

Referral Centers



for High School Alternatives

What is a Referral Center?

- * Referral Centers for High School Alternatives are one-stop guidance centers where students can learn about and get connected to Department of Education (DOE) high school options, GED, and to other supports that will help them graduate. Referral Centers can also provide additional information on the programs and services described in this list. There is a Referral Center for High School Alternatives in each borough to help students find their best pathway to a diploma or the General Educational Development (GED) exam, and beyond. Guidance Counselors, Social Workers, and other Referral Center staff are present to help Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on days that schools are open.

How can Referral Centers help you?

- * Explore all possible paths to a high school diploma, or enroll in a GED program;
- * Learn about your rights as a NYC Department of Education student;
- * Understand your high school transcript;
- * Get referrals for childcare, social work, drug treatment and housing;
- * Learn about other programs that District 79 offers.

What is the difference between Referral Centers and Borough Enrollment Offices?

- * **Referral Centers** are part of District 79.
 - Provide referrals to high school alternatives such as GED Plus, Transfer Schools, Young Adult Borough Centers (YABCs), or International Schools.
 - Can enroll students in GED Plus
 - Cannot enroll students directly in schools – Borough Enrollment Offices do that.
- * **Borough Enrollment Offices** manage all enrollment functions for general and special education students including:
 - high school registration,
 - school assignment for elementary and middle school students who do not have zoned schools,
 - documented transfer requests,
 - support for admissions processes, and other enrollment functions.

[Click here](#) for Borough Enrollment Office contact information.

Who should visit or call Referral Center?

- * You should contact a Referral Center if you are 21 years old or younger, live in New York City and don't have a high school diploma, but want to continue your education and need additional support to re-connect with school. If you are over 21 and interested in GED programs, education opportunities, or English language instruction, contact the Office of Adult and Continuing Education.
- * **What should you bring?**
 - o Please bring a photo ID and your most recent transcript, if you have them. If you have a copy of your individualized education plan (IEP), bring that too. Students who are 17 years old will need a parent or guardian present to enroll in a new school or GED Plus. If you do not have a photo ID, ask the School Safety Agent at the entrance to call the Referral Center so that someone may accompany you to the center.

What are the Center Hours?

- * All Referral Centers are open schooldays from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Students and families are encouraged to visit on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings to hear an overview session and meet with a guidance counselor or social worker. Students who choose to pursue a GED will be asked to return on a Tuesday or Thursday to take a placement survey test. It is recommended that you call first.

How do I get more information?

- * Contact the Referral Center in your borough
- * Read/print the Referral Center frequently asked questions (FAQs): English, Spanish, Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, French, Creole, Korean, Russian, and Urdu.

Where are the Referral Centers located?

* <i>Bronx Referral Center for High School Alternatives @ Bronx Regional High School</i> 1010 Reverend James A. Polite Avenue Room 436 Bronx, NY 10459 (718) 842-9200	* <i>Brooklyn Referral Center for High School Alternatives @ Marcy Avenue Complex</i> 832 Marcy Avenue Room 501A Brooklyn, NY 11216 (718) 636-5770
* <i>Manhattan Referral Center for High School Alternatives @ the Alternative Learning Complex</i> 269 West 35th Street (@ Eighth Avenue) 11th Floor New York, NY 10001 (212) 244-1274	* <i>Queens Referral Center for High School Alternatives @ Jamaica Learning Center</i> 162-02 Hillside Avenue Room 109 Jamaica, NY 11432 (718) 739-2100
* <i>Staten Island Referral Center for High School Alternatives @ St. George</i> 450 St. Marks Place Staten Island, NY 10301 (718) 273-3225	* <i>District 79 Office of Student Support Services</i> (917) 521-3639 youthhelp@schools.nyc.gov