



Schools of Choice 2025-26

How Many Students Can ELPS Accept for 2025-26?

Our current enrollment and staffing levels allow East Lansing Public Schools to accept students at the following grade levels:

Grade Level	Number of Openings
Young Five/Kindergarten	20
First Grade	21
Second Grade	11
Third Grade	21
Fourth Grade	20
Fifth Grade	19
Sixth Grade	8
Seventh Grade	2
Eighth Grade	4
Ninth Grade	1
Tenth Grade	2
Eleventh Grade	4
Twelfth Grade	3
Total	136

How Do I Apply?

We are excited to announce that the application window for Schools of Choice will be open from **June 2 to June 16, 2025 by 4:00 pm**. Please read the following instructions carefully to ensure your application is submitted correctly:

Application Process:

1. Online Applications:

- *Beginning June 2*, complete the Google form available on our [website](#). A separate form must be submitted for each student.

2. Paper Applications:

- If you prefer to apply using a paper form, please contact Kelly Hocquard at schoolsofchoice@elps.us, **Subject: SOC application** or call 517-333-7424 to request the necessary documents.

Eligibility:

- Applications are accepted for students who reside within the Intermediate Ingham School District boundaries or a contiguous intermediate school district.
- A verification statement from the student's prior school confirming no prior suspensions or expulsions is required for the application to be considered.

Important Dates:

- **Application Period:** June 2 - June 16, 2025
- **Deadline:** June 16, 2025 at 4:00 pm

Submission Guidelines:

- Ensure Google form and verification statements are submitted by 4:00 PM on June 16. Late submissions will not be considered. We suggest you contact us to confirm the form was received.

How Do I Enroll My Child?

By law, school districts must hold a lottery if the district receives more applications than spaces available. The lottery will take place at the end of June. In early July, selected students will receive a notification letter indicating the building assignment and enrollment instructions. Families must enroll before July 31, 2025, to secure the SOC spot. Those not selected for an advertised spot are drawn for the waitlist.

Transportation and Attendance

Transportation to and from our district is the responsibility of the family. Students must arrive in time to begin instructional activities at the start of the school day and must be picked up or have other arrangements once the school day has ended.

Families must ensure the student maintains good-standing attendance.

Before and After School Care Programs

The City of East Lansing Recreation and Arts Department operates before and aftercare programs. To obtain information about their program please call 517-319-6978 or visit their website at cityofeastlansing.com "parks, recreation and arts."

Why Schools of Choice?

East Lansing Public Schools (ELPS) has been a Schools of Choice district since the Michigan legislature created the program in 1996. Why? Because we believe, families should have options for their children, and the Schools of Choice plan provides exciting opportunities.

ELPS, with its leadership and excellence, provides the educational opportunities parents seek.

We believe:

- Students' needs and interests are core to all decisions and actions;
- We must inspire a passion for lifelong learning;
- High expectations in teaching and learning result in personal and academic excellence;
- Diversity is affirmed by integrating the uniqueness of every child into our learning community;
- In providing equitable access to opportunities and resources for students;
- In engaging the entire community to create a trusting, safe, welcoming learning environment;
- In building world citizens.

We Want You to Be Involved!

Getting involved in your child's education is a fantastic way to support their academic journey and contribute positively to their school community. Here are some common ways you can get involved:

1. **Volunteer Opportunities:** Many schools offer volunteer programs where families and community members can contribute their time and skills. Volunteer opportunities can vary widely and may include helping out in classrooms, assisting with school events and activities, organizing fundraisers, chaperoning field trips, or serving on school council committees.
2. **Submitting a Volunteer Form:** If you are interested in volunteering at your child's school, you will need to complete a [volunteer form](#).
3. **Participating in Teacher Conferences:** Conferences are valuable opportunities to discuss your child's progress, academic performance, and any concerns you may have with their teacher. These conferences are held at specific times throughout the school year, and you will have the chance to meet one-on-one with your child's teacher to discuss their strengths, areas for improvement, and strategies for support.
4. **Joining Building Community Councils:** Community Councils play a crucial role in supporting schools by organizing events, fundraisers, and initiatives that benefit students and enhance the learning environment. Joining your school's council allows you to collaborate with other families, teachers, and administrators to make positive changes and improvements within the school community.
5. **Attending School Events and Meetings:** Stay informed and engaged by attending school events, such as open houses and back-to-school nights. These events provide valuable opportunities to connect with school staff, learn about important policies and procedures, and engage with other families.
6. **Supporting Homework and Learning at Home:** Take an active interest in your child's education by helping them with homework, encouraging reading and other educational activities at home, and staying informed about their academic progress and achievements.
7. **Communicating with Teachers and School Staff:** Establish open lines of communication with your child's teachers and school staff. Do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions, concerns, or ideas for how to support your child's learning journey.

By actively participating in your child's education, you not only support their academic success but also contribute to a positive and supportive school community.

District staff will be happy to answer your questions. Do not hesitate to get in touch with Kelly Hocquard at 517-333-7424 or kelly.hocquard@elps.us.