



# Understanding Ranking

## Rank the following programs:

- ES Selective Enrollment Programs
- ES Choice Programs
- HS Choice Programs
- HS Selective Enrollment Programs

## How does it work?

You are placed in line for every program you apply to based on your lottery number or point total. Make sure to rank programs in the true order that you would want to attend them. You may receive a single best offer to the highest-ranked program with available seats for which you qualified.

**Offered**

**Not Offered** Program Rank #1: This program had a capacity for 2 students. Because you are third in line, you will not get an offer to this program. You will be placed on the waitlist for this program if the category is Choice.

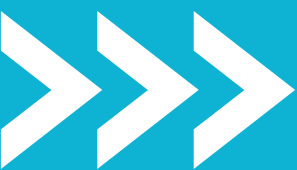
**Not Offered** Program Rank #2: This program had a capacity for 3 students. Because you are fourth in line, you will not get an offer to this program. You will be placed on the waitlist for this program if the category is Choice.

**Offered** Program Rank #3: This program had a capacity for 3 students. Because you are third in line, you WILL get an offer to this program.

Program Rank #4: Because you were offered a seat at a program you ranked higher, you will be taken out of the line for this program regardless of how you place in the line

Program Rank #5: Because you were offered a seat at a program you ranked higher, you will be taken out of the line for this program regardless of how you place in the line

Ranking a program higher does not increase your chances of getting an offer. Make sure you rank programs in the true order of preference with your most preferred program as your first choice, and so on.



# Understanding Minimum Point Totals (Cut Scores)

Definition

**Cut Score:** the lowest score to receive an offer to a program.

Includes: Selective Enrollment, IB, Military programs, Fine & Performing Arts programs, CTE programs, Academic Centers, etc. (Cut Scores are not shared when the number of seats offered is too low.)

**What programs have minimum point totals**  
Any program that selects students based on points will have a minimum point total.

## How does it work?

### Selective Enrollment- Elementary & High School Programs

Students are all placed in descending point order. The first 30% of the available seats are for the highest performing students, regardless of their tier.



The remaining students are all placed into their tiers in descending point order. The remaining seats are divided across the 4 tiers. The lowest score admitted in each tier is the cut score for that for that year.

The Cut Scores in this example will be as follows:

- Rank: 875
- Tier 1: 752
- Tier 2: 845
- Tier 3: 855
- Tier 4: 850

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
	853	867	872	867
	826	846	863	854
	758	845	863	850
	752	812	855	845
	748	799	845	840

## Who decides the cut scores?

Cut scores are determined based on applicant scores and program capacity. Each program has a number of seats and the lowest score to receive an offer becomes the cut score. Each Spring after offers are released, the cut scores for each program (and tier if applicable) are published. The cut scores are different each year as they are based on the applicant pool in that year and the number of seats available. Any cut scores from a previous year should be used as a guide only; the cut scores for the current cycle may be different.

## Can I use last year's cut scores?

The cut scores currently on the GoCPS website are the scores that were determined last year. These are here as a **GUIDE** and should only be used to help give applicants an idea of the level of score which was offered a seat in the past. With the changes to the HSAT for the upcoming cycle, Cut Scores for the upcoming application cycle may or may not be similar.

## How does it work?

### Choice - High School Programs that Select Based on Points

Students are all placed in descending point order. The lowest score admitted is the cut score for that year. Cut scores are determined when initial offers are released in the spring,