



Admissions Offers FAQ

March 9, 2020

This Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document provides information on how Ingenuity's Offers were issued for the 2020-21 school year.

Question	Answer
How do I know Ingenuity is good fit for my child?	Ingenuity is a good fit for students with a history of strong performance and interest in math and science, complex and logical thinking, persistence, and the ability to grasp new material and concepts quickly.
Who was eligible to apply?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All current 5th and 8th grade students who are Baltimore City residents were eligible to apply. Limited spots are available for entry in 7th and 10th grades, and these seats are usually offered over the summer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7th grade applicants should have scored Level 4 or 5 on the MCAP assessment for initial qualification. 10th grade offers are conditional based on completion and mastery of Algebra I, Geometry, and Biology by the end of 9th grade.
How do students qualify for Ingenuity?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ingenuity calculates a composite score for all applicants. Ingenuity calculates a composite score for each applicant. This score is different from the district composite score. Ingenuity's composite score consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior year MCAP English Language Arts and Math, Prior year and first quarter of the current year Math and English Language Arts report card grades, and Results on Ingenuity's administered CogAT Results on Ingenuity's Algebra I (<i>high school only</i>)
How competitive was the process this year? How many students apply and how many are offered seats?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High School: 316 students applied; 248 tested; there are 90 seats available. This creates a 36% acceptance rate of those tested. Middle School: 670 students applied; 497 tested; 250 seats are available. This creates a 52% acceptance rate of those tested. Students offered placement for next year typically scored proficient or higher on the MCAP (formally PARCC) assessment and had good grades in prior school years (A's and B's). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Report Card Grades:</i> 97% of accepted 5th grade students and 98% of accepted 8th grade students had 80% average or higher. <i>MCAP:</i> 93% of 5th grade students scored level 4 or higher on MCAP math and 99% of 8th grade students.
Is Roland Park the most competitive program to get into?	Yes. 48% (322) of all 5 th grade applicants requested Roland Park as their first choice. To promote more equitable opportunities for students to qualify for a seat in the Roland Park program, students from disadvantaged households received up to 7 added points in their overall composite score. The maximum middle school composite score was 95.



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Middle School: How is my student's school placement determined?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School placement is typically assigned according to Ingenuity's composite score rank. Ingenuity's composite score is different from the district's School Choice composite score. There is no minimum composite score that determines placement from year to year. Applicants receive their highest possible choice of school until those schools are filled according to rank. Students are only considered for placement at the schools they rank. If only one school choice is indicated and that school is filled with higher ranking students, no offer will be given.
What is the diversity of the students in the program?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The program is committed to identifying a cohort of diverse students that reflects the race, ethnicity, gender and income of Baltimore City. 53% of this year's cohorts are students from racial groups underrepresented in STEM (Black/African American, Hispanic, Alaskan/Native American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander). 51% of this year's incoming cohorts are female. We do not collect economic demographic information until enrollment, 39% of last year's cohorts (middle and high school) received some form of State or Federal assistance.
Does my student have to be accepted at Poly to be in the high school Ingenuity program?	Yes. All students accepted to Ingenuity must also be accepted to Poly. Applicants must <i>also</i> complete the Baltimore City Public Schools High School Choice application requesting Baltimore Polytechnic Institute (Poly) as the first choice.
How should my student prepare over the summer for Ingenuity?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Incoming 6th grade middle school students begin their Ingenuity journey with a two-week summer program where students learn the Singapore Math approach and establish relationships with their peers and teachers. High school students are invited to a one or two-day orientation with their incoming 9th grade cohort, in addition to Poly's 9th grade orientation. Students scoring below 80% on the final Algebra placement exam in the spring must demonstrate mastery of high school Algebra I prior to entry. Most students chose to enroll in Ingenuity's 4-week Summer Algebra Course at Poly to fulfill this requirement.
Is there a waitlist if my child is not accepted?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When Ingenuity sends out offers, the program creates a waitlist. The number of students placed on waitlist is determined based on the average number of previous students moved off the waitlist. Ingenuity determines the waitlists based on admissions composite score ranks. Ingenuity does not add students to waitlists based on parent/guardian request.
Are Baltimore City students prioritized over students from County or Private schools?	No. All students are ranked according to the same composite score.
Can my child retake the CogAT?	Students cannot retake in a current year. However, if a student cannot complete the test due to an obvious illness or emergency during the test, this is documented by both the proctor and Admissions Coordinator on the day of the test.



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If my child is not accepted, can I appeal the decision?	Yes. Upon the request for an appeal, the program will manually review all tests and transcripts. If the review results in a discrepancy, the child's composite score will be recalculated. If the new composite score qualified them for placement, the child will be placed on the waitlist according to rank.
If my child is offered his/her second choice, can I request a spot on the waitlist for his/her first choice?	No. Ingenuity does not add students to waitlists based on parent/guardian request. Waitlists are already filled at the time the program gives offers.
Can my student transfer into Ingenuity during the school year?	No transfers are considered after September 30.
Can I transfer from one Ingenuity middle school to middle school?	Requests for transfer to another Ingenuity middle school once the school year has begun are managed on an individual case basis. Generally, a seat must be available at the receiving school, and no other eligible students on the waitlist, who are currently enrolled in the school. want the available seat. Transfers are also pending school and district approvals.