



APPLYING TO THE LOWELL LATIN LYCEUM FALL 2021



How do I apply?

1. All applicants must take our exam. All 8th graders who currently reside in Lowell can **take the Latin Lyceum Entrance Exam (HSPT)** *either* at Lowell High School on two Saturdays: 12/4/21 and 12/11/24) *or* at their middle school (if they attend Lowell Public Schools). Each middle school in Lowell will host one sitting of the test during the school week. We will publish those dates as soon as we know them.
2. You must **register online for a test session** at our website: <<http://lowell-latin-lyceum.org>>
3. Fill out and submit a completed **application form**, which includes short answer questions and a long-form essay question. These all are part of the application form. It is found on the same Lyceum website.
4. Ask **two teachers** to fill out **recommendation forms** for you. One must be completed by one of your current English or Social Studies teachers, and the second must be completed by one of your current Math or Science teachers.
5. You may also submit an **optional third recommendation** from an adult connected with something that you do outside of school. Examples include a sports coach, a dance instructor, a youth activities director, or a religious leader. There are many other activities which may be important to you, where an adult can serve as a reference for you. The form for the extracurricular recommendation is different than the form for teachers. Make sure you use the appropriate form.
6. For the first time, this year you can add an **optional personal interview** to be considered along with your essay. This is completely optional and has been added for students who feel they have communication strengths — outside of writing — that the committee should know about. Again, this is optional: if you do not do it, it will not count against you in any way. If you do it, the results of the interview will be factored into your essay score.
7. A **copy of your most recent report card or transcript**, if available (either is acceptable).
8. *If you do not go to Lowell Public Schools*, please also give us **any standardized test scores** that you may have from diagnostic tests that your school uses.

All forms are available on the Lyceum website and can be completed electronically. There is no need to print anything out. Applications should be submitted by e-mail to the Lowell Lyceum Coordinators listed below.

That's a lot! Who can help me?

We advise that you seek out someone at your school who helps with your academic choices. In most Lowell Public Schools that will be your guidance counselor. In other private or parochial schools, that might be the academic director of the school. If you need help and you cannot find someone at your school to help you, then you can contact us at Lowell High School. Call 978-937-8901 and ask to be connected to someone about the Lyceum.

When are the admissions materials due?

Starting last year, we began to have two different admissions cycles. There is no difference in the selection criteria between the two cycles. If you apply in the second cycle, you will have the same chance of being admitted to the Lyceum as applying to the first cycle. The only difference is *when* you will find

out about admittance. Many students need to know before March 1, so they can make choices between different schools. These students should apply in the first cycle. The two cycles have these dates:

SUBMISSION CYCLE 1

1. Test (HSPT) must be taken during the December 2021 dates.
2. Application form must be submitted by December 22, 2021 (Wednesday) by 2:30 p.m.
3. Recommendations must be received by Jan. 6, 2022.
4. Candidates will receive a decision by Feb. 18, 2022.

SUBMISSION CYCLE 2

1. Test (HSPT) must be taken during the December 2021 or January/February 2022 dates.
2. Application form must be submitted by March 1, 2022 (Tuesday) by 2:30 p.m.
3. Recommendations must be received by March 13, 2022.
4. Candidates will receive a decision by April 15, 2022.

What are the Admission Committee's criteria for admittance to the LHS Latin Lyceum?

The Admissions Committee (comprised of teachers and administrators) will consider the following when making decisions about admission:

- Application – short answer and essay response
- Results of the High School Placement Test
- Teacher recommendations
- Optional third recommendation
- Optional interview
- Grade 7 and available Grade 8 grades (photocopies of report cards or transcripts are acceptable)
- Standardized test scores if available
- Other data about a student that might help to create a stronger incoming class for the Lyceum.

How many students will be accepted into the Lyceum for the Fall of 2022?

The number of students accepted into the Lyceum varies from year to year based on the strength of the applicants. There is no set number. We seek to create a strong group of students who will work well together to help each other excel and grow.

If I do not make it into the Lyceum for 9th grade, can I re-apply after 9th grade?

Based on our current model and numbers of students, students are accepted into the Lyceum for 9th grade only. (The only exception is for students who lived out of district at the time of testing – they are allowed to apply during the ninth grade for inclusion in the 10th grade.)

Further questions? Please contact:

Robert DeLossa, Social Studies Dept. Chair and Lowell Latin Lyceum Academic Co-Coordinator, at 978-446-7335 or <rdelossa@lowell.k12.ma.us>

or

Dr. Jill Rothschild, Associate Head of School, LHS, and Lowell Latin Lyceum Academic Co-Coordinator, at 978-275-6301 or <<mailto:jrothschild@lowell.k12.ma.us>>