be proud of; and as we look ahead and enter the new school year, there is a lot to be excited about.

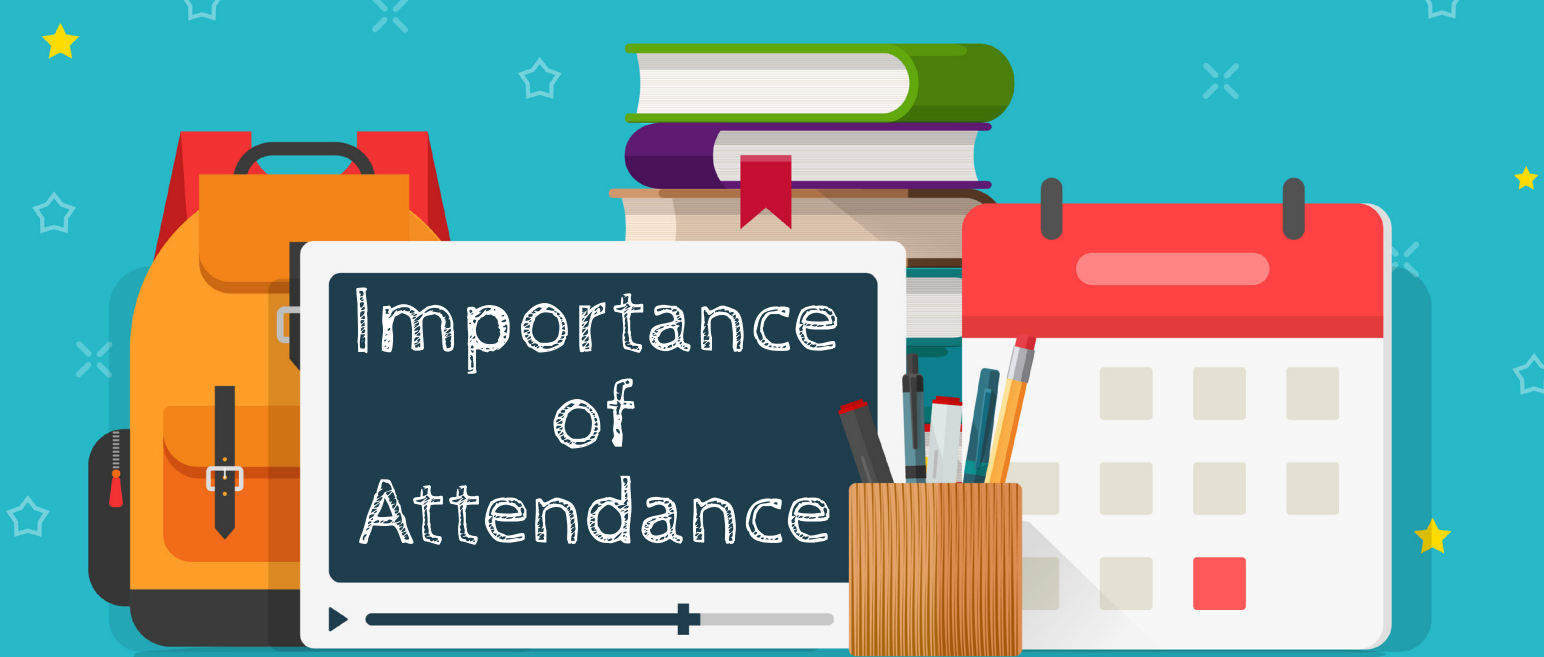
Welcome to the new school year—join me in making this school year the best one yet!

Sincerely,



Muriel Bowser
Mayor





Every Day Counts! Regular attendance is critical in helping students succeed in the classroom and beyond. Attending school every day will help your student learn and stay on track. By 9th grade, good attendance can predict graduation rates even better than 8th grade test scores.

Being absent 18 or more days in a school year, or just two days each month, can cause significant academic and social setbacks for students, including affecting their ability to read and stay on track for graduation.

Did you know:

- Children who are chronically absent (18 or more days in a school year) in kindergarten and 1st grade are much less likely to read at grade level by end of 3rd grade.
- By 6th grade, chronic absence is a warning sign for students at risk of dropping out of school.

Tips for the School Year!


- Create a routine to help your student learn and stay on track this year.
- Make sure to check your student's backpack for important notes and have a place they can keep their backpack and supplies.
- Make sure your student gets to bed on time. Getting enough sleep will help them be ready for the school day.

PASS: The Parent and Adolescent Support Services Program (PASS) assists youth up to 17 years old who are skipping school, leaving home, violating curfew, and/or experiencing extreme family conflict. Intensive case management, Functional Family Therapy, and community-based services are used to address these behaviors and improve family relationships. Email dhs.pass@dc.gov or call (202) 698-4334.

Immunizations

DC requires that all students are fully immunized to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Students must have up-to-date immunization certification on file with their school or they will not be allowed to attend school or school activities until the immunization certification is submitted to the school.

Summary of Vaccines Required for Children to Enter Key Grades in DC for the 2024-2025 School Year:




GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DC School Immunization Requirements Guide

effective 07-18-2024

This is a summary of vaccines required for children to enter key grades in the District of Columbia. **The number of ✓ is the total number of doses needed to enter those grades.** More detail on the requirements is available at dchealth.dc.gov/immunizations.

To start Pre-K3*	To start Kindergarten	To start 7 th grade	To start 11 th grade
DTaP ✓✓✓✓	DTaP ✓✓✓✓	DTaP ✓✓✓✓	DTaP ✓✓✓✓
Polio ✓✓✓	Polio ✓✓✓	Polio ✓✓✓	Polio ✓✓✓
Chickenpox ✓	Chickenpox ✓✓	Chickenpox ✓✓	Chickenpox ✓✓
MMR ✓	MMR ✓✓	MMR ✓✓	MMR ✓✓
Hepatitis B ✓✓✓	Hepatitis B ✓✓✓	Hepatitis B ✓✓✓	Hepatitis B ✓✓✓
Hepatitis A ✓✓	Hepatitis A ✓✓	Hepatitis A ✓✓	Hepatitis A ✓✓
Pneumococcal (PCV) ✓✓✓✓		Tdap ✓	Tdap ✓
Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib) ✓✓✓(✓) <small>Depending on brand used</small>		HPV ✓	HPV ✓✓
		Meningococcal (ACWY) ✓	Meningococcal (ACWY) ✓✓



✓ = number of doses

*Your Pre-K3 child may become eligible for a booster dose of vaccines against MMR, Chickenpox, Polio, and Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis when they turn 4 years of age. We highly encourage getting these on time, however these will not count against the attendance requirement mid-year.

DC Health | 2201 Shannon Place SE, Washington, DC 20020 | (202) 442-5955 | dchealth.dc.gov

To view a calendar of upcoming free immunization clinics available for students during August, visit dchealth.dc.gov/immunization.



Planning Ahead for Next School Year

Enrolling Your Child Next School Year: My School DC

My School DC is the common application and lottery for DC Public Schools (DCPS) and DC public charter schools. It offers families everything they need to know to learn, apply, and enroll their children into school.

While families in kindergarten through 12th grade are guaranteed a spot in your neighborhood school, the My School DC common lottery is a single, random lottery that families can use to apply to up to 12 DCPS and public charter schools. Families apply in February (grades 9-12) and March (pre-K 3-grade 8).

Learn more at myschooldc.org

Attend EdFest

Attend EdFest In December: My School DC will host EdFest, an annual public school fair and one stop shop for families to learn more about the District's public school options.

Pre-K: Did you know?

DC has the most robust free pre-K program in the nation. In fact, 80% of all DC 3-year-olds and 88% of 4-year-olds attend free pre-K. In recent years, Mayor Bowser has invested over \$100 million in the expansion of early childhood education opportunities.

To be eligible for free pre-K:

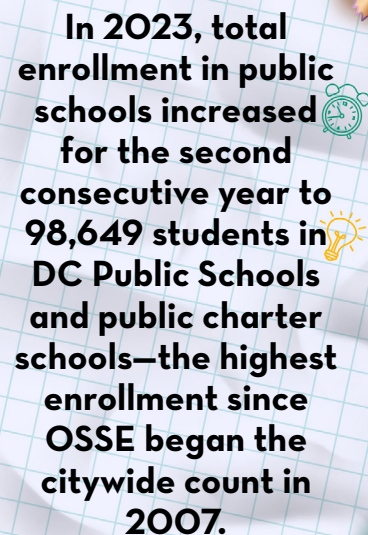
- Students must be 3 by September 30 to apply to pre-K 3
- Students must be 4 by September 30 to apply to pre-K 4
- Must use the My School DC application to apply to pre-K

Learn more about Pre-K, visit myschooldc.org/apply/applying-to-PK

Will your child be transitioning from elementary to middle school?

DCPS Sixth Grade Academies focus on a smooth transition to middle school, family engagement, academic success, excellent attendance, special events, and active participation in school. With each cohort, these academies build a community of learners set up to flourish in middle school and beyond.

Learn more at dcps.dc.gov/page/sixth-grade-academies-dcps



In 2023, total enrollment in public schools increased for the second consecutive year to 98,649 students in DC Public Schools and public charter schools—the highest enrollment since OSSE began the citywide count in 2007.



Child Care & Early Learning



My Child Care DC: mychildcare.dc.gov

Families can use My Child Care DC to explore, compare, and connect with licensed child development facilities in the District, including before and after care programs. It's free to use and available in multiple languages.

DC Child Care Connections: dcchildcareconnections.org

DC Child Care Connections is the District's child care resource and referral agency providing resources for families to support their children's development, including how to find and pay for child care and out-of-school time programs.

Families can contact DC Child Care Connections at osse.dcchildcareconnections@dc.gov or (202) 829-2500.

Child Care Subsidies: bit.ly/payforchildcare

Subsidies are available for eligible low-income families to help cover the costs of child care, including out-of-school-time care for children through age 12.

Ready for Pre-K: readyforprek.org

A DCPS initiative designed to support families and caregivers of toddlers and two-year-olds through monthly virtual learning sessions.

Early Learning with the DC Public Library: dclibrary.org

- Video Story Books
- Sing, Talk and Read (STAR)
- Books from Birth: families in DC with children ages birth to 5 can sign up to receive a free book each month via mail.

Register your child at dclibrary.org/using-the-library/books-birth



Keeping Students Engaged After School and During Out-of-School Time



DCPS students in pre-K through grade eight have access to academic support and enrichment activities free of charge at 55 schools through the District's Out of School Time Programs (OSTP). Scholars must be enrolled to enjoy afterschool programming.

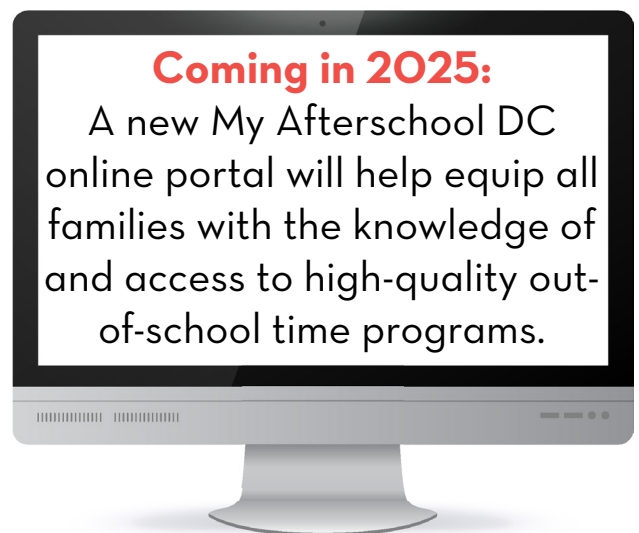
Find out if your school is served by OSTP and register at dcps.dc.gov/afterschool

Schools not participating in OSTP may offer their own afterschool programs to students. Please contact your student's school for more information.

The Learn24 network is the Bowser Administration's hub for all afterschool and summer programming opportunities available for school-aged youth (ages 5 - 18). Learn24 is led by the Deputy Mayor for Education's Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes. For more information about the out-of-school time opportunities available for youth and families, including information about OST scholarship opportunities, email learn24@dc.gov or visit learn24.dc.gov.

The Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services Achievement Centers, located at 450 H Street NE and at 2101 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE, provide youth free access to educational resources and vocational programs. For more information contact **(202) 576-7299** or visit dyrs.dc.gov/service/achievement-centers.

Out-of-School Time Youth Scholarship Program
Families of K-12 students, who meet the eligibility requirements, can apply for up to \$10,000 in scholarship assistance for out-of-school time programming. The funds can cover the cost of school year, weekend, summer, and other out of school time programs, e.g. academic enrichment, tutoring, mentoring, athletics, dance, coding, STEM, etc. Applications will open this fall. For more information, email learn24@dc.gov or visit learn24.dc.gov.





DPR Out-of-School Programming

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has a wide array of team and individual sports to keep young people engaged and active. Soccer, football, fitness, lacrosse, gymnastics, swimming, tennis, and more!

DPR Out-of-School Time and Social Recreation:

DPR offers Enrichment Zone and Afternoon Access programs for kids ages 6-12, a safe, supportive, and structured afterschool environment Monday through Friday at neighborhood recreation centers. Activities include social development activities, arts and crafts, sports and fitness, and more.

DPR Break Camps:

DPR offers camps at neighborhood recreation centers for kids ages 3-5 and 6-12 on many days when DCPS are closed and during DCPS winter and spring breaks.

Supreme Teens:

Teens ages 13-19 can come together at 23 recreation centers across DC for year-round enriching activities including trips, community service, and more.

Young Ladies On The Rise and Young Men, Future Leaders:

These programs run the entire school year, engaging girls and boys ages 6-12 in leisure, social, educational, and community service activities to support positive development. The programs meet after school 1-2 days a week for 1-2 hours at recreation centers throughout DC.

Visit [DPRprograms.com](https://dprprograms.com) to register and view a full catalog of programs and activities.

Tutoring and Academic Support

Homework Help is Available from DCPL!

A library card unlocks a wealth of essential learning tools this school year. In addition to 26 locations around the city, DCPL's online resources are available for homework help! Find trustworthy information, explore history, and learn new skills. Visit DCPL's Back to School Page: dclibrary.org/back-school

High-Impact Tutoring

High-impact tutoring (HIT) is one of the most effective interventions to accelerate learning for kindergarten through 12th grade students in need of additional supports, and particularly for those students who are economically disadvantaged. OSSE provides evidence-based HIT services to students across the District during the 2024-25 school year, with a focus on those students who are furthest from opportunity. HIT is available at no-cost, in small groups or one-on-one, to students who are struggling in core academic subjects. Students are identified for high-impact tutoring directly through their schools. Learn more at bit.ly/OSSEHigh-ImpactTutoring

DC ReEngagement Center:

The DC ReEngagement Center (REC) helps youth ages 16-24 who are not enrolled in school to reconnect to educational options and services to support their attainment of a high school diploma or GED. For more information, including for District residents of all ages who want to get back on track with their plans to pursue a secondary education credential and a career pathway, visit backontrackdc.osse.dc.gov

Want to support young people in our community?
Sign up to be a tutor at
citytutordc.org/join



Reading at Home

Reading at home with children is critical for fostering a love of reading, enhancing language skills, and strengthening bonds. Spending just 24 minutes a day at home with literary materials encourages students to not just learn to read but to enjoy it. DCPS Library Programs offer resources to help parents and families nurture a love of reading and ignite a lifelong passion for learning and discovery.



Visit tinyurl.com/libraryprogramsguidesdcps

What's New This School Year?

The District is excited to share our new State Board of Education-approved standards around financial literacy and social-emotional learning.

Social Emotional Standards

The first-ever district-wide, K-adult social and emotional learning (SEL) standards for all DCPS and public charter schools will be implemented during the 2024-25 school year. The SEL standards aim to develop crucial skills that enable students to acquire and apply knowledge and attitudes necessary for developing a healthy identity, managing emotions, achieving personal and collective goals, showing empathy toward others, building and maintaining supportive relationships, and making responsible and caring decisions.

Learn more at osse.dc.gov/page/social-emotional-learning

Financial Literacy Standards

The new financial literacy standards were developed by OSSE and are intended to be implemented as a standalone, elective course for high school students across the District. These standards include important financial knowledge and skills, including how individual financial circumstances are influenced by personal decisions and systemic factors. These standards will be implemented beginning in school year 2024-25. The standards include knowledge and skills standards across five content sections: Earning Income, Saving and Investing, Spending, Credit and Managing Risk.

Learn more at osse.dc.gov/page/financial-literacy-standards

About the State Board of Education

With its nine elected members and four appointed student members, the State Board advises OSSE on education standards, policies and regulations, and approves state-level policies like academic standards, graduation requirements, and teacher qualifications. To serve the needs of DC students and families, the State Board also houses the Office of the Ombudsman, which includes the Special Education Hub, and the Office of the Student Advocate. **For more information, visit sboe.dc.gov or call (202) 741-0888.**



Family Support and Social, Emotional and Behavioral Support

211 is an information and referral helpline for health and human services, food assistance, and housing assistance. 211 is available 24/7 to help connect you or someone you care about with quick, confidential help.



Family Success Centers

If you live in Wards 5, 7, or 8, visit one of the DC Child and Family Services Agency's Family Success Centers to be connected to resources around parenting, workforce development, food security, mental health, and more. Learn more at cfsa.dc.gov/page/families-first-dc.

Grandparent Caregiver Program

Are you a District resident who's raising your grandchild, great-grandchild, great-niece, or great-nephew?

You may qualify for the Grandparent Caregiver Program. For residents who are raising other kin within the District, you may qualify for the Close Relatives Caregiver Program. For those eligible, the programs provide monthly financial assistance to help you care for the child related to and living with you. More information is available at cfsa.dc.gov/publication/program-grandparent-caregivers-program.



Email: cfsa.gcp@dc.gov or Call: (202) 442-6009



DC Special Education Hub

The DC Special Education Hub helps families understand special education in the District of Columbia by connecting them with the tools, information, and support they need to make informed decisions to guide their child's learning. Learn more at Specialeducation.dc.gov.

DCPS Mental Health Website

With a goal of decreasing barriers to school success by providing students, school staff, and families with tools that promote academic and psychosocial growth and progress, DC Public Schools offers a website dedicated to student mental health. For mental health resources including a provider directory, events calendar, and articles on mental health, special education, and parenting strategies, visit dcpsmentalhealth.org.



DBH School Based Behavioral Health Program

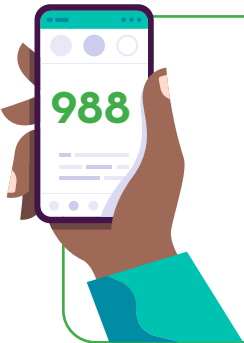
The Department of Behavioral Health operates a school-based program in DCPS and public charter schools that offers prevention, early intervention, and clinical services to youth, their families, school teachers, and staff. Visit dbh.dc.gov/node/1500291 to learn more about who your school's mental health clinician is or contact Meghan Sullivan by phone at (202) 673-4307 or by email at meghan.sullivan@dc.gov.

The Parent and Adolescent Support Services Program (PASS)

PASS assists youth up to 17 years old who are skipping school, leaving home, violating curfew, and/or experiencing extreme family conflict. Intensive case management, Functional Family Therapy, and community-based services are used to address these behaviors and improve family relationships. Learn more by emailing dhs.pass@dc.gov or calling (202) 698-4334.

24/7 Mental Health Hotline

The Department of Behavioral Health operates a 24/7 Mental Health Hotline to provide free counseling and support to residents. Residents are encouraged to contact the **Mental Health Hotline at (888) 793-4357** to talk with a trained mental health specialist if they're feeling depressed, anxious, or just not themselves. Families experiencing a mental health crisis can also contact the District's suicide prevention and crisis services lifeline by dialing **988**.



Children and Adolescent Mobile Psychiatric Service (ChAMPs)

Through the Department of Behavioral Health's ChAMPS program, a mobile team will come to a family's home to support and stabilize children and youth ages 6-18 facing a behavioral health crisis. Call **ChAMPS at (202) 481-1440**.

Healthy Teachers DC

A virtual platform aimed at supporting educator wellness across the District of Columbia. Educators come together to discuss and find support for stressors, share strategies for supporting wellness, and engage in experiential wellness activities. Workshops are held virtually every first Wednesday of the month, with a choice of 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. or 4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Educators can access the session by visiting bit.ly/htdc1 and using the **password: HTDC**.

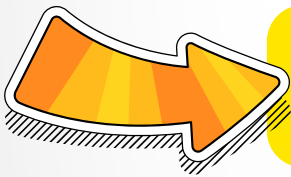
Reimagining High School



The Advanced Technical Center

- An open-enrollment center where students can participate in CTE programs while remaining at their high school.
- Students have access to college credits, industry credentials, and paid internship opportunities at no cost.
- Programs are career pathways to high skill, high wage, and high demand fields.
- **Who is Eligible:** Students entering 9th, 10th, and 11th grades in DCPS and public charter high schools.
- **How to Apply:** Speak with your school counselor for more information.

Did you know? Since its inception, the ATC has saved DC students nearly \$1.6 million in college tuition costs.



COMING IN 2025: A new, second Advanced Technical Center at Whitman-Walker in Ward 8.

Advanced Internship Program (AIP)

OSSE's Advanced Internship Program (AIP) is an opportunity for Career and Technical Education (CTE) students to participate in paid and credit-bearing internships aligned with their CTE program of study during the school year. Through AIP, students can gain valuable real-world work experience, receive professional mentorship, and are supported to develop transferable workplace skills. Interns work 8-12 hours a week and are paid for their time and commitment. For more information, visit bit.ly/OSSEAIP.

Fall College and Career Readiness Programs

It's never too early to plan for what comes after high school, whether you're entering college, a trade, the workforce, or the military! OSSE provides resources for students and families as well as college and career counselors here: osse.dc.gov/page/college-and-career-resources-students-and-families.

Dual Enrollment: OSSE's Dual Enrollment Program

OSSE's Dual Enrollment Program allows eligible high schoolers to take college courses and develop habits to set them up for academic success after high school. Students earn college credits at one of twelve local colleges and universities. Students at DCPS and public charter high schools are eligible. For application information & GPA requirements, visit osse.dc.gov/page/osse-dual-enrollment-opportunities.

The Office of the State Superintendent (OSSE) manages a wide range of financial assistance programs for District students interested in attending college.

DC Tuition Assistance Grant (DCTAG)

- DCTAG pays the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition, up to \$10,000 at public colleges and \$2,500 at private colleges and HCBUs.
- Grants are transferrable to 350+ colleges nationwide.
- **Who is Eligible:** Graduating high school seniors and current college students.
- **Award Amount:** Up to \$50,000 in tuition aid at public colleges and up to \$12,500 at private colleges and HCBUs over six years.

For more information: osse.dc.gov/dctag



DC Mayor's Scholars Undergraduate Program

- The Mayor's Scholars Program was created to provide last-dollar support to District students attending area colleges and universities.
- Who is Eligible: Graduating high school seniors and current college students.
- Award Amount: Up to \$4,000 per year.

For more information: scholarships.osse.dc.gov/login

DC Student Loan Ombudsman

- The DC Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking's Student Loan Ombudsman can help students explore funding options for college.
- These include the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program and student loan consolidation and repayment options.
- The Ombudsman can also help students avoid student loan default, dodge identity scams, and resolve issues with student loan providers.

For more information: disb.dc.gov/studentloanhelp

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- The FAFSA links eligible students with federal tuition aid for college.
- Filling out the FAFSA is free, so don't leave money on the table!
- The 2025-26 FAFSA is expected to be available on October 1, 2024.
- Completing the FAFSA is an important step in helping all students get ready and help pay for college.

For more information: studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid

Career and Technical Education



DCPS offers Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs that prepare students for high-wage, high-demand careers. CTE incorporates job training, career mentoring, and work-based learning to set students up for success in a new career.

<p>Anacostia High School Engineering Law Enforcement Public Leadership</p>	<p>Ballou High School Auto Tech Computer Maintenance Culinary Hospitality Audio Video Production</p>	<p>Ballou STAY Barbering Cosmetology Culinary Early Childhood Education Graphic Design and Illustration</p> 
<p>Carzado Education Campus Computer Maintenance Computer Science Culinary Engineering JROTC-Army Teacher Education and Training Graphic Design and Illustration</p> 	<p>Columbia Heights Education Campus (CHEC) Early Childhood Education Computer Science Cosmetology Engineering Finance Hospitality Teacher Education and Training JROTC - Navy</p> 	<p>Coolidge High School Biomedical Sciences JROTC - Army Audio Video Production</p>
<p>Dunbar High School Computer Maintenance Engineering JROTC-Army</p>	<p>Eastern High School Biomedical Sciences Computer Maintenance JROTC-Army</p>	<p>Luke C. Moore Opportunity Academy Computer Maintenance Finance C-Tech</p>
<p>MacArthur High School Computer Maintenance Computer Science Engineering</p> 	<p>McKinley Tech High School Biotechnology Computer Science Engineering Graphic Design and Illustration JROTC-Army Networking/IT</p>	<p>Phelps ACE High School Architecture Carpentry Electrical Engineering HVAC JROTC-Army Networking/IT</p>
<p>River Terrace Education Campus Hospitality</p>	<p>Ron Brown High School Horticultural Science JROTC-Army Audio Video Production</p>	<p>Roosevelt High School Business Management Culinary Global Service and Diplomacy JROTC - Army</p>
<p>Roosevelt STAY Barbering Cosmetology Early Childhood Education HVAC Audio Video Production</p>	<p>Jackson-Reed High School Biomedical Sciences Computer Science Engineering Finance Graphic Design and Illustration Hospitality JROTC-Army Audio Video Production</p> 	<p>H.D. Woodson High School Computer Science Engineering Finance Graphic Design and Illustration Teacher Education and Training JROTC - Navy</p>

Training the Next Generation of DC's First Responders

The Metropolitan Police Department Cadet Program enrolls high school seniors as cadets.



- The MPD Cadet Corps is a specialized program for District residents ages 17-24 to serve as uniformed civilian employees.
- Cadets work part-time and are paid for working 12 hours a week.
- MPD Cadets are automatically enrolled in the University of the District of Columbia and will earn up to 60 tuition-free credits towards a degree.
- MPD Cadets are also fast-tracked to enter MPD's Police Officer Recruit Program and start a rewarding career in public service.

Learn more at: joinmpd.dc.gov/metropolitan-police/cadet



OUC's Junior Academy exposes high school students to several vital public service career opportunities.

- Over a five-week program, District residents ages 14-24 will be given an overview of 911 and 311 communications and learn how they can serve their communities.
- The next OUC Junior Academy begins September 2024.

Learn more & apply at: ouc.dc.gov/page/junior-academy



The FEMS Cadet Program is a one-year training course for District residents ages 18-21 who are looking for ways to give back to their neighborhoods.

- Cadets earn several industry certifications including EMT, Firefighter, and HAZMAT qualifications, in addition to a salary and benefits.
- Applications for the next cadet class open in Spring 2025.
- Free of cost.

Learn more by visiting: fems.dc.gov/page/cadet-program

Transportation

A successful year starts with having a plan for getting to and from school and school-related activities – every day, on time.



Kids Ride Free: kidsridefree.dc.gov

- Through the Kids Ride Free program, students can get to and from school and school-related activities for free on Metrobus and Metrorail. Students must use their Kids Ride Free SmarTrip cards.
- Students who have a Kids Ride Free SmarTrip card from last year will be able to use the card this school year until September 30, 2024.
- Need a new card? Your school will share details on how to pick up your new card! Families can also contact their School ID Administrator or DDOT's School Transit Subsidy Program Office at **(202) 673-1740**.



Student Transportation Services

OSSE's Division of Student Transportation provides safe, reliable, and efficient transportation services that positively support learning opportunities for eligible students from the District of Columbia. The Parent Resource Center communicates with families of students with disabilities receiving transportation services in the District of Columbia and nonpublic placements.

For immediate assistance related to student transportation services, call the Parent Resource Center at **(202) 576-5000** Monday-Friday from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Learn more at osse.dc.gov/service/student-transportation.



DC School Connect

The Department of For-Hire Vehicles operates DC School Connect, a transportation service for a select number of DCPS and public charter schools in designated Safe Passage Zones in Wards 7 and 8. This program allows schools to select shared locations as designated pickup and drop-off locations. To learn if your school participates in the program, visit dcschoolconnect.com, call **(855) 435-3835**, or email dcschoolconnect@dc.gov.

Safe Passage: safepassage.dc.gov

The primary goal of Safe Passage is supporting students as they travel to and from school. During the 2024-25 school year, Safe Passage Ambassadors - trained and trusted adults from community-based organizations - will be assigned routes in 12 priority areas across the District. Safe Passage routes are in the following neighborhoods: Anacostia, Brookland, Columbia Heights, Congress Heights, Eastern, Fort Totten, L'Enfant, Minnesota Avenue, NOMA, Petworth/Brightwood, Potomac Avenue, and Tenleytown.

New this year! A roving team will work in communities throughout the District, traveling to schools, priority routes, and events as needed. The Safe Passage Roving Team are skilled violence interrupters and mediators with a proven track record of conflict identification and resolution.



Contact safepassage@dc.gov for more information.



Learning to Drive? Visit: dcdmvteens.com

The DC Department of Motor Vehicles (DC DMV) is here to help DC teens get their driver's license and ensure drivers know the rules of the road. Visit DC DMV's teens website for more information on the process to obtain a learner's permit and for tips and resources on driving safely.

MEET YOUR MOCRS

The Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS) serves as the Mayor's primary constituent services organization. The MOCRS are the Mayor's eyes and ears in the community. They help answer community questions and connect residents and businesses to people, agencies, and organizations across all eight wards. If your child or family needs support and you're not sure where to start - call a MOCRS!

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS



Megan Schley
202.223.8127

WARD 1



Anthony Robertson
202.285.9238

WARD 2



Tadaï Abilla
202.297.6566

WARD 3



Hope Cousin
202.341.7706

WARD 4



Yamileth Escobar
202.436.2087

WARD 5



Anthony Black
202.251.5049

WARD 6



Marcus Manning
202.538.1241

WARD 7



Brittney Etheridge
202.251.9930

WARD 8



Wendy Glen
202.340.8313

Meet Your Education Leaders

Questions? Concerns? Need more information? Reach out!

Call or email Mayor Bowser's office | Email: muriel.bowser@dc.gov • Call: (202) 727-2643



Paul Kihn, Deputy Mayor for Education

Paul Kihn accepted an appointment by Mayor Bowser to serve as the District's Deputy Mayor for Education in 2018. The DME is responsible for developing and implementing the Mayor's vision for academic excellence, promoting strategic coordination across government agencies, DC Public Schools and public charter schools, and community partners, and ensuring a high-quality education from early childhood, to K-12, through post-secondary and the workforce.

You can contact Deputy Mayor Kihn at paul.kihn@dc.gov.



Dr. Antoinette S. Mitchell, Interim State Superintendent of Education

Dr. Antoinette S. Mitchell serves as the Interim State Superintendent of Education for the Office of the State Superintendent of Education. She oversees work to sustain, accelerate, and deepen the progress being made for the District's 98,000+ students, and works closely with the District's 460+ early childhood facilities, 250+ schools, 60+ local education agencies (including DCPS and charter organizations), and community-based organizations.

You can contact Superintendent Mitchell at osse.superintendent@dc.gov.



Dr. Lewis D. Ferebee, Chancellor, DCPS

Dr. Lewis D. Ferebee is the Chancellor of DC Public Schools, selected by Mayor Bowser in 2018. In alignment with the District's five-year strategic plan, a Capital Commitment 2023-2028, Dr. Ferebee is focused on ensuring our students are succeeding academically, feel connected to their school, and are prepared for what's next.

You can contact Chancellor Ferebee at chancellor@k12.dc.gov.



Dr. Michelle J. Walker-Davis, Executive Director, DC Public Charter School Board

Dr. Michelle J. Walker-Davis joined the DC Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB) in August 2020 as the Executive Director. DC PCSB is an independent government agency of the District of Columbia. As the sole public charter school authorizer in the District, DC PCSB provides oversight to District's public charter schools, which are managed by independently run nonprofit organizations called local education agencies.

You can contact Dr. Walker-Davis at dcpublic@dcpscb.org.

The Council of the District of Columbia



The Council's Education Committee sits within the Committee of the Whole, meaning all 13 Councilmembers are responsible for oversight of the following agencies:

Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes

Community College of the District of Columbia

Community College Transition to Independence Advisory Board

Community Schools Advisory Committee

District of Columbia Educational Opportunity for Military Children State Council

District of Columbia Public Charter School Board

District of Columbia Public Schools

District of Columbia State Athletics Commission

Education Licensure Commission

Healthy Youth and Schools Commission

Higher Education Licensure Commission

Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes

Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education

Office of the Ombudsman for Public Education

Office of the State Superintendent of Education (including Advisory Panel on Special Education, Early Childhood Development Coordinating Council)

Office of the Student Advocate

Our Schools Leadership Committee

Public Charter School Credit Enhancement Fund Committee

State Board of Education

University of the District of Columbia

Council of the District of Columbia



**Chairman
Phil Mendelson**

pmendelson@dccouncil.gov



**At-Large Councilmember
Kenyan R. McDuffie**

kmcduffie@dccouncil.gov



**At-Large Councilmember
Anita Bonds**

abonds@dccouncil.gov



**At-Large Councilmember
Robert C. White, Jr.**

rwhite@dccouncil.gov



**At-Large Councilmember
Christina Henderson**

chenderson@dccouncil.gov



**Ward 1 Councilmember
Brianne K. Nadeau**

bnadeau@dccouncil.gov



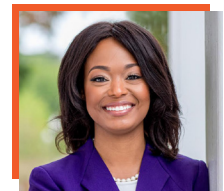
**Ward 2 Councilmember
Brooke Pinto**

bpinto@dccouncil.gov



**Ward 3 Councilmember
Matthew Frumin**

mfrumin@dccouncil.gov



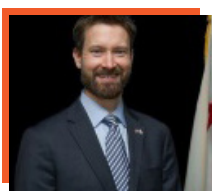
**Ward 4 Councilmember
Janeese Lewis George**

jlewisgeorge@dccouncil.gov



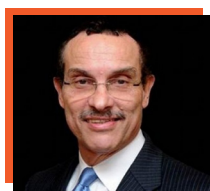
**Ward 5 Councilmember
Zachary Parker**

zparker@dccouncil.gov



**Ward 6 Councilmember
Charles Allen**

callen@dccouncil.gov



**Ward 7 Councilmember
Vincent C. Gray**

vgray@dccouncil.gov



**Ward 8 Councilmember
Trayon White, Sr.**

twhite@dccouncil.gov

If your child attends a DC Public School, put important dates in your calendar so you remember when they're coming up!



School Year 2024-25

	2024							2025							Student Days in Month	Cumulative Student Days	Teacher Days in Month	Cumulative Teacher Days																										
	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S					Month	Month	Month																							
AUG								1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	5	5	10	10		
SEPT																																									20	25	20	30
OCT																																								20	45	22	52	
NOV																																								15	60	16	68	
DEC																																								14	74	15	83	
JAN																																							20	94	21	104		
FEB																																							18	112	19	123		
MAR																																							19	131	20	143		
APR																																							16	147	17	160		
MAY																																							21	168	21	181		
JUN																																							12	180	13	194		
JUL																																							N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
AUG																																							N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		

Term	Days
1	46
2	44
3	45
4	45

Religious Observances																																													
<p>* Full Day Observances: Whenever possible, schools should refrain from scheduling special events (homecoming, field trips, family events), important meetings, or DCPS-scheduled athletic events on these days to avoid excluding staff, families, and students. This includes observances that occur on the weekend.</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 50%;">Rosh Hashanah 10/03/24</td><td style="width: 50%;">Christmas 12/25/24</td></tr> <tr><td>Yom Kippur 10/12/24</td><td>First Day of Ramadan 03/01/25</td></tr> <tr><td>Last Day of Sukkot 10/23/24</td><td>Ash Wednesday 03/05/25</td></tr> <tr><td>Diwali 11/7/24</td><td>Eid al-Fitr 03/31/25</td></tr> <tr><td>Christmas Eve 12/24/24</td><td>1st and 2nd Days of Passover 04/12-04/13/25</td></tr> <tr><td>Rosh Hashanah Begins 10/03/24</td><td>Ashura 07/06/25</td></tr> <tr><td>Yom Kippur Begins 10/11/24</td><td>Ramadan Begins 02/28/25</td></tr> <tr><td>Last Day of School 5/27/25</td><td>Eid al-Adha Begins 06/26/25</td></tr> <tr><td>First Day of School for Pre-K Students 8/26/24</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>End of Term / Half-Day PD & Half-Day Records Day / No School for Students 5/27/25</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>PD for Staff / No School for Students 5/27/25</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Holiday for Students, Teachers, and Staff 5/27/25</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>No School for Students or Teachers 5/27/25</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Parent Teacher Conference Day / No School for Students 5/27/25</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Planned Snow-Day Make-Up Days 5/27/25</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Summer School 5/27/25</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Rainbow Graduation 5/27/25</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>New Educator Orientation 5/27/25</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Last Day for Students 5/27/25</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Last Day for Seniors 5/27/25</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Full-Day Religious Observance 5/27/25</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Evening-Only Religious Observance 5/27/25</td><td></td></tr> </table>	Rosh Hashanah 10/03/24	Christmas 12/25/24	Yom Kippur 10/12/24	First Day of Ramadan 03/01/25	Last Day of Sukkot 10/23/24	Ash Wednesday 03/05/25	Diwali 11/7/24	Eid al-Fitr 03/31/25	Christmas Eve 12/24/24	1st and 2nd Days of Passover 04/12-04/13/25	Rosh Hashanah Begins 10/03/24	Ashura 07/06/25	Yom Kippur Begins 10/11/24	Ramadan Begins 02/28/25	Last Day of School 5/27/25	Eid al-Adha Begins 06/26/25	First Day of School for Pre-K Students 8/26/24		End of Term / Half-Day PD & Half-Day Records Day / No School for Students 5/27/25		PD for Staff / No School for Students 5/27/25		Holiday for Students, Teachers, and Staff 5/27/25		No School for Students or Teachers 5/27/25		Parent Teacher Conference Day / No School for Students 5/27/25		Planned Snow-Day Make-Up Days 5/27/25		Summer School 5/27/25		Rainbow Graduation 5/27/25		New Educator Orientation 5/27/25		Last Day for Students 5/27/25		Last Day for Seniors 5/27/25		Full-Day Religious Observance 5/27/25		Evening-Only Religious Observance 5/27/25	
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KEY

F	First Day of School
F-ECE	First Day of School for Pre-K Students
R/PPD	End of Term / Half-Day PD & Half-Day Records Day / No School for Students
PD	PD for Staff / No School for Students
HOL	Holiday for Students, Teachers, and Staff
***	No School for Students or Teachers
PTC	Parent Teacher Conference Day / No School for Students
SNOW	Planned Snow-Day Make-Up Days
SS	Summer School
R-Grad	Rainbow Graduation
NEO	New Educator Orientation
L	Last Day for Students
LS	Last Day for Seniors
*	Full-Day Religious Observance
☾	Evening-Only Religious Observance

MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER PRESENTS



LEARN24'S

AFTERSCHOOL IN THE CITY 2024

THE BRIDGE TO YOUTH EXCELLENCE

SEPTEMBER 7 @ 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

DEANWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER • 1350 49TH STREET NE

Explore all the afterschool and out-of-school time (OST) programming available to District youth ages 5-21 during the 2024-25 school year, sponsored by the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education and the Learn24 network. District families will be able to connect with OST programs, learning experiences, jobs, internships, and more.

learn24afterschoolinthecity2024.eventbrite.com