

# STATE OF NEW YORK

2173

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

January 22, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. BARRON, BLAKE, DAVILA, PERRY, SIMON, STECK, COOK, PICHARDO, TAYLOR, RIVERA, PRETLOW, DE LA ROSA, TITUS, DICKENS, WRIGHT, VANEL, BICHOTTE, JOYNER, SOLAGES, ARROYO, WOERNER, THIELE, FERNANDEZ, MOSLEY, GOTTFRIED, EPSTEIN, WILLIAMS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to admission to the specialized high schools in the city of New York

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 of section 2590-h of the education law, as amended by chapter 345 of the laws of 2009, is amended to read as follows:

(b) all specialized ~~[senior]~~ high schools. The ~~[special]~~ specialized high schools shall include the ~~[present]~~ schools known as~~+~~

The Bronx High School of Science, Stuyvesant High School, Brooklyn Technical High School, Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music ~~[and the Arts in the borough of Manhattan]~~ & Art and Performing Arts, and such ~~[further]~~ additional schools ~~[which the city board may designate]~~

as may be designated by the chancellor from time to time. The ~~[special]~~ specialized high schools shall be permitted to maintain a discovery program in accordance with the law in effect on the date preceding the effective date of this section; provided that the requirement that a student who is considered for the discovery program attend and pass a preparatory program administered by the specialized high school, demonstrating thereby his or her ability to successfully cope with the specialized high school program, shall refer to a program that can take place during the school year or the summer; admissions to the ~~[special]~~ specialized high schools shall be conducted in accordance with ~~[the law in effect on the date preceding the effective date of this]~~ section twenty-five hundred ninety-h-1 of this article;

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets ~~[-]~~ is old law to be omitted.

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§ 2. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 of section 2590-h of the education law, as amended by chapter 720 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

(b) all specialized ~~[senior]~~ high schools. The ~~[special]~~ specialized high schools shall include the ~~[present]~~ schools known as<sup>+</sup>

The Bronx High School of Science, Stuyvesant High School, Brooklyn Technical High School, Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music ~~[and the Arts in the borough of Manhattan]~~ & Art and Performing Arts, and such ~~[further]~~ additional schools ~~[which the city board may designate]~~ as may be designated by the chancellor from time to time. The ~~[special]~~ specialized high schools shall be permitted to maintain a discovery program in accordance with the law in effect on the date preceding the effective date of this section; provided that the requirement that a student who is considered for the discovery program attend and pass a preparatory program administered by the specialized high school, demonstrating thereby his or her ability to successfully cope with the specialized high school program, shall refer to a program that can take place during the school year or the summer; admissions to the ~~[special]~~ specialized high schools shall be conducted in accordance with ~~[the law in effect on the date preceding the effective date of this]~~ section twenty-five hundred ninety-h-1 of this article;

§ 3. The education law is amended by adding a new section 2590-h-1 to read as follows:

§ 2590-h-1. Admissions to the specialized high schools. 1. Admissions to the specialized high schools shall be conducted in accordance with this section, provided that students may also be admitted to the specialized high schools for the two thousand twenty--two thousand twenty-one and the two thousand twenty-one--two thousand twenty-two school years pursuant to the discovery program as set forth in section twenty-five hundred ninety-h of this article.

2. For the admissions process conducted during the two thousand nineteen--two thousand twenty school year to determine admissions to the specialized high schools for the two thousand twenty--two thousand twenty-one school year, students who meet the criteria set forth in this subdivision shall be offered admission to the specialized high schools in the following order:

(a) students attending public schools located in the city of New York who are in the top three percent of their eighth grade class, as calculated based on multiple measures of student achievement pursuant to subdivision five of this section, and who achieve a composite score above or at the cut-off composite score for the school such students have committed themselves to attend, pursuant to subdivision five of this section, provided that such students shall also rank in the top quarter of public school students in the eighth grade citywide based on such multiple measures of student achievement, and provided further that openings shall be reserved for such students at each specialized high school as set forth in subdivision seven of this section;

(b) students in the city of New York who take a competitive, objective and scholastic achievement examination in the eighth grade and achieve a score above or at the cut-off score for the openings that remain in the school for which such students have taken the examination; and

(c) students in the city of New York who take a competitive, objective and scholastic examination in the ninth grade and achieve a score above or at the cut-off score for the openings that remain in the school for which such students have taken the examination.

1 3. For the admissions process conducted during the two thousand twenty-  
2 ty--two thousand twenty-one school year to determine admissions to the  
3 specialized high schools for the two thousand twenty-one--two thousand  
4 twenty-two school year, students who meet the criteria set forth in this  
5 subdivision shall be offered admission to the specialized high schools  
6 in the following order:

7 (a) students attending public schools located in the city of New York  
8 who are in the top five percent of their eighth grade class, as calcu-  
9 lated based on multiple measures of student achievement pursuant to  
10 subdivision five of this section, and who achieve a composite score  
11 above or at the cut-off composite score for the school such students  
12 have committed themselves to attend pursuant to subdivision five of this  
13 section, provided that such students shall also rank in the top quarter  
14 of public school students in the eighth grade citywide based on such  
15 multiple measures of student achievement, and provided further that  
16 openings shall be reserved for such students at each specialized high  
17 school as set forth in subdivision seven of this section;

18 (b) students in the city of New York who take a competitive, objective  
19 and scholastic achievement examination in the eighth grade and achieve a  
20 score above or at the cut-off score for the openings that remain in the  
21 school for which such students have taken the examination; and

22 (c) students in the city of New York who take a competitive, objective  
23 and scholastic examination in the ninth grade and achieve a score above  
24 or at the cut-off score for the openings that remain in the school for  
25 which such students have taken the examination.

26 4. For the admissions process conducted during the two thousand twenty-  
27 one--two thousand twenty-two school year and subsequent school years  
28 to determine admissions to the specialized high schools for the two  
29 thousand twenty-two--two thousand twenty-three school year and subse-  
30 quent school years, students who meet the criteria set forth in this  
31 subdivision shall be offered admission to the specialized high schools  
32 in the following order:

33 (a) students attending public schools located in the city of New York  
34 who are in the top five to seven percent of their eighth grade class,  
35 such percentage to be determined to allow openings to remain for admis-  
36 sion pursuant to paragraph (b) of this subdivision and as calculated  
37 based on multiple measures of student achievement, determined as set  
38 forth in subdivision five of this section, and who achieve a composite  
39 score above or at the cut-off composite score for the school such  
40 students have committed themselves to attend, determined as set forth in  
41 subdivision five of this section, provided that such students shall also  
42 rank in the top quarter of public school students in the eighth grade  
43 citywide based on such multiple measures of student achievement, and  
44 provided further that openings shall be reserved for such students at  
45 each specialized high school as set forth in subdivision seven of this  
46 section; and

47 (b) students in the city of New York who have a minimum grade point  
48 average of 3.7, provided such students shall be admitted by a random  
49 selection process for the openings that remain in each school.

50 5. The chancellor shall determine the multiple measures of student  
51 achievement as referenced in this section, and the weight of each such  
52 measure, provided that such measures shall include academic course  
53 grades and standardized test scores. A description of such measures and  
54 the weight accorded to each shall be made publicly available, including  
55 on the website of the city school district. A student who is evaluated  
56 based on such measures for the purposes of this subdivision shall be

1 assigned a composite score based on such weighted measures. Offers of  
2 admission to the specialized high schools pursuant to paragraph (a) of  
3 subdivisions two through four of this section shall be determined by  
4 arranging the composite scores of all students who are assigned such  
5 scores and who then commit themselves to attend a particular specialized  
6 high school in descending order from the highest score and counting down  
7 to the cut-off composite score, which shall be the composite score of  
8 the last student who receives an offer of admission to such school based  
9 on the number of openings available in such school pursuant to such  
10 paragraph.

11 6. Offers of admission to the specialized high schools pursuant to  
12 paragraphs (b) and (c) of subdivisions two and three of this section  
13 shall be determined by arranging the scores of all the candidates who  
14 took the competitive, objective and scholastic examination and who then  
15 commit themselves to attend a particular specialized high school in  
16 descending order from the highest score and counting down to the cut-off  
17 score, which shall be the score of the last candidate who receives an  
18 offer of admission to such school based on the number of openings avail-  
19 able in such school.

20 7. The number of openings reserved at each specialized high school for  
21 students who meet the criteria set forth in paragraph (a) of subdivi-  
22 sions two through four of this section shall be determined by multiply-  
23 ing: (a) the total number of ninth grade available openings at such  
24 school; by (b) the number of students who meet the criteria set forth in  
25 paragraph (a) of subdivisions two through four of this section divided  
26 by the aggregate number of ninth grade available openings in all the  
27 specialized high schools.

28 8. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, admission to the  
29 Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts,  
30 and other schools of the arts that may be established pursuant to  
31 section twenty-five hundred ninety-h of this article, shall be deter-  
32 mined by a student's demonstrated abilities in music or the arts as well  
33 as such student's scholastic achievement.

34 § 4. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that  
35 the amendments to paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 of section 2590-h of  
36 the education law made by section one of this act shall be subject to  
37 the expiration and reversion of such section pursuant to subdivision 12  
38 of section 17 of chapter 345 of the laws of 2009, as amended when upon  
39 such date the provisions of section two of this act shall take effect.