

Workshop Goals

- * Participants will understand NYC DOE student rights, graduation options, District 79 programs, and how students can exercise these rights and options.
- * Participants will use knowledge of student rights, options, and programs in addition to transition planning resources to develop transition plans for potential students.
- * Participants will use knowledge and resources gained through today's session to advocate for students and to help students understand their educational options and stay on track to graduate.

POP QUIZ!

1. What age **MUST** students attend school until?
2. What age **can** a student attend a NYC DOE school until?
3. True or False- A student can **re-enroll** at any time before they “age out” of school.
4. If a student becomes **incarcerated** can they return to their last school?

Student Rights

(and Pop Quiz Answers!)

★You are **required to attend school until** the end of the school year in which you turn **17**

★You are **entitled to attend** a full-time high school or high school program run by the NYC DOE **until** the end of the school year in which you turn **21**.

★You have the **right to re-enroll** in high school at any time

★You have the right to refuse to be involuntarily transferred from a high school to a part-time education program

★You have the right to receive notice of a suspension or involuntary transfer and an opportunity for a hearing or conference before being suspended or transferred to another school

★You **may not be barred from attending classes** solely due to age (unless you are over 21 years old), lack of credits, poor grades, truancy, irregular attendance, or failure to pass Regents or RCT examinations

★If you are transferring to a GED program or another school, you have the right to attend your current school until registered or enrolled at the new school or program

★If you are an English Language Learner, you are entitled to bilingual education or an ESL program

★Students determined to be in need of special education are entitled to free, appropriate education

These rights apply to all NYC students 21 and under.

Students have these rights even if they:

- Voluntarily dropped out
- Are currently enrolled in a GED program
- Already have a GED or IEP diploma
- Currently are or were in an involuntary setting, such as a correctional facility (Rikers Island or a New York state facility) or substance abuse program
- Have been subject to discipline by your school
- Currently are or were referred to alternative educational options, such as a GED or vocational program

Additional Ways to Graduate

YOUR OPTIONS:

- **Stay at your school.** Depending on your age and school history (credit accumulation and Regents examinations) – staying in or returning to – your home school may be the best option for you.
- **Enroll in a school or program that can help you get back on track to graduation.** If staying in current school is not the best option, the schools and programs in this directory might be right for you. They include smaller classes, personalized learning environments, and connections to college and careers.

General admissions criteria for schools and programs in this directory are listed below:

TRANSFER SCHOOLS

- Ages 15-21 (varies by school)
- Must have completed one year of high school
- Number of credits required for entry varies by school but could be as low as 0 credits
- Full time, day school
- Earn a high school diploma

YOUNG ADULT BOROUGH CENTERS (YABCS)

- Ages 17.5-21
- Be in the fifth year of high school
- Have, at least, 17 credits
- Part-time afternoon/evening programs
- Earn a high school diploma

GED PROGRAMS

- Ages 18-21
- Attend a full-time or part-time program
- Earn a GED credential

District 79

Alternative Schools & Programs

ALL students can achieve at high levels and succeed in college and careers.

District 79 is made up of 10 programs and services

District 79 helps students under 21 years old who have experienced an interruption to their studies to:

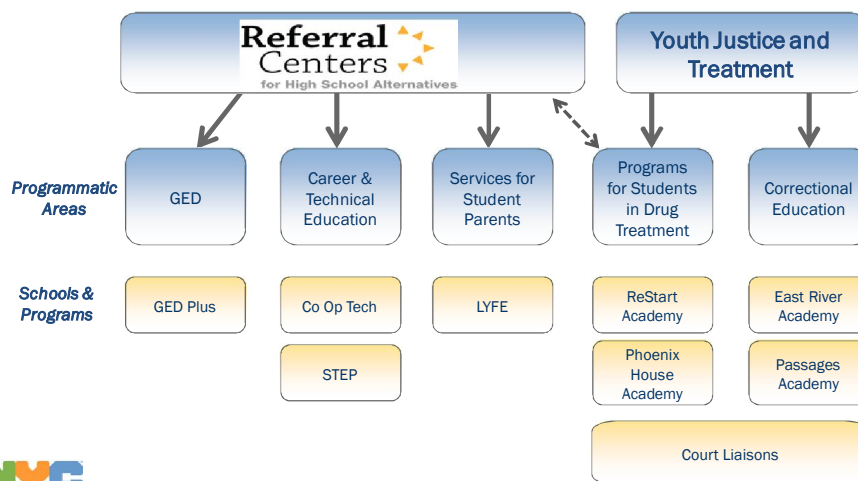
- * stay on track to a high school or high school equivalency diploma
- * build the skills to succeed in post-secondary opportunities, and
- * gain the social-emotional skills necessary to become confident and productive members of society

District 79 has a **diverse portfolio of programs** for justice-involved youth, student parents, and GED students.

District 79

Alternative Schools & Programs

Programs and Services



Referral Centers

for High School Alternatives

One-stop guidance centers helping students connect with DOE high schools, GED programs, and other support services

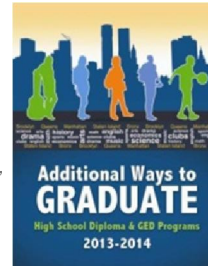
There are 5 Referral Centers, 1 In each borough

Students Served:

- * Serve approximately **7,250 students** annually
- * Primarily serve students who have previously dropped out of school, are at risk of dropping out, or are new to the NYC Department of Education

Features:

- * Help students understand their educational **rights**, discuss **goals**, and navigate educational options
- * Help match students to appropriate **placements** (HS, GED program, YABC, transfer school)
- * Assess and refer students according to individual needs, strengths, and goals
- * Provide **referrals** to other support services such as childcare, drug rehabilitation, ESL services, health clinics
- * 4-6 **Guidance Counselors** per center



How to Enroll*:

- * Walk ins are accepted, call the Referral Center nearest you for more information

*Please note: Referral Centers do not enroll students; they provide services and referrals to students in order to support them in enrolling in an educational school or program

District 79

Alternative Schools & Programs

Court Liaisons

Assists court-involved students, their families, and the agencies that support them

Court Liaisons are located in 6 court houses across the 5 boroughs

Students Served:

- * Serves approximately **550 students** annually
- * Serves all court-involved students in the **Bronx Family Court, Brooklyn Family Court, Manhattan Family Court, Queens Family Court, Brooklyn Criminal Court, and Queens Supreme Court**

Features:

- * **Assist students in returning to school** the day after release with no interruption to their education
- * **Connect students with a counselor** to help them understand the GED process, high school alternatives, and college options
- * **Help parents understand and advocate** for their son or daughter's rights to DOE educational services and options

How to Enroll:

- * Walk ins are accepted, or learn more information on the District 79 Programs and Services page on the DOE website

*Please note: Court Liaisons do not enroll students; they provide services and referrals to students in order to support them in enrolling in an educational school or program.



Helps students ages 18-21 earn their GED in addition to preparing them for college and careers

5 borough "hubs" and 58 "satellites" across 5 boroughs

Students Served:

- * Serves approximately 9,100 students annually
- * Ages 18-21, and 17 year olds with extenuating circumstances and parent/guardian permission may be accepted

Features:

GED Plus is more than a GED preparation program. We strive to ensure our students demonstrate college and career readiness prior to taking the GED exam. In order to be scheduled for the GED exam, all students must complete Graduation Expectations:

- * Position Paper
- * Personal Statement
- * Resume & Cover Letter
- * At least 150 hours of class time in GED Plus
- * Official Practice Test score of 2450 (with exceptions)



How to Enroll:

- * Visit a Referral Center



Career & Technical Education



Co Op Tech Is the main hub

Students Served:

- * Students must be working towards a diploma or GED in another DOE school or program while attending Co Op Tech half-day. There are instances where post-grads are served as well.

Features:

- * Offers half-day career & technical training courses
- * Home school provides academics courses and special education services
- * Links students to opportunities such as internships, employment, and union membership
- * Students can take GED Prep courses (through GED Plus) on-site
- * One semester sequences available

How to Enroll:

- * Through home school guidance counselor, at a Referral Center, or on-site at the program



Free CTE training for NYC DOE students, serving approximately 1,200 students annually



Step is one of 6 satellite sites

Students Served:

- * Students 18 years or older with an IEP diploma or an IEP less than 3 credits away from a local/regents diploma
- * 100 students served (beginning SY13)

Features:

- * Provides HS instruction and RCT preparation
- * Students attend STEP for half-day academics/CTE instruction and half-day off-site internships
- * Individualized student plans and support to meet the needs of their IEP
- * Work-readiness skills development, technical training, and paid internships

How to Enroll:

- * Through home school guidance counselor, at a Referral Center, through staff at Co Op Tech OR complete an application and send directly to the program.



Free educational daycare for the babies of student parents who are registered in the NYC DOE.

39 child care centers located primarily in high schools (3 in Community-Based Organizations)

Students served:

- * Serves approx. **1,000 babies and families**
- * Provides free child care services to parenting students enrolled in DOE schools and programs
- * Enrolls babies aged 8 weeks through the end of the school year in which they turn 3 years old
(Note: The baby is on register under the LYFE program's DBN. The parent is registered under their home school.)

Features:

- * The LYFE program makes it **possible for student parents to stay on track toward graduating** from high school or completing their GED and transition into parenthood
- * The LYFE program provides student parents with ongoing academic guidance and advocacy services and provides their children with a free high-quality early childhood education, aligned with New York State's Early Learning Guidelines

How to Enroll:

- * Enroll at a site, find out more on their website, talk to a school guidance counselor, or get help through a Referral Center.



Programs for Students in Drug Treatment

Provides educational services for students in drug treatment programs or other involuntary and/or temporary settings.



24 sites across the 5 boroughs

Students Served:

- * Serves approximately **1,300 students** annually
- * Students who are court-mandated as an alternative to incarceration or voluntarily seek substance intervention (ages 16-21)

Features:

- * Host agency determines clients for programs and D79 provides education component
- * Provides **middle school, HS and GED instruction**
- * **Located in programs** that are substance abuse treatment centers, ACS sites, and students in temporary / involuntary settings

How to Enroll:

- * **Students must first be clients of a partner agency.** Once admitted by a partner agency, students will be enrolled in this D79 program



Phoenix House

1 residential site in Shrub Oak and 3 satellite sites in NYC

Students Served:

- * Serves approximately **400 students** annually
- * Students who are court-mandated or who voluntarily seek substance intervention (ages 16-21)

Features:

- * Host agency determines clients for programs and D79 provides education component
- * Provides both **GED and HS instruction**

How to Enroll:

- * **Students must first become a client of the partner agency**
- * Once admitted by the partner agency, students will be enrolled in this D79 program



PASSAGES

A C A D E M Y

Correctional Education

Passages has 8 school sites located in both DOE and ACS buildings as well as buildings of provider agencies.

Students Served:

- * Serves approximately **2,000 students** annually
- * 17 years old or younger in detention; 18 years old or younger in placement
- * Three levels of placement: non-secure (NSD and NSP), limited-secure (LSP), and secure (SD)
- * Close to Home

Features:

- * Provide rigorous curriculum that engages both academic and social-emotional learning
- * Provides both **middle school and high school** instruction
- * Prepare students for the MS state and Regents exams
- * Create opportunities for students to earn HS credits

How to Enroll:

- * Once in the custody of ACS/DYFJ, student should be **automatically enrolled** in the program

Who Our Partners Are:

- * ACS/DYFJ (you!)
- * Provider Agencies



Correctional Education

ERA has 9 school sites embedded in 7 Department of Correction (DOC) jail facilities on Rikers Island

Students Served:

- * Serves approximately **3,400 students** annually
- * **Ages 16-21**, two-thirds high school
- * Serves students who are detained or sentenced to NYC DOC **on Rikers Island**

Features:

- * Students may return to their home school or enroll in a new educational program upon release, or may be sentenced to the NYS DOC system
- * Provides **both HS and GED instruction**
- * Students work with counselors to create a **transition plan** for their return to the community, including educational plans, transitional services, and support networks

How to Enroll:

- * Once in the custody of Department of Corrections, students 16-18 are **automatically enrolled**



District 79

Alternative Schools & Programs

D79 Transition Expectations

All students experience a high quality transition process which includes

- 1) detailing goals, a plan, action steps, and a support network,
- 2) support and advocacy, and
- 3) enrollment in a supportive and appropriate educational setting.

- * Students all have the right to return to their prior school following discharge from the NYC public schools within one calendar year of discharge (JG Compliance and Chancellor's Regulations)
- * All students in District 79 programs participate in a transition planning process designed to identify the most appropriate next placement for the student upon release
- * Students who are incarcerated or in juvenile detention in NYC, or in residential drug treatment programs, will be automatically returned to their home school register upon release

Transition Process

While at Program:

- * Students meet with a **counselor** upon arriving at program
- * Student and counselor decide which **academic path** will best support the student's educational goals once released
- * Student begins planning via ILP (Plan to Succeed)
- * Counselors complete a **transition plan** with students, indicating support networks and educational next steps for when they transition from the program
- * Families/ support network are contacted and plan is shared
- * Students meet with an transition team member and/or a CBO representative (when applicable)



After Program:

- * Students returning to their **home school** (that were attending school prior to their arrest) are automatically reenrolled in school
- * Students not previously enrolled in school will visit a **referral center** to meet with a counselor and enroll in a program or school
- * Program staff will contact student to follow up on transition plan progress

Sample Transition Planning Tools

Student Passport

ERA
East River Academy

Student Passport
Fall 2013

Returning to the Community
Returning back to your home school... Includes the right to return to your prior school unless you are unable to do so... ERAC will provide you with the necessary information to help you return to your home school.

Educational Opportunities
Department of Education Options
Young Adult Branch Centers
Five Borough Academy
Co-Op Job
Community Opportunities

Community Opportunities
New York Reentry Education Network
Center for Community Alternatives
Center for Employment Opportunities
College and Community Reentry
Civic Corps

Referral
Call your IIS Transition Team at 718.485.8050 for support upon returning to the community!

NYC
Department of Education
Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor

Plan to Succeed (Online ILP)

Plan to Succeed NYC

Your Portfolio

GED PLUS I.P.
GED Plus is the best preparation for GED Test success!

Your Profile
This profile is for getting to know your future goals, experience and academic activities, etc.

Career Planning Portfolio
Here you can set career and support readiness goals for your program.

High School Planning Portfolio
Get an idea of what you want to do after high school.

College Planning Portfolio
Set your college goals and explore your options.

Financial Aid Planning Portfolio
Get the support you need to pay for college.

NYC
Department of Education

CASE CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

District 79 Resources

Publications and more information available on the following websites:

District 79 website: schools.nyc.gov/District79

Alternative Ways to Graduate Info: goingforme.org

Email us if you have more questions:

General Info: D79YouthHelp@schools.nyc.gov

Alex Pederson: apederson@schools.nyc.gov

Stacey Oliger : soliger@schools.nyc.gov