

The family preference application

This is a diagram of the form you fill out when applying to get two or more students into the same "choice attendance area school." Actual applications are available in the Choice Information Guide, at all public schools and at the district's Family Education and Information Centers. Applications also can be printed from the district's Web site: <http://us.pinellas.k12.fl.us/choice/howtoapply.html>.

You should complete a form like this if your child:

- Is entering kindergarten in August 2005 and you want that child to go to the same school as an older sibling.
- You have two or more children entering the school system at the same time and you want them to attend the same "choice attendance area school."
- Your children already are in the school system and you want to move them together to a "choice attendance area school."

You should NOT complete a form like this if:

- You are applying to get only one child into a school.
- You are happy with your children's current school or schools and want them to continue there next year.
- Your child is on a magnet or fundamental school track.

Phone calls are the principal way the district will try to reach you if there's a problem with your application or, later, if your child is called off a waiting list. You should print legibly and update the district if your numbers change.

Applicants to "countywide" programs will need a detailed worksheet prepared by the district to apply through the automated phone system. There is no paper application for these schools. The worksheets are available at the schools, at the district's family centers or at www.pinellas.k12.fl.us/magnet. "Countywide" refers to magnet and fundamental programs and high school career academies.*

This guide is a 20-page, newspaper-style publication printed by the school district. Guides are available at the district's Family Education and Information Centers, at all public schools, public libraries and other community buildings, and at many private preschools. The guide also can be downloaded from the district's Web site at: <http://us.pinellas.k12.fl.us/choice/howtoapply.html>.

PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS Family Preference Application 2005-06 SCHOOL YEAR

Use this application when you wish two or more family members to attend the same school. Family preference allows family members who live at the same address to be linked together for the purpose of the computer match process. This increases the likelihood of assignment to the same school but is not a guarantee.

1. My family residence is in Choice Attendance Area (See Attendance Area Maps) A B C

2. Family Residence Address: _____ City: _____ Home Phone: _____ Work/Cell Phone: _____ for the 2005-06 school year.

3. I ALREADY have a student assigned to _____ Name of assigned student: _____ I also have other students I want to attend this school. List other students in "Name of Students Applying" box below (Box #5).

4. I have two or more students I want to attend the same school in 2005-06, but DO NOT have any other students already enrolled at that school. List students in "Name of Students Applying" box below (Box #5).

Name of Students Applying	Student's Birth Date	Current Grade	Next Year's Grade
5. _____	6. _____	7. _____	8. _____
_____	_____	_____	_____

10. Directions: Using the School Choice Information Guide, select five schools from the choice attendance area in which the student resides. Write them in the space provided in order from first choice to last choice. Do not place the names of students who wish to remain at their current school in the "Name of Students Applying" box above. List only students who need a new school assignment for next year.

11. Statement of Understanding: I understand that by submitting this application to participate in the choice process, I am giving up my student's current school assignment and grandfathering rights for the 2005-06 school year for the student(s) in the "Name of Students Applying" box above (Box #5). I understand that I am not guaranteed any one of my five choices. The information provided on this application is complete and accurate.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date Signed: _____

Family Education and Information Centers
 North County Location: 1101 Marshall St., Clearwater, FL 33755
 South County Location: 2420 Eighth Ave. S., St. Petersburg, FL 33711
 PHONE: (727) 296-1604 FAX: (727) 296-2904
 PHONE: (727) 552-1595 FAX: (727) 552-1604 www.pinellaschoice.org

Read and understand these lines. The implications are big for students already attending a district school. If you apply for a "choice attendance area school," you forfeit the seat your child would have had in 2005-06. However, you may apply by phone to a magnet, fundamental or career academy program without losing your existing seat. Also note there is no guarantee you'll get the seats you want.

Copies always are a good idea before you mail or fax anything to the district. Also: Depending on how you apply, you will get a confirmation number or a summary sheet as verification of your choices. Keep those as well.

If you hope to get two or more siblings into the same school, this is the place to accomplish it. Example: Derek needs to be in kindergarten next year at Eisenhower Elementary in Clearwater with his third-grade sister, Diane, who is applying to Eisenhower from another school. Their situation is described in Step No. 4 - two students trying to get into the same school and neither of them is currently in that school. Derek and Diane both should be listed in Steps 5-9. These steps insure that brother and sister will be linked during the choice computer match in January. The system will try to get them into the same school, but there is no guarantee.

*Note: The countywide magnets are not to be confused with "area magnet schools," which have magnet-style programs but are not available to kids countywide. These schools are Campbell Park, Gulfport, Jamerson, Lakewood, Maximo and Sanderlin elementaries. "Magnet area schools" require a choice application like this one.