



2023-2024 DHSP Afterschool Programs Lottery Timeline and Updates

August 31, 2023 - We have updated our 2023-2024 DHSP Afterschool Programs Lottery data dashboards. The dashboards reflect lottery data through August 28, 2023 and provide an overview of the applicant pool, placements at each afterschool program site, applicants and offers by income group, and the status of sibling applications. [View the updated 2023-2024 DHSP Afterschool Lottery Data Dashboards](#) (Aug. 31, 2023). 76% of children who applied to the 2023-2024 DHSP Afterschool Programs Lottery received an offer and 90% of all offer placements were the applicant's first choice. We do not expect significant movement from the waiting pool moving forward. We look forward to welcoming children who accepted their seats to our afterschool programs next week!

August 17, 2023 – We have created data dashboards to share data from the 2023-2024 DHSP Afterschool Programs Lottery. The dashboards provide an overview of the applicant pool, placements at each afterschool program site, and waiting pool offers through July 20, 2023. [View the 2023-2024 DHSP Afterschool Lottery Data Dashboards \(Aug. 17, 2023\)](#). As families have declined offered seats since that date, our Lottery Team has made seat offers to children in the waiting pool. We do not expect significant movement from the waiting pool moving forward, and we will provide updated data by the end of August.

While we still do not have the capacity to offer every applicant a seat at an afterschool program, we continue to work on expansion efforts. For the 2023-2024 school year, we added 170 seats to existing DHSP afterschool programs. As we committed in May, we have worked in conjunction with the Agenda for Children to support expanded capacity at community-based afterschool programs. There will be an additional 89 seats added across community programs this year as they expand their licenses and add new staff. The City will fund 65 of these seats for low-income families.

July 3, 2023 – Of the 2048 children who applied to the DHSP Afterschool Programs Lottery by the application deadline, 1571 children were offered placements in an afterschool program at Childcare Afterschool, Community Schools, King Open Extended Day, and Youth Center programs. All families were notified of their child's offer at a program or their child's placement in the waiting pool by email on Tuesday, June 27 and through their Viewpoint account. There are currently 464 children in the waiting pool, which includes families who applied after the May 26 deadline. Families who were offered a seat have until July 12 to accept or decline their seat. After this date, DHSP staff will do another round of placements from the waiting pool and these families will be notified of their offer in early August.

June 27, 2023 – DHSP notified all families who applied to the DHSP Afterschool Programs Lottery by its deadline, May 26, of their child's placement in an afterschool program or waiting pool. The notifications with placement details were sent via email from askdhsp@cambridgema.gov. Due to a software issue, families will also receive an email message from noreply@viewpointcloud.com with the subject line "City of Cambridge, MA" letting them know a document has been issued to their Viewpoint account. The document in their Viewpoint account matches the placement information they were sent via email on Tuesday. Families who received a placement offer will have 2 weeks from the email notification to accept or decline their seat. Families who applied after the May 26 deadline were automatically added to the waiting pool for the afterschool sites they indicated on their application.

June 22, 2023 – Due to a software error, the placement notification timeline has been delayed. The City's vendor is addressing the issue, and applicants will receive placement notifications by Friday, June 30.

June 19, 2023 - Beginning this week, families will learn whether their child is offered a seat in a DHSP afterschool program or placed in the waiting pool. Notifications will be sent through documents issued to the applicant's Viewpoint account. Families can log into their Viewpoint account at any time to check the status of their child's application.

May 26, 2023 – Deadline to apply to the lottery.

May 4, 2023 – "How to Apply to the DHSP Afterschool Lottery" virtual information session held. [View Presentation](#)

Update November 13, 2023