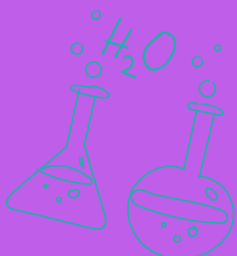


MAYOR  
MURIEL BOWSER'S

**BACK TO  
SCHOOL  
GUIDE  
2023**



# TABLE OF CONTENTS



Letter from Mayor Bowser	03
Importance of Attendance	04
Immunizations	05
Early Learning	06
Afterschool and Out of School Time Opportunities	08
Tutoring and Academic Support	10
Internet at Home	11
Family Support and Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Support	12
High School Programs	14
Scholarships and College Tuition Support	15
Career and Technical Education	16
Training the Next Generation of DC's First Responders	17
Transportation: Getting To and From School	18
Meet Your MOCRS	20
Meet Your Education Leaders	21
Council of the District of Columbia	22
2023-24 DC Public School Year Calendar	23

# Letter from Mayor Muriel Bowser

Dear Families,

Welcome back to a new school year!

A new school year is a new opportunity to open doors for our young people - to help them make friends, set goals, and dream big.

I am grateful that in schools across all eight wards, from pre-K 3 to 12th grade and beyond, we have teachers, administrators, counselors, coaches, and staff who bring out the best in our young people. I am grateful for the thousands of students who come to school every day and make our city proud. Let's continue to uplift the many great things happening in our schools, including our young people who go above and beyond for themselves, their peers, and our community.

As we head into this new school year, we also know that sometimes families and caregivers need support with making sure your children and teens are on the best path forward. Whether your child needs academic support in school, social and emotional support during out of school hours, or behavioral support at home - we have teams to support you. Remember: it takes a village.

Let's start the school year strong. Make sure your child is up to date with their well child visits. Have a plan for before school and after school. Find time to meet your child's teachers and other school staff. And remember that strong attendance is key to a strong school year; when young people are in school, they not only do better academically, they also have access to a range of supports to keep them happy and healthy.

Please use this guide as a starting point, but also know that if you have any questions about how to help your child succeed, someone at your child's school will be able to answer your questions and get you connected to the right resources.

Have a fantastic school year!

Sincerely,



**Muriel Bowser**  
Mayor



# Importance of Attendance

Every Day Counts! Regular attendance is critical in helping students succeed in the classroom and beyond. Attending school every day will help your student learn and stay on track.



Being absent 18 or more days in a school year, or just **2 days each month**, can cause **significant academic and social setbacks for students**, including affecting their **ability to read** and **stay on track for graduation**.

## Did you know:

- Children who are chronically absent (**18 or more days in a school year**) in kindergarten and 1st grade are much less likely to read at grade level by end of 3rd grade.
- By 6th grade, chronic absence is a warning sign for students at risk of dropping out of school.
- By 9th grade, good attendance can predict graduation rates even better than 8th grade test scores.

## Tips for the School Year!

- Create a routine to help your student learn and stay on track this year.
- Make sure to check your student's backpack for important notes and have a place they can keep their backpack and supplies.
- Make sure your student gets to bed on time. Getting enough sleep will help them be ready for the school day.

For support getting your child or teen to school every day, on time, please contact your school's attendance counselor or visit [attendance.dc.gov](https://attendance.dc.gov).

# Immunizations

DC requires that all students are fully immunized to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Students must have up-to-date immunization certification on file with their school or they will not be allowed to attend school or school activities until the immunization certification is submitted to the school.

## Summary of Vaccines Required for Children to Enter Key Grades in DC for the 2023-2024 School Year:

**DC HEALTH** | GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**DC School Immunization Requirements Guide**  
effective June 2023

This is a summary of vaccines required for children to enter key grades in the District of Columbia. Children are required to be up to date on vaccinations in every grade. More detail on the requirements is available at [dchealth.dc.gov/immunizations](https://dchealth.dc.gov/immunizations).

To start Pre-K3*	To start Kindergarten	To start 7 <sup>th</sup> grade	To start 11 <sup>th</sup> grade
DTaP ✓✓✓✓	DTaP ✓✓✓✓✓	DTaP ✓✓✓✓✓	DTaP ✓✓✓✓✓
Polio ✓✓✓	Polio ✓✓✓✓	Polio ✓✓✓✓	Polio ✓✓✓✓
Chickenpox ✓	Chickenpox ✓✓	Chickenpox ✓✓	Chickenpox ✓✓
MMR ✓	MMR ✓✓	MMR ✓✓	MMR ✓✓
Hepatitis B ✓✓✓	Hepatitis B ✓✓✓	Hepatitis B ✓✓✓	Hepatitis B ✓✓✓
Hepatitis A ✓✓	Hepatitis A ✓✓	Hepatitis A ✓✓	Hepatitis A ✓✓
Pneumococcal (PCV) ✓✓✓✓		Tdap ✓	Tdap ✓
Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib) ✓✓✓(✓) <small>Depending on brand used</small>		HPV ✓✓	HPV ✓✓
		Meningococcal (ACWY) ✓	Meningococcal (ACWY) ✓✓

✓ = number of doses

\*Your Pre-K3 child may become eligible for a booster dose of vaccines against MMR, Chickenpox, Polio, and Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis when they turn 4 years of age. We highly encourage getting these on time, however these will not count against the attendance requirement mid-year.

DC Health | 899 North Capitol Stree NE, Washington, DC 20002 | (202) 442-5955 | [dchealth.dc.gov](https://dchealth.dc.gov)

To learn more about DC's Immunization Attendance Policy, visit [osse.dc.gov/immunization](https://osse.dc.gov/immunization).

To view a calendar of upcoming free immunization clinics available for students, visit [dchealth.dc.gov/immunization](https://dchealth.dc.gov/immunization).

# Early Learning



There are resources available for families seeking access to child care, including these key websites:

## My Child Care DC: [mychildcare.dc.gov](http://mychildcare.dc.gov)

Families seeking child care can turn to My Child Care DC to find information on all licensed child development facilities in the District, including before and after care programs.

## DC Child Care Connections: [dchildcareconnections.org](http://dchildcareconnections.org)

The District's child care resource and referral agency provides resources for families to support their children's development, including how to find and pay for child care and out-of-school time programs. Families can contact DC Child Care Connections at [osse.dchildcareconnections@dc.gov](mailto:osse.dchildcareconnections@dc.gov) or (202) 829-2500.

## Child Care Subsidies: [bit.ly/payforchildcare](http://bit.ly/payforchildcare)

Subsidies are available for eligible low-income families to help cover the costs of child care, including out-of-school-time care for children through age 12.

## Ready for Pre-K: [readyforprek.org](http://readyforprek.org)

A DCPS initiative designed to support families and caregivers of toddlers and two-year-olds through monthly, virtual learning sessions.

## Strong Start with the DC Library: [dclibrary.org](http://dclibrary.org)

DCPL wants to help ensure that children and youth get a strong start with reading and learning, including by offering:

- Video Story Books
- Reading Lists by Age and Grade Level
- Sing, Talk and Read (STAR)
- Books from Birth: families in DC with children ages birth to 5 can sign up to receive a free book each month via mail.





## Pre-K:

### Did you know?

DC has the most robust free pre-K program in the nation. In fact, 80% of all DC 4-year-olds attend free pre-K. In recent years, Mayor Bowser has invested over \$100 million in the expansion of early childhood education opportunities.

Learn more about Pre-K: Visit [myschooldc.org/apply/applying-to-PK](https://myschooldc.org/apply/applying-to-PK)

### To be eligible for free pre-K:

- Students must be 3 by September 30 to apply to pre-K 3
- Students must be 4 by September 30 to apply to pre-K 4
- Must use the My School DC application to apply to pre-K



## All Grades

### Enrolling Your Child Next School Year:

#### My School DC: [myschooldc.org](https://myschooldc.org)

My School DC is the common application and lottery for the District's public school options. It offers families everything they need to know to learn, apply, and enroll their children into school.

While families in kindergarten through 12th grade are guaranteed a spot in your neighborhood school, the My School DC common lottery is a single, random lottery that families can use to apply to up to 12 DCPS and public charter schools. Families apply in February (grades 9-12) and March (pre-K 3 - grade 8).

#### Attend EdFest

In December, My School DC will host EdFEST, an annual public school fair and one-stop shop for families to learn more about the District's public school options.

# AFTERSCHOOL AND OUT OF SCHOOL TIME OPPORTUNITIES



## **Learn24:**

Families can locate potential afterschool and summer program opportunities for school-aged youth ages 5 - 18 through the Learn24 program finder. Additionally, organizations can benefit from targeted grant making, capacity building, professional development, and more. For more information about out of school time scholarships or help finding out of school time activities for your child, email [learn24@dc.gov](mailto:learn24@dc.gov) or visit [learn24.dc.gov](http://learn24.dc.gov).

## **Out of School Time Youth Scholarship Program:**

Families of K-12 students, who meet the eligibility requirements, can apply for up to \$10,000 in scholarship assistance for out-of-school time programming. The funds can cover the cost of school, weekend, summer, and other out of school time programs and activities such as academic enrichment, tutoring, mentoring, athletics, dance, coding, STEM, and much more. Priority is granted to children and youth with the greatest demonstrated need, especially those considered at-risk or underserved as defined by the Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes. Applications will open this fall. For more information about out of school time scholarships or help finding out of school time activities for your child, email [learn24@dc.gov](mailto:learn24@dc.gov) or visit [learn24.dc.gov](http://learn24.dc.gov).





### DYRS Achievement Centers:

[dyrs.dc.gov/service/achievement-centers](https://dyrs.dc.gov/service/achievement-centers)

The Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services Achievement Centers located at 450 H Street NE and at 2101 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE provide youth free access to educational resources and vocational programs. For more information contact **(202) 576-7299**.



### Department of Parks and Recreation Out-of-School Time and Social Recreation:

DPR offers Enrichment Zone and Afternoon Access programs for kids ages 6 - 12, a safe, supportive, and structured afterschool environment Monday through Friday at neighborhood recreation centers. Activities include homework time, arts and crafts, sports and fitness, and more.

### Supreme Teens:

Brings together teens ages 13 - 19 at 23 recreation centers across DC for enriching activities.

### Young Ladies On The Rise and Young Men, Future Leaders:

Engages youth in leisure, social, educational, and community service activities to support positive development for ages 6 - 12.

### DPR Programs:

DPR has team and individual sports to keep young people engaged and active. Soccer, cheerleading, swimming, tennis and more!

Visit [DPRprograms.com](https://DPRprograms.com) to view a full catalog of programs and activities.

# Tutoring and Academic Support



## High Impact Tutoring:

[osse.dc.gov/page/high-impact-tutoring-hit-initiative](https://osse.dc.gov/page/high-impact-tutoring-hit-initiative)

High Impact Tutoring is available at no-cost, in small groups or one-on-one, to students who are struggling in core academic subjects. Students are identified for high-impact tutoring through their schools. A multi-year investment in high-impact tutoring allows the District to reach at least 10,000 students. If families want to learn more about high-impact tutoring and how to access it for their students, families should connect directly with their schools and can also visit [citytutordc.org/caregiver-toolkit/](https://citytutordc.org/caregiver-toolkit/). Sign up to be a tutor at [citytutordc.org/join](https://citytutordc.org/join)

## DC ReEngagement Center (REC):

[backontrackdc.osse.dc.gov](https://backontrackdc.osse.dc.gov)

The REC helps youth ages 16-24 who are not enrolled in school to reconnect to educational options and services to support their attainment of a high school diploma.

## DC Public Schools Sixth Grade Academies:

[dcps.dc.gov/page/sixth-grade-academies-dcps](https://dcps.dc.gov/page/sixth-grade-academies-dcps)

DCPS is excited to announce the launch of Sixth Grade Academies in 11 middle schools across the District in School Year 2023-2024! Sixth Grade Academies will focus on a smooth transition to middle school, family engagement, academic success, excellent attendance, special events, and active participation in school. These academies will build a community of learners set up to flourish in middle school and beyond.



# Internet at Home

Having internet access at home ensures that students can access resources they need to complete homework, stay on top of schoolwork, and enrich their learning beyond the classroom. If your household does not have reliable internet access, there are resources available to help.

## Affordable Connectivity Program:

- The Affordable Connectivity Program is a federal program that delivers high-speed, low-cost internet to families nationwide.
- A participating provider if the household contributes more than \$10 but less than \$50 toward the purchase price.

## This program provides:

- Up to \$30/month discount for internet service
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet purchased through

## Who is Eligible?

- A household is eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program if the household income is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines ([aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines](https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines)), or if a member of the household meets at least one of the criteria below:

**Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year;**

**Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low-income internet program;**

**Participates in one of these assistance programs:**

1. Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program, including at
2. U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Community Eligibility Provision schools.
3. SNAP
4. Medicaid
5. Federal Housing Assistance, including:
6. Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program (Section 8 Vouchers)
7. Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA)/Section 202/ Section 811
8. Public Housing
9. Affordable Housing Programs for American Indians, Alaska Natives or Native Hawaiians
10. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
11. WIC
12. Veterans Pension or Survivor Benefits or Lifeline

## How to Get Connected:

Visit: [internet.dc.gov](https://internet.dc.gov)

Call: (202)-266-6328

Email: [techtgether@dc.gov](mailto:techtgether@dc.gov)



# Family Support

When families are supported in their homes and communities, their children can better focus and thrive in school. That's why DC offers the following supports for families:

## Family Success Centers:

[cfsa.dc.gov/page/families-first-dc](https://cfsa.dc.gov/page/families-first-dc)

If you live in Wards 5, 7, or 8, visit one of the DC Child and Family Services Agency's Family Success Centers to be connected to resources around parenting, workforce development, food security, mental health, and more.

## Grandparent Caregiver Program:

[cfsa.dc.gov/publication/program-grandparent-caregivers-program](https://cfsa.dc.gov/publication/program-grandparent-caregivers-program)

Are you a District resident who's raising your grandchild, great-grandchild, great-niece, or great-nephew? You may qualify for the Grandparent Caregiver Program. For residents who are raising other kin within the District, you may qualify for the Close Relatives Caregiver Program. For those eligible, the programs provide monthly financial assistance to help you care for the child related to and living with you.

Email: [cfsa.gcp@dc.gov](mailto:cfsa.gcp@dc.gov) or Call: (202) 442-6009

## DC Special Education Hub:

[Specialeducation.dc.gov](https://specialeducation.dc.gov)

The DC Special Education Hub helps families understand special education in the District of Columbia by connecting them with the tools, information, and support they need to make informed decisions to guide their child's learning.

## Career Coach DC:

[dcworks.dc.gov/careercoach](https://dcworks.dc.gov/careercoach)

Parent, grandparent, or caregiver who needs support figuring out your next step? Recent graduate looking for a job? The Career Coach DC program offers coaching services to help DC residents who are 18 and older with employment and education success. Residents can connect with Career Coach DC and sign-up for virtual, in-person, or hybrid services by registering online at [careercoach.dc.gov](https://careercoach.dc.gov), calling (202) 989-1002, or emailing [careercoach@dc.gov](mailto:careercoach@dc.gov).





# Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Support

**DCPS Mental Health Website:** With a goal of decreasing barriers to school success by providing students, school staff, and families with tools that promote academic and psychosocial growth and progress, DC Public Schools has launched a new website dedicated to student mental health. For mental health resources including a provider directory, events calendar, and articles on mental health, special education, and parenting strategies, visit [dcpsmentalhealth.org](https://dcpsmentalhealth.org).

**DBH School Based Behavioral Health Program:** The Department of Behavioral Health operates a school based program in public and public charter schools that offers prevention, early intervention and clinical services to youth, their families, school teachers, and staff. Visit [dbh.dc.gov/node/121802](https://dbh.dc.gov/node/121802) to learn more about who your school's mental health clinician is or contact **Meghan Sullivan** by phone at **(202) 673-4307** or by email at [meghan.sullivan@dc.gov](mailto:meghan.sullivan@dc.gov).

**PASS:** The Parent and Adolescent Support Services Program (PASS) assists youth up to 17 years old who are skipping school, leaving home, violating curfew, and/or experiencing extreme family conflict. Intensive case management, Functional Family Therapy, and community-based services are used to address these behaviors and improve family relationships. Email: [dhs.pass@dc.gov](mailto:dhs.pass@dc.gov) or Call: **(202) 698-4334**



**24/7 Mental Health Hotline:** The Department of Behavioral Health operates a 24/7 Mental Health Hotline to provide free counseling and support to residents. Residents are encouraged to contact the **Mental Health Hotline at (888) 793-4357** to talk with a trained mental health specialist if they're feeling depressed, anxious, or just not themselves. Families experiencing a mental health crisis can also contact the **District's suicide prevention and crisis services lifeline** by dialing **988**.

**ChAMPS:** Through the Department of Behavioral Health's ChAMPS program (Children and Adolescent Mobile Psychiatric Service), a mobile team will come to a family's home to support and stabilize children and youth ages 6-18 facing a behavioral health crisis. **Call ChAMPS at (202) 481-1440.**

**Healthy Teachers DC:** A new virtual platform aimed at supporting educator wellness across the District of Columbia. Educators come together to discuss and find support for stressors, share strategies for supporting wellness, and engage in experiential wellness activities. Workshops are held virtually every **first Wednesday** of the month, with a choice of **1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.** or **4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.** Educators can access the session by visiting [bit.ly/htdc1](https://bit.ly/htdc1) and using the password: **HTDC**.

# High School Programs

## Advanced Internship Program (AIP)

- The AIP is a school-year internship program that matches high school juniors and seniors with placements in various CTE career fields.
- Interns work 8-12 hours a week and are paid for their time and commitment.
- For more information, visit:  
[osse.dc.gov/publication/career-and-technical-education-advanced-internship-program-one-pager](https://osse.dc.gov/publication/career-and-technical-education-advanced-internship-program-one-pager)

## Fall College and Career Readiness Programs

- It's never too early to plan for what comes after high school, whether you're entering college, a trade, the workforce, or the military!
- OSSE provides resources for students and families as well as college and career counselors here:  
[osse.dc.gov/page/college-and-career-resources-students-and-families](https://osse.dc.gov/page/college-and-career-resources-students-and-families)

## Dual Enrollment:

OSSE's Dual Enrollment Program allows eligible high schoolers to take college courses and develop habits to set them up for academic success after high school.

- Students earn college credits at one of twelve local colleges and universities.
- **Who is Eligible:** Students at DCPS and public charter high schools.
- For application information & GPA requirements, visit [osse.dc.gov/page/osse-dual-enrollment-opportunities](https://osse.dc.gov/page/osse-dual-enrollment-opportunities).

## Advanced Technical Center:

- An open-enrollment center where students can participate in
- CTE programs while remaining at their high school.
- Students have access to college credits, industry credentials, and paid internship opportunities at no cost.
- Programs are career pathways to high skill, high wage, and high demand fields.
- **Who is Eligible:** Students entering 9th, 10th, and 11th grades in DCPS and public charter high schools.
- **How to Apply:** Speak with your school counselor for more information.



# Scholarships & College Tuition Support

The Office of the State Superintendent (OSSE) manages a wide range of financial assistance programs for District students interested in attending college:

## DC Tuition Assistance Grant (DC TAG)

- DCTAG pays the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition, up to \$10,000 at public colleges and \$2,500 at private colleges and HCBUs.
- Grants are transferrable to 350+ colleges nationwide.
- **Who is Eligible:** Graduating high school seniors and current college students.
- **Award Amount:** Up to \$50,000 in tuition aid at public colleges and up to \$12,500 at private colleges and HCBUs over six years.

**For more information:** Complete the OneApp at [dconeapp.dc.gov](https://dconeapp.dc.gov)

## DC Futures Program

- The DC Futures Program provides a last-dollar scholarship for students attending one of three local universities and majoring in high-demand fields.
- Scholarships can be applied towards degrees at Catholic University, Trinity Washington University, and the University of the District of Columbia.
- **Who is Eligible:** DC residents pursuing their first associate's or bachelor's degree.
- **Award Amount:** Up to \$8,000 per year.

**For more information:** [scholarships.osse.dc.gov/login](https://scholarships.osse.dc.gov/login)

## DC Mayor's Scholars Undergraduate Program

- The Mayor's Scholars Program was created to provide last-dollar support to District students attending area colleges and universities.
- **Who is Eligible:** Graduating high school seniors and current college students.
- **Award Amount:** Up to \$4,000 per year.

**For more information:** [scholarships.osse.dc.gov/login](https://scholarships.osse.dc.gov/login)

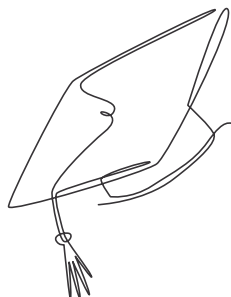
## DC Student Loan Ombudsman

- The DC Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking's Student Loan Ombudsman can help students explore funding options for college.
- These include the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program and student loan consolidation and repayment options.
- The Ombudsman can also help students avoid student loan default, dodge identity scams, and resolve issues with student loan providers.

**For more information:** [disb.dc.gov/studentloanhelp](https://disb.dc.gov/studentloanhelp)

## Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- The FAFSA links eligible students with federal tuition aid for college.
- Filling out the FAFSA is free, so don't leave money on the table!
- The 2024-25 FAFSA will open in December 2023.
- Completing the FAFSA is an important step in helping all students get ready and help pay for college.



# Career and Technical Education

DCPS offers Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs that prepare students for high-wage, high-demand careers. CTE incorporates job training, career mentoring, and work-based learning to set students up for success in a new career.



<p><b>Anacostia High School</b></p> <p>Engineering Law Enforcement / Public Leadership</p>	<p><b>Ballou High School</b></p> <p>Auto Tech Computer Maintenance Culinary Hospitality Audio Video Production</p>	<p><b>Ballou STAY</b></p> <p>Barbering Cosmetology Culinary Early Childhood Education Graphic Design and Illustration</p>
<p><b>Carzodo Education Campus</b></p> <p>Computer Maintenance Computer Science Culinary Engineering JROTC-Army Teacher Education and Training Graphic Design and Illustration</p>	<p><b>Columbia Heights Education Campus (CHEC)</b></p> <p>Early Childhood Education Computer Science Cosmetology Engineering Finance Hospitality Teacher Education and Training</p>	<p><b>Coolidge High School</b></p> <p>Biomedical Sciences Energy and Natural Resources JROTC-Army Audio Video Production</p>
<p><b>Dunbar High School</b></p> <p>Computer Maintenance Engineering JROTC-Army</p>	<p><b>Eastern High School</b></p> <p>Biomedical Sciences Computer Maintenance JROTC-Army</p>	<p><b>Luke C. Moore Opportunity Academy</b></p> <p>Computer Maintenance Finance Graphic Design and Illustration</p>
<p><b>MacArthur High School</b></p> <p>Computer Maintenance Computer Science Engineering</p>	<p><b>McKinley Tech High School</b></p> <p>Biotechnology Computer Science Engineering Graphic Design and Illustration JROTC-Army Networking/IT</p>	<p><b>Phelps ACE High School</b></p> <p>Architecture Carpentry Electrical Engineering HVAC JROTC-Army Networking/IT</p>
<p><b>River Terrace Education Campus</b></p> <p>Hospitality</p>	<p><b>Ron Brown High School</b></p> <p>Horticultural Science JROTC-Army Audio Video Production</p>	<p><b>Roosevelt High School</b></p> <p>Business Management Culinary Foreign Service and Diplomacy JROTC-Army</p>
<p><b>Roosevelt STAY</b></p> <p>Barbering Cosmetology Early Childhood Education HVAC Audio Video Production</p>	<p><b>Jackson-Reed High School</b></p> <p>Biomedical Sciences Computer Science Engineering Finance Graphic Design and Illustration Hospitality JROTC-Army Audio Video Production</p>	<p><b>H.D. Woodson High School</b></p> <p>Computer Science Engineering Finance Graphic Design and Illustration Teacher Education and Training</p>





# Training the Next Generation of DC's First Responders



## MPD Cadet Corps Program:



- The MPD Cadet Corps is a specialized program for District residents ages 17-24 to serve as uniformed civilian employees.
- High school seniors are enrolled as part-time cadets and are paid for working 12 hours a week.
- MPD Cadets are automatically enrolled in the University of the District of Columbia and will earn up to 60 tuition-free credits towards a degree.
- MPD Cadets are also fast-tracked to enter MPD's Police Officer Recruit Program and start a rewarding career in public service.

**Learn more at:** [joinmpd.dc.gov/metropolitan-police/cadet](https://joinmpd.dc.gov/metropolitan-police/cadet)



## Fire and EMS Cadet Program:



- The FEMS Cadet Program is a one-year training course for District residents ages 18-21 who are looking for ways to give back to their neighborhoods.
- Cadets earn several industry certifications including EMT, Firefighter, and HAZMAT qualifications, in addition to a salary and benefits.
- Applications for the next cadet class open in Spring 2024.

**Learn more at:** [fems.dc.gov/page/cadet-program](https://fems.dc.gov/page/cadet-program)



## Office of Unified Communications Junior Academy:



- OUC's Junior Academy exposes high school students to several vital public service career opportunities.
- Over a five-week program, students will be given an overview of 911 and 311 communications, and learn how they can serve their communities.
- The next OUC Junior Academy begins September 21, 2023.



**Learn more at:** [ouc.dc.gov/page/junior-academy](https://ouc.dc.gov/page/junior-academy)

# Transportation

A successful year starts with having a plan for getting to and from school and school-related activities – every day, on time.



## Kids Ride Free:

[kidsridefree.dc.gov](https://kidsridefree.dc.gov)

Through the Kids Ride Free program, students can get to and from school and school-related activities for free on Metrobus, Metrorail, and the DC Circulator. Students must use their Kids Ride Free SmarTrip cards.

Students who have a Kids Ride Free SmarTrip card from last year will be able to use the card this school year until September 30, 2023.

**Need a new card?** Your school will share details on how to pick up your new card! Families can also contact their School ID Administrator or DDOT's School Transit Subsidy Program Office at **(202) 673-1740**.

## DC School Connect:

[dcschoolconnect.com](https://dcschoolconnect.com)

The Department of For-Hire Vehicles operates DC School Connect, a transportation service for a select number of DCPS and public charter schools in designated Safe Passage Zones in Wards 7 and 8. This program allows schools to select shared locations as designated pickup and drop-off locations. To learn if your school participates in the program and how to sign up visit the website at [dcschoolconnect.com](https://dcschoolconnect.com), call **(855) 435-3835**, or email [DCSchoolConnect@dc.gov](mailto:DCSchoolConnect@dc.gov).



## Safe Passage:

[safepassage.dc.gov](https://safepassage.dc.gov)

The Safe Passage program supports students as they travel to and from school and in the community. Safe Passage programming includes: conflict resolution, mediation services, and community relationship building to keep students safe and improve student attendance. Safe Passage workers – trained and trusted adults from community-based organizations – are assigned to schools and work to build relationships with school staff, students, families, and community members. Contact: [safepassage@dc.gov](mailto:safepassage@dc.gov)

## Capital Bikeshare's University Membership Program: [capitalbikeshare.com/university-membership-program](https://capitalbikeshare.com/university-membership-program).

Capital Bikeshare in partnership with DDOT offers many college and university students a convenient and affordable way to navigate the DC Metropolitan Area. Students at participating colleges and universities can receive a 75% discount on an annual Bikeshare membership.



## Learning to Drive?

Visit: [dcdmvteens.com](https://dcdmvteens.com)

The DC Department of Motor Vehicles (DC DMV) is here to help DC teens get their driver's license and ensure drivers know the rules of the road. Visit DC DMV's teens website for more information on the process to obtain a learner's permit and for tips and resources on driving safely.

# Meet Your MOCRS

The Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS) serves as the Mayor's primary constituent services organization. The MOCRS are the Mayor's eyes and ears in the community. They help answer community questions and connect residents and businesses to people, agencies, and organizations across all eight wards. If your child or family needs support and you're not sure where to start - call a MOCRS!

**DIRECTOR**




**Richard Livingstone**  
**C:** 202.664.7512  
**O:** 202.442.8119  
 richard.livingstone@dc.gov

**DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS**




**Talib Shakir**  
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**O:** 202.442.8150  
 talib.shakir@dc.gov

**WARD 1**




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**WARD 2**




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 grace.reeder@dc.gov




**Christopher Powell**  
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 christopher.powell2@dc.gov

**WARD 3**



**Matthew Barclay**  
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**O:** 202.535.1915  
 matthew.barclay@dc.gov



**Theodore Wren**  
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**WARD 4**



**Sophia Tekola**  
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 sophia.tekola@dc.gov




**Derek Johnson**  
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**WARD 5**




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 jake.stolzenberg@dc.gov




**Marcus Manning**  
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**O:** 202.545.3114  
 marcus.manning@dc.gov

**WARD 7**




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**O:** 202.535.1992  
 lawrence.davin@dc.gov




**LaKiesha Morgan**  
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**O:** 202.722.8009  
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**WARD 8**



**Julius Terry**  
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 julius.terry@dc.gov



**Charlee Bell**  
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**O:** 202.535.2182  
 charlee.bell1@dc.gov



**Wendy Glenn**  
**C:** 202.340.8313  
**O:** 202.727.6167  
 wendy.glenn1@dc.gov

# Meet Your Education Leaders

Questions? Concerns? Need more information? Reach out!

Contact Mayor Bowser's office | Email: [muriel.bowser@dc.gov](mailto:muriel.bowser@dc.gov) • Call: (202) 727-2643



## Paul Kihn, Deputy Mayor for Education

Paul Kihn accepted an appointment by Mayor Bowser to serve as the District's Deputy Mayor for Education in 2018. The DME is responsible for developing and implementing the Mayor's vision for academic excellence, promoting strategic coordination across government agencies, DC Public Schools and public charter schools, and community partners, and ensuring a high-quality education from early childhood, to K-12, through post-secondary and the workforce.

You can contact Deputy Mayor Kihn at [paul.kihn@dc.gov](mailto:paul.kihn@dc.gov).



## Dr. Christina Grant, State Superintendent of Education

Dr. Christina Grant serves as the State Superintendent of Education for the Office of the State Superintendent of Education, and was nominated by Mayor Bowser in June 2021. As State Superintendent, she oversees work to sustain, accelerate and deepen the progress being made for the District's 96,000+ students, and works closely with the District's 460+ early childhood facilities, 250+ schools, 60+ local education agencies (including DCPS and charter organizations), and community-based organizations.

You can contact Superintendent Grant at [OSSE.Superintendent@dc.gov](mailto:OSSE.Superintendent@dc.gov).



## Dr. Lewis D. Ferebee, Chancellor, DC Public Charter School

Dr. Lewis D. Ferebee is the Chancellor of DC Public Schools, selected by Mayor Bowser in 2018. Bringing 20 years of experience to his position as Chancellor, Dr. Ferebee is focused on ensuring there is a great school in every neighborhood, keeping equity and transparency at the heart of our District's work, and setting every student up for post-secondary success.

You can contact Chancellor Ferebee at [chancellor@k12.dc.gov](mailto:chancellor@k12.dc.gov).



## Dr. Michelle J. Walker-Davis, Executive Director, DC Public Charter School Board

Dr. Michelle J. Walker-Davis joined the DC Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB) in August 2020 as the Executive Director.

DC PCSB is an independent government agency of the District of Columbia. As the sole public charter school authorizer in the District, DC PCSB provides oversight to District's public charter schools, which are managed by independently run nonprofit organizations called local education agencies.

You can contact Dr. Walker-Davis at [dcpublic@dcpcsb.org](mailto:dcpublic@dcpcsb.org).

# The Council of the District of Columbia



The Council's Education Committee sits within the Committee of the Whole, meaning all 13 Councilmembers are responsible for oversight of the following agencies:

Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes

Community College of the District of Columbia

Community College Transition to Independence Advisory Board

Community Schools Advisory Committee

District of Columbia Educational Opportunity for Military Children State Council

District of Columbia Public Charter School Board

District of Columbia Public Schools

District of Columbia State Athletics Commission

Education Licensure Commission

Healthy Youth and Schools Commission

Higher Education Licensure Commission

Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes

Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education

Office of the Ombudsman for Public Education

Office of the State Superintendent of Education (including Advisory Panel on Special Education, Early Childhood Development Coordinating Council)

Office of the Student Advocate

Our Schools Leadership Committee

Public Charter School Credit Enhancement Fund Committee

State Board of Education

University of the District of Columbia

## Council of the District of Columbia



**Chairman  
Phil Mendelson**

[pmendelson@dccouncil.gov](mailto:pmendelson@dccouncil.gov)



**At-Large Councilmember  
Kenyan R. McDuffie**

[kmcduffie@dccouncil.gov](mailto:kmcduffie@dccouncil.gov)



**At-Large Councilmember  
Anita Bonds**

[abonds@dccouncil.gov](mailto:abonds@dccouncil.gov)



**At-Large Councilmember  
Robert C. White, Jr.**

[rwhite@dccouncil.gov](mailto:rwhite@dccouncil.gov)



**At-Large Councilmember  
Christina Henderson**

[chenderson@dccouncil.gov](mailto:chenderson@dccouncil.gov)



**Ward 1 Councilmember  
Brianne K. Nadeau**

[bnadeau@dccouncil.gov](mailto:bnadeau@dccouncil.gov)



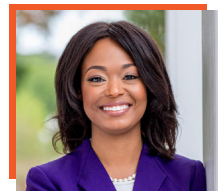
**Ward 2 Councilmember  
Brooke Pinto**

[bpinto@dccouncil.gov](mailto:bpinto@dccouncil.gov)



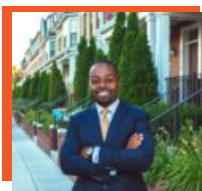
**Ward 3 Councilmember  
Matthew Frumin**

[mfrumin@dccouncil.gov](mailto:mfrumin@dccouncil.gov)



**Ward 4 Councilmember  
Janeese Lewis George**

[jlewisgeorge@dccouncil.gov](mailto:jlewisgeorge@dccouncil.gov)



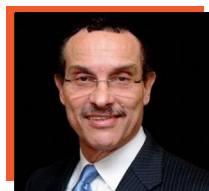
**Ward 5 Councilmember  
Zachary Parker**

[zparker@dccouncil.gov](mailto:zparker@dccouncil.gov)



**Ward 6 Councilmember  
Charles Allen**

[callen@dccouncil.gov](mailto:callen@dccouncil.gov)



**Ward 7 Councilmember  
Vincent C. Gray**

[vgray@dccouncil.gov](mailto:vgray@dccouncil.gov)



**Ward 8 Councilmember  
Trayon White, Sr.**

[twhite@dccouncil.gov](mailto:twhite@dccouncil.gov)

Find additional contact information at [dccouncil.us](http://dccouncil.us)

Mayor Muriel Bowser's Back to School Guide

If your child attends a DC Public School, put important dates in your calendar so you remember when they're coming up!



School Year 2023-24

	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	Cumulative Student Days in Month	Cumulative Teacher Days in Month	Cumulative Student Days	Cumulative Teacher Days														
<b>AUG</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	4	9	4	9			
<b>SEPT</b>						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	20	24	20	29
<b>OCT</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	19	43	21	50			
<b>NOV</b>		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	17	60	18	68			
<b>DEC</b>					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	15	75	15	83	

	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	Cumulative Student Days in Month	Cumulative Teacher Days in Month	Cumulative Student Days	Cumulative Teacher Days														
<b>JAN</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	19	94	21	104			
<b>FEB</b>						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	19	113	20	124
<b>MAR</b>						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	19	132	20	144
<b>APR</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	16	148	17	161			
<b>MAY</b>																																	22	170	22	183		
<b>JUN</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	10	180	11	194				
<b>JUL</b>																																	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
<b>AUG</b>																																		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Term	Days
1	45
2	46
3	45
4	44

Major Religious Observances	
<i>(These are regular school days unless otherwise indicated)</i>	
Resh Hashanah 9/16/23 (begins sunset 9:15)	Good Friday 03/29/24
Yom Kippur 09/25/23 (begins sunset 09:24)	Easter 03/31/24-04/01/24
Last day of Sukkot 10/06/23	Eid al-Fitr 4/10/24 (begins sunset 4:09)
Hannukah 12/08/23 - 12/15/23	Passover 04/22/24 - 04/30/24
Christmas 12/25/23	Eid al-Adha 06/17/24 (begins sunset 6:16)
Ash Wednesday 2/14/24	Muharram 7/06/24 - 8/05/24
Ramadan 3/10/24 - 4/09/24 (begins sunset 3:09)	Ashura 07/16/24 (begins sunset 07:15)

KEY	
F	First Day of School
F-ECE	First Day of School for Pre-K Students
R/PT	End of Term / Half-Day PD & Half-Day Records Day / No School for Students
PD	PD for Staff / No School for Students
HOL	Holiday for Students, Teachers, and Staff
***	No School for Students or Teachers
PTC	Parent Teacher Conference Day / No School for Students
SNOW	Planned Snow-Day Make-Up Days
SS	Summer School
R-Grad	Rainbow Graduation
NEO	New Educator Orientation
L	Last Day for Students
LS	Last Day for Seniors

# AFTERSCHOOL

## IN THE CITY 2023

**LEARN** 24  
LEARN24.DC.GOV



**September 9, 2023**  
**11:00 am – 2:00 pm**



**Turkey Thicket**  
**Recreational Center**  
1100 Michigan Avenue NE,  
Washington, DC 20017



Convening government agencies and community-based organizations that provide programming across all wards for school-aged youth during the school year.

### TYPES OF PROGRAMMING AVAILABLE INCLUDE BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- Academic Support
- Arts
- Athletics
- Career/College Readiness
- Dance
- Entrepreneurship
- Life Skills
- Literacy/Reading
- Mentoring
- Music
- Social Emotional Support
- STEM
- Tutoring
- Wellness

**AGES 5-21**

**LEARN24INTHECITY2023.EVENTBRITE.COM**

[learn24@dc.gov](mailto:learn24@dc.gov)

<https://learn24.dc.gov/>

