New York City School Categories and Programs

*The schools and programs listed in this document are intended to provide a general picture of the types of settings which exist in New York City and are not exhaustive.

<table>
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<th>School Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
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| Alternative Schools (District 79) | Alternative schools are designed to address social problems that affect students such as homelessness or incarceration.  
District 79 helps students under 21 years of age who have experienced an interruption to their studies to:  
- stay on track to a high school or high school equivalency diploma,  
- build the skills to succeed in post-secondary opportunities, and  
- gain the social-emotional skills necessary to become confident and productive members of society. |
| Charter Schools            | Charter schools are publicly funded independent schools established by teachers, parents, or community groups under the terms of a charter with a local or national authority (some are operated by for-profit private companies.) |
| Community Schools          | Community schools aim to improve student achievement through strong partnerships among principals, parents, teachers, and Community Based Organizations (CBOs)  
Community Schools are neighborhood hubs where students receive high-quality academic instruction, families can access social services, and communities congregate to share resources and address their common |
### Challenges

The schools are focused on addressing students’ diverse needs, empowering parents to be active participants in their child’s education, and engaging entire communities around student success.

### Consortium

**The New York Performance Standards Consortium** represents 28 schools across New York State. Formed in 1997, the Consortium opposes high stakes tests arguing that "one size does not fit all."

Schools in the New York Performance Standards Consortium have a waiver from the New York State Education Department (NYSED) permitting them to award diplomas to students who have passed the English Language Arts (ELA) Regents exam and successfully completed performance assessments in math, science, and social studies. Typically these assessments consist of an extensive research project, presentation, and defense of students' work. Students at these schools do not need to take Regents exams in math, science, Global History and Geography, or United States History and Government to graduate.

### District 75

Students with the most severe needs — which can include autism, intellectual disabilities and some emotional disabilities — often attend a school in District 75. Some of these are stand-alone schools, while others share space in regular city school buildings. There are 56 District 75 school organizations located at more than 300 sites in all five boroughs and Syosset, New York.

### Expeditionary Schools

Expeditionary Schools follow the Expeditionary Learning (EL) Model. There are nearly 200 EL schools within the U.S; eleven of those schools are new, small schools in New York City. For information about the model, go to: [http://eleducation.org/](http://eleducation.org/)

### International Schools

International schools offer students with limited English proficiency an opportunity to learn in a multicultural educational environment. Priority is given to students of limited English proficiency who have been in the
United States for four years or less (varies by school).

| Magnet Schools | There are approximately 100 magnet public schools in New York. |
|               | Minority enrollment is 76% of the student body (majority Hispanic), which is more than the New York state average of 54%. |
|               | Unlike charter schools or private schools, a magnet school is part of the local public school system. At regular public schools, students are generally zoned into their schools based on the location of their home - students go to the school that is nearest where they live. However, this may not always be true since boundaries can seem arbitrary and in some smaller towns schools are not zoned at all. But, magnet schools exist outside of zoned school boundaries. Whereas private schools are completely separate from local public school districts, and charter schools are public schools with private oversight, magnet schools remain part of the public school system and operate under the same administration and school board. |

| Neighborhood Schools | Some schools are "zoned" meaning they are neighborhood public schools for all students living within a designated geographic area, or zone. Usually this is the public school closest to the student’s home. Zoned schools are commonly found for elementary or middle schools, but some high schools are also zoned. It's also important to remember that some districts do not have any zoned schools. The Department of Education refers to these as "choice districts." Districts 1, 7, and 23 are choice districts. Students living in one of these districts need to rank their preferred schools when applying to schools. |

| New Schools | These schools opened in September 2014, or are current middle schools that will expand to include high school grades with each passing year. |

| NYC P-TECH 9-14 Schools | NYC P-TECH 9-14 schools are early college and career high schools spanning grades 9 through 14, which is the equivalent of high school and |

Office of Teacher Education
Teachers College, Columbia University
Two years of college. Students receive a seamless experience combining high school, college, and career training to graduate with a high school diploma, an Associate's degree from CUNY, and relevant industry certification. The program sequence takes up to six years and includes CTE pathway courses, tuition-free college classes, and workplace learning experiences through industry partners. Students graduating from NYC P-TECH 9-14 schools are prepared to go into the workforce or continue their postsecondary education with transferable credits.

### Renewal Schools

The NYCDOE will work intensively with each Renewal School community over the next three years, setting clear goals and—with support from Central—holding each school community accountable for rapid improvement.

The NYCDOE has selected as Renewal Schools those schools that met all three of the following criteria and four that were added per the Chancellor's discretion:

- Identified as Priority or Focus Schools by the State Department of Education:
  - Priority: The bottom 5% lowest-performing schools statewide
  - Focus: The bottom 10% of progress in a subgroup

- Demonstrated low academic achievement for each of the three prior years (2012-2014):
  - Elementary and middle schools in the bottom 25% in Math and ELA scores
  - High schools in the bottom 25% in four-year graduation rate

### Specialized Schools

Specialized High Schools offer a broad liberal arts curriculum in addition to courses in their area of specialization.

There are nine Specialized high schools in New York City for top-performing students. Eight of the schools rely on a single-test admissions policy, by how students in eighth or ninth grade perform on the...
Specialized High School Admissions Test. LaGuardia high school bases admission on a competitive audition and a review of academic records.

The nine specialized high schools are:
- Bronx High School of Science
- The Brooklyn Latin School
- Brooklyn Technical High School
- High School for Mathematics, Science and Engineering at City College
- High School of American Studies at Lehman College
- Queens High School for the Sciences at York College
- Staten Island Technical High School
- Stuyvesant High School
- Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts

Teaching High Schools

In keeping with its name, teaching high schools offer students who are interested in pursuing teaching as a career an opportunity to grow as educators.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Career and Technical Education (CTE)

Career and Technical Education programs and schools combine rigorous academic study with applied skills in a career context. CTE programs differ by industry, but all combine traditional academic coursework with technical skills. CTE students have the opportunity to earn Advanced Regents diplomas, pursue industry recognized credentials and additional industry training, and/or receive support entering the workforce.

CTE programs also support progress into employment and/or postsecondary education by offering a final assessment that signifies to employers and educational institutions a mastery of related concepts and skills. Outside of the classroom, students can take part in internships,
receive mentoring, and participate in job shadowing and other real-life experiences.

Please visit nyc.gov/schools/ChoicesEnrollment/SpecialPrograms/CTE for a comprehensive list of CTE programs of study or ask schools directly whether they offer any CTE programs.

| Dual Language Programs | Dual language programs, which provide instruction in both English and a second language, are flourishing in elementary schools across the country as educators find benefits for both English-language learners (ELLs) and those fluent in English. Dual language classes aim to be evenly split between native English speakers and native speakers of the second language. At some schools, kids spend half the day in each language, while other programs alternate days. Sometimes it depends on the subject: Some schools teach math, science and social studies in Chinese, for example, and then use English for art, gym and "English language arts."
The city already had more than 100 dual language programs before the expansion. Creating more of them is part of the DOE's efforts to meet state-mandated goals to improve education for non-English-speaking students. |

| International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program | The International Baccalaureate (IB) Organization offers the Diploma Program, a challenging college preparatory course of study that meets the needs of highly motivated students. Students who successfully complete the course of study become candidates for the International Baccalaureate Diploma. |

| PROSE (Progressive Redesign Opportunity for Schools of) | The PROSE program enables schools that have a demonstrated record of effective school leadership, collaboration, and trust to implement innovative practices outside of existing rules. Administrators and teachers in 126 PROSE schools collaboratively engage in school improvement efforts guided by the Framework for Great Schools and leverage granted |
| **Excellence** | flexibilities in the UFT and/or CSA contracts, as well as Chancellor’s and/or state regulations in order to increase student achievement.  

The PROSE program is designed to:  
-Foster continuous innovation to challenge some of the basic rules and regulation under which they have historically operated in service of  
-Foster collaboration within and across school communities.  
-improved student outcomes. |
| **Teachers of Tomorrow (TOT)** | Teachers of Tomorrow (TOT) is a program funded by the New York State Education Department (NYSED) intended to help recruit and retain eligible newly hired teachers working in some of the city's highest-needs schools. Currently, eligible teachers may receive an annual $3,400 TOT award for up to four years. |
| **Title 1** | Title 1 is the nation’s oldest and largest federally funded program, according to the U.S. Department of Education. Annually, it provides over $14 billion to school systems across the country for students living at or near poverty. Originally, the idea of Title 1 was enacted in 1965 under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. This policy committed to closing the achievement gap between low-income students and other students.  

The basic principles of Title 1 state that schools with large concentrations of low-income students will receive supplemental funds to assist in meeting students' educational goals. Low-income students are determined by the number of students enrolled in the free and reduced lunch program. For an entire school to qualify for Title 1 funds, at least 40% of students must enroll in the free and reduced lunch program.  

The use of Title 1 funds are determined by individual schools and can be used to improve curriculum, instruction, counseling, parental involvement, etc. |
## Title 2

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<th>Schools are given Title II funding to: (1) increase student academic achievement through strategies such as improving teacher and principal quality; and (2) hold local educational agencies and schools accountable for improvements in student academic achievement.</th>
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### Sources:

- [http://performanceassessment.org/](http://performanceassessment.org/)
- [http://www.wnyc.org/schoolbook/guides/understanding/](http://www.wnyc.org/schoolbook/guides/understanding/)
- [http://www.publicschoolreview.com/blog/what-is-a-magnet-school](http://www.publicschoolreview.com/blog/what-is-a-magnet-school)
- [http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/schools/RenewalSchools/default](http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/schools/RenewalSchools/default)
- [http://www.uff.org/new-teacher-q/teachers-tomorrow-program](http://www.uff.org/new-teacher-q/teachers-tomorrow-program)
- [http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg1.html](http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg1.html)