



Nashoba Valley Technical High School (NVT) Admissions Policy-Draft

Overview

This policy outlines the admissions process for NVT, in compliance with Massachusetts state regulations (603 CMR 4.00). These regulations require a mandatory admissions lottery for career and technical (CTE) school admissions with a locally determined option for extra lottery weights. Beginning with the 2025-2026 admissions cycle, NVT will use a weighted lottery system when there are more applicants than available seats.

Equal Educational Opportunity

NVT provides equal educational opportunities and does not discriminate based on race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or immigration/citizenship status.

- **Language & Accommodations:** Application forms are available in a student's home language upon request. Students with disabilities can also request accommodations for the application process. For assistance, call 978-692-4711 ext. 11123 or email admissions@nashobatech.net.

Application Process & Timeline

- **Timeline:** Annually applications are available by November 1 and an application deadline between January 1 and March 1 will be published.
- **Information Sessions:** NVT will host at least two in-person and two virtual admissions information sessions each year.
- **Demonstration of Awareness:** To be considered complete, an application must demonstrate the student's awareness of Career and Technical Education (CTE) through one of the following: attending an open house, information session, or tour; or completing a video module on CTE.

Admissions Lottery & Criteria

Admission is based on a weighted lottery. Students who are residents of a member district (Ayer, Chelmsford, Groton, Littleton, Pepperell, Shirley, Townsend, and Westford) will be admitted before non-resident students.

All eligible applicants will be entered into the lottery, and students who meet the following criteria will receive one additional weight per criterion:

- **Attendance:** Fewer than 27 unexcused, full-day absences over the 270 school days prior to the application date. Data from before a student's seventh-grade year will not be considered.
- **Discipline:** No suspensions or expulsions for possessing a dangerous weapon or assaulting educational staff on school property or at school-sponsored events within the 270 school days prior to the application date. This applies to felony-related incidents with a court adjudication or admission of guilt. Data from before a student's seventh-grade year will not be considered.
- **Student Interest:** Demonstrated interest in CTE through a non-evaluative interview (district preferred), submission of a video or audio presentation, a personal essay, or a letter of recommendation from a non-family member.

The lottery will be conducted at NVTHS with public notice given at least one week in advance. It may be conducted electronically, provided the methods are publicly shared, fair, and random.

Appeals

- **Appeals:** Parents or guardians can appeal an assigned lottery weight or a final admissions decision. Appeals for lottery weights must be made in writing to the Principal within 10 days of notification, and appeals for admissions decisions must be made in writing to the Superintendent within 14 days of the lottery. All decisions are final.

Exploratory & Technical Program Placement

- **Exploratory Program:** All admitted students will participate in an exploratory program to learn about different vocational technical programs. More details are available in the Program of Studies.
- **Technical Program Placement:** At the end of the exploratory process, students select the top four technical programs they may want to pursue. This selection is based on their career interests, input from their exploratory rotations, and family guidance. School counselors then review this information with the students to finalize a list of top choices. More details are available in JF-E Admissions Process and Procedures.

Implementation and Procedures

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for developing and implementing the annual procedures to carry out this policy. For more information on the admissions process and procedures, please refer to JF-E Admissions Process and Procedures.

LEGAL REF.: [603 CMR Career Technical Education 4.03](#)

CROSS REF.: [NVTHS Program of Studies section H.d. Career Explorations](#)
[JF-E Admissions Process and Procedures](#)