

Secondary School Places Allocation (SSPA) System 2024

Frequently Asked Questions

Release of SSPA Results

(1) Q If parents/guardians cannot return to schools and collect the allocation results on the day of allocation results release (i.e. 9 July 2024) or register with the allocated schools on 11 July and 12 July, what should they do?

- A**
- (a) If parents/guardians are unable to return to schools and collect the allocation results and complete the registration procedure with the allocated schools in person, they should obtain from the school head of their child's primary school a written authorisation for a representative to act on their behalf. For details, please contact the respective primary school. On the day of allocation result release, the authorised person should present his/her identity document in person for the collection of the original of Admission Slip and Letter of Authorisation for Registration of Secondary 1 Students of the student concerned from the primary school, so as to complete the registration procedures on the dates specified in the relevant documents. Otherwise, the allocated Secondary 1 (S1) place will not be reserved.
 - (b) Should parents/guardians have genuine difficulties in registering with the allocated school during the registration period in person by themselves or their authorised representatives, they should inform the schools concerned or the School Places Allocation (SPA) Section of the Education Bureau (EDB) before the end of the registration period so that alternative arrangements for registration can be made. Failure to do so means they have chosen to give up the places allocated.

(2) Q If students lose their allocation documents before the registration period, what should they do?

A If students lose their allocation documents before the registration period, they should apply for replacement as soon as possible. Students or their authorised representatives should bring along the original of the students' identity documents and documents of the attending primary schools (e.g. school reports or Primary 6 Student Record Forms) and complete the replacement procedures at the SPA Section of EDB (Address: Podium Floor, West Block, Education Bureau Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon) during office hours (Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 1:00pm and 2:00pm to 6:00pm; closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays). The official signature fee is HK\$125. If students lose their allocation documents within the registration period, they should contact the SPA Section of EDB at 2832 7740 or 2832 7700 as soon as possible.

(3) Q If parents wish to apply for admission for their children to another school after the release of allocation results or their children are admitted by another school after registration, what should they do?

A Parents may, for various reasons, wish to apply for admission for their children to another school. In this case, parents can apply to the schools directly but whether their children will be admitted is at the discretion of the schools concerned. Parents should note that before their children are admitted by another school, parents should register with the allocated school within the specified registration period and time. Failure to do so will be regarded as giving up the place allocated.

If a student is admitted by another school, he/she has to retrieve the Admission Slip from the allocated school with which he/she has registered for submission to the school transferred. Once the student has retrieved the Admission Slip from the allocated school, the allocated school will cancel the registration and the allocated S1 place will not be reserved for him/her.

(4) Q Will a student be allocated to a school in other districts?

A A student will be allocated to a school in other districts under the following circumstances:

- (a) The student may have been admitted by a school in another district in the Discretionary Places (DP) stage;
- (b) The student may have been allocated a school place in another district chosen under Part A “Unrestricted School Choices” in the Central Allocation (CA) stage; or
- (c) In each school net, there are secondary schools physically located in the district and a number of secondary schools in other districts for parents’ choice. Students may be allocated to a secondary school in another district which provides school places for his/her school net.

(5) Q Will students be allocated to schools beyond their school choices made in the Secondary One Choice of Schools Form (Choice Form)?

A When completing Part A “Unrestricted School Choices” of the Choice Form, parents may choose a maximum of three secondary schools from any school nets. When completing Part B “Restricted School Choices”, parents may choose a maximum of 30 secondary schools from the school net to which their child belongs.

In the allocation process, the “Unrestricted School Choices” in Part A will be processed first. A student successful in obtaining a school place in Part A will not be allocated a place in Part B “Restricted School Choices”. If a student cannot be allocated a school place after all his/her school choices in Part A have been exhausted, he/she will be allocated a school place in Part B.

When processing the school choices in Part B, the computer will allocate school places to students according to their allocation band, school choices and random number. If students cannot be allocated school places even after all their school choices have been exhausted, the computer will allocate a place to them from the remaining places of the secondary schools¹ in the school net. In other words, the more the school choices filled by parents, the better the chance their children will be allocated to a chosen school. On the contrary, if parents just choose a few schools or popular schools, the chance of their children being allocated to a secondary school beyond their school choices is higher.

¹ Excluding Direct Subsidy Scheme schools and schools with the remark “Students will not be allocated to this school unless they have included it in their choices”.

(6) Q Will eligible students of a feeder/nominated primary school not be allocated to their feeder/nominated secondary school?

A The students concerned are eligible for a reserved place in their feeder/nominated secondary school only if they are in Net Band 1 or 2 and have chosen the feeder/nominated secondary school as their first school choice in Part B “Restricted School Choices” of CA. If the number of eligible students exceeds the number of reserved places, the order of priority for allocation will be based on students’ Net Band and their random numbers until all the reserved places are filled.

However, there may be cases when students are not allocated to the feeder/nominated secondary school:

- (a) The student does not fulfil the requirement of Net Band;
- (b) The student has not made the feeder/nominated secondary school his/her first school choice in Part B “Restricted School Choices” of CA as required;
- (c) The eligible feeder/nominated Primary 6 students outnumber the reserved places of the school;
- (d) The student has successfully obtained a discretionary place in another secondary school or has been allocated a school place in Part A “Unrestricted School Choices” of CA; or
- (e) The student has been approved for cross-net allocation.

(7) Q What are the differences in the allocation arrangements between Direct Subsidy Scheme (DSS) secondary schools participating in the SSPA System and government, aided and caput secondary schools?

A The allocation arrangements for participating DSS secondary schools and government, aided and caput secondary schools are basically the same except that participating DSS secondary schools may reserve more than 30% of the S1 places as DP. The schools are still required to reserve 10% of the school places for CA for the allocation under Part A “Unrestricted School Choices”. Besides, the S1 places of participating DSS secondary schools are allocated on a “no-choice-no-allocation” principle in Part B “Restricted School Choices” of CA. In other words, students will not be allocated to a participating DSS secondary school unless they have included the school as one of the choices in Part B of CA.

(8) Q Where should parents' enquiries on allocation results be directed to?

A Parents may contact the SPA Section of EDB during office hours (Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 1:00pm and 2:00pm to 6:00pm; closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays) at Podium Floor, West Block, Education Bureau Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong. The telephone numbers of the SPA Section are 2832 7740 or 2832 7700. For general information about the SSPA System, parents may also refer to the Information Leaflet and videos uploaded to this homepage.

School Places Allocation Section

Education Bureau

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