



3-Year-Old Lottery Programs

Limited seats available at:

- Fletcher Maynard Scholar College
- Tobin Montessori Children's House
- Special Start Integrated Classrooms

Apply during October 1 - 31st
for a chance to start in
September 2020



CAMBRIDGE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Student Registration Center
Cambridge Rindge & Latin School
459 Broadway
Cambridge, MA 02138
www.cpsd.us

617.349.6551
welcome@cpsd.us

Programs for Preschoolers in Cambridge Public Schools



Thank you for your interest in starting your child's education in the Cambridge Public Schools!

Early childhood is a time when children's brains are growing rapidly. By enrolling your child in a quality preschool program, you are helping to prepare them for Kindergarten and so much more.

Research shows that children who participate in high quality preschool programs have better math, language, and social skills when they enter elementary school. Quality early childhood and care programs help to build the foundation for learning for the rest of their lives!

There are many wonderful programs for preschool-aged children in Cambridge. The 3-Year-Old Lottery allows families to apply for a chance to enter:

- Fletcher Maynard Scholar College
- Tobin Montessori Children's House
- Special Start Integrated Classrooms

All of these programs follow the Cambridge Public Schools (CPS) academic calendar of holidays and school vacations. These popular programs are free of charge, and any Cambridge resident may apply.

Age Requirements

The age of entry for CPS programs described in this booklet is 3 years old.

Applications will also be accepted from 4 year olds who are *not* eligible for Junior Kindergarten (JK).

Students who *are* eligible for JK must register during the month of January.

Child's Birth Date	When to Apply
April 1, 2016 – August 31, 2017	October 2019 3-Year-Old Lottery
September 1, 2015 – March 31, 2016	January 2020 Kindergarten Lottery



Fletcher Maynard Scholar College

Fletcher Maynard Academy
225 Windsor Street • <http://fma.cpsd.us>

Robin Harris, Principal
rharris@cpsd.us • 617.349.6593

Daniel Skerritt, Family Liaison
dskerritt@cpsd.us • 617.359.6855 x112

Childhood is a joyful time and children need time to explore the world, practice skills, and learn to navigate and develop social interactions. FMA Scholar College uses a student-directed curriculum involving hands-on experiences with people, objects, events and ideas.

Scholar College enrolls one classroom of 18 students, taught by one teacher and one assistant. Creating and sustaining a strong family and school collaborative partnership is an integral part of Scholar College. Families are asked to participate in one parent workshop or school event each month.

As part of the Fletcher Maynard Academy, the program offers an 8-hour school day that begins at 7:45AM and ends at 3:45PM, except on Wednesdays, when school ends at 2PM.

Scholar College students are considered early enrollees at Fletcher Maynard Academy, where they will continue through 5th Grade. Like their older peers, they follow the FMA dress code.

There are no special entry requirements. However, priority will be given to siblings (brothers and sisters) of current Fletcher Maynard students and to alumni of Baby University—an early childhood program offered by the Department of Human Service Programs.

Special Start

http://bit.ly/cps_special_start

Shelagh Kelly Walker, Coordinator
skellywalker@cpsd.us • 617.349.6502

Rasmiya Ferej, Special Start Specialist
617.349.6500 • rferej@cpsd.us

Special Start offers an inclusive educational for children with disabilities. Students who enter through the 3-Year-Old Lottery benefit from a free, high-quality preschool program while serving as peer models for learning.

Special Start classrooms use innovative curricula with individualization for every student based on each child's growth and development. As an integrated special education setting, the classroom provides a higher student-to-teacher ratio than required for other programs.

Special Start offers a half day program that operates four hours per day on weekdays. Classrooms must have a balance of student genders and ages, and the Lottery takes this balance into account.

Classrooms are located at schools throughout the city. Special Start is not an entry point for the elementary school in which each classroom is located. Families will need to participate in the Kindergarten/Junior Kindergarten Lottery in order to register for elementary school.



Tobin Montessori School

197 Vassal Lane • <http://tobin.cpsd.us> • 617.349.6600

Jaime Frost, Principal • jfrost@cpsd.us

Mary Frawley, Family Liaison • mfrawley@cpsd.us

The Montessori method is unique. Children use concrete, self-correcting materials that develop abstract concepts through exploration in math, literacy, geography, social studies, science, practical life, sensory activities, art, music, and physical education.

Students spend three years with the same teacher in “Children’s House” as their maturity and independence is nurtured. By age 5, children have experienced the spiral Montessori curriculum.

As part of the Tobin Montessori School, the school day is 7:55AM to 1:55PM. Families may choose to pick up their children at 11AM, or may enroll their children in aftercare. Because the class sizes for Children’s House mirror the sizes of CPS kindergartens, students must be toilet trained on the first day of school.

The age of entry for Tobin Montessori School is 3 years old. Applications are also accepted from four year-olds who are not eligible for Junior Kindergarten due to their birth month. However, there are very few or no seats available at this age level.

Siblings (brothers or sisters) of current Tobin Montessori students receive priority in school assignment. Children’s House students automatically continue at the Tobin Montessori School through Grade 5. They are not eligible to enter the Kindergarten lottery.

Entering the Lottery: Easy as 1-2-3

1 Fill out the Lottery Forms

You may apply for 1, 2, or all three programs. Save time by pre-registering online!

2 Gather the required documents

If you complete a paper packet, the checklist of documents is on the first page.

If you pre-register online, you can upload required documents, but will need to bring your photo ID when you complete the registration in person.

3 Complete the Registration Process In Person by 4PM on October 31

Your child will not be entered in the 3-Year-Old Lottery until you complete the registration process in person at the Student Registration Center



How the Lottery Works

It's a Lottery.... With Bonus Points

Each application is trying to win the Lottery based on a combined score. First, applications are assigned a random lottery number. The higher your lottery number, the better. Then, some applications earn "Bonus Points" for a particular program.

- For Tobin Montessori and Fletcher Maynard Scholar College, siblings get "Sibling Bonus Points."
- In addition, children who participated in Baby University receive Bonus Points for Fletcher Maynard.

SES Balance

Special Start and Tobin Montessori are required to follow the Controlled Choice Policy, which means they be balanced by socio-economic status (SES). CPS ensures SES balance by managing the percentage of students who do, and do not, qualify for Free or Reduced Price meals in a particular school or program. A certain percentage of seats are reserved in the program for children in each category.

At Special Start, gender and age are also balancing factors. Fletcher Maynard Scholar College is not required to be balanced by SES, but the elementary school as a whole must be balanced.

Highest Score "Wins"... As Long as the Program is Balanced

Applications with the highest score will be first in line for a seat in the program. However, sometimes a school may fill up with children from one or the other SES category. When this occurs, the SRC will start a waitlist for each category.

Looking for More Options?

www.finditcambridge.org

Find It Cambridge is a city-supported resource where you can find the programs and activities you are looking for. Our city has an amazing array of programs for preschoolers, and you can find all of them on Find It!

Search the website by category, age, location, or cost to find a host of preschool centers and in-home childcare providers. You can also find a variety of special events that your child and family will enjoy.

If you have any questions, Find It Manager Andrew Liedtka is here to help. Call 617.652.5232 or email info@finditcambridge.org for more information.





3-Year Old Program Lottery Schedule | October 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 First day to Register 8:30AM - 3:30PM	2 Open 8:30AM - 3:30PM	3 Open 8:30AM - 3:30PM	4 Open 8:30AM - 3:30PM	5
6	7	Open 8:30AM - 3:30PM	9 Closed Yom Kippur No Office Hours	10 Open 8:30AM - 3:30PM	11 Open 8:30AM - 3:30PM	12
13	14 Closed Indigenous People's Day No Office Hours	15 Open 8:30AM - 3:30PM	16 Open 8:30AM - 3:30PM	17 Open 8:30AM - 3:30PM	18 Open 8:30AM - 3:30PM	19
20	21 Open 8:30AM - 3:30PM	22 Extended Office Hours 8:30AM - 7PM	23 Extended Office Hours 8:30AM - 7PM	24 Extended Office Hours 8:30AM - 7PM	Open 8:30AM - 3:30PM	26
27	28 Open 8:30AM - 3:30PM	29 Extended Office Hours 8:30AM - 7PM	30 Extended Office Hours 8:30AM - 7PM	31 Last Day to Apply 8:30AM - 4PM		

Important: You must complete the registration process
IN PERSON at the Student Registration Center by 4PM on
Thursday, October 31

Cambridge Public Schools (CPS) is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to the provision of quality educational programs for all students. CPS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, genetic information, age, veteran, or marital status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

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