

## Chicago High Schools

CCSSR2. Figure out ideas when you read.

CCSSR7. Integrate ideas and information from different sources.

There are many different high schools in Chicago. They all have the same core curriculum. Everyone learns English, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Every student does service learning. Every student helps the school and community with projects. Some students tutor after school. Some work in soup kitchens, helping people get food. Some students work to improve the environment. They learn science and make the community a better place. They feel better about themselves and learn more skills.

Some high schools are specialized. You can go to a high school that specializes in arts. That is a new Chicago high school. To get into that school, you need to audition. You might want to be an actor. You would go to the audition and show how well you act. You might want to be an artist. You would bring art you have done to your audition.

There are other schools that do not require auditions. They do require that you get good grades. Those are called magnet schools. You can go to a magnet school if you have good grades and do well on tests.

Many high schools have special programs even if they are not magnet schools. You can specialize in journalism at some high schools. Those are regular high schools that have special programs in journalism. You can find other programs at high schools. You can take culinary arts at some schools. One student who went to Richards High School in Chicago got a \$10,000 scholarship to go to culinary college. He did well at Richards High School. He took culinary arts classes. He is on his way to a great career.

You can go to military high schools in Chicago. There are schools that emphasize the army. They have the standard high school curriculum. But they also have a lot of work on discipline and planning. Those are important to someone in the army. We even have a school that is an Air Force school. You take the usual subjects there. But you also learn about flying.

When you choose a high school, you should think about many things. Does it have the kinds of programs that I can use to help me prepare for a career? Does it have a good location? How can I get there?

Whatever high school you go to, how much it helps you is up to you.

### EXPLAIN WHAT YOU LEARNED

1. Underline the most important information in each paragraph.
2. Write a short summary that tells what the passage explains. Include only the most important information.

*Start your summary this way:*

The main idea of the passage is \_\_\_\_\_.  
Here is information that helps you understand that idea.

Then finish the summary. Include the information that helps explain the main idea.