

# WEEKLY FALCON NEWS

WINTER BREAK 2021 EDITION



*On behalf of the entire SEED Faculty & Staff:  
We wish you a very happy holiday season and  
a peaceful & prosperous New Year!*

## RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN - JANUARY 2022

Given the current level of community spread across the District, we will adjust our calendar and remain in virtual learning mode for the first two weeks in January. The key details of our January calendar are provided below:

- **January 3-4, 2022:** No School for Students
- **January 5-14, 2022:** Virtual Learning for Students
- **January 18, 2022:** Tentative Return to In-Person Learning (all students will be COVID tested upon their return)

We will use January 3rd and 4th to ensure proper COVID protocols are in place and to ensure we are providing high quality virtual programs. Additional details regarding those two days will be shared next week.

Please be safe and enjoy your winter break!

# FRIDAY BELL SCHEDULE CHANGE - EFFECTIVE 1/7/2022



The SEED School of Washington, D.C.  
*a public charter school*

December 10, 2021

Dear SEED Students and Families:

Beginning on Friday, January 7, 2022, we will release students at 2:40 p.m. ON FRIDAYS to provide more time for staff development and curriculum planning. The Friday bell schedule is provided below.

We are providing this information now so that you have time to plan for the schedule change. If you have any questions about the Friday early release schedule, please reach out to Rashida Holman-Jones at [rholmanjones@seedschooldc.org](mailto:rholmanjones@seedschooldc.org) or 202-329-8961. Additional information regarding the dormitory checkout will be forthcoming.

### FRIDAY BELL SCHEDULE

PERIOD	TIME
Period 1	8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
Period 2	8:50 a.m. - 9:35 a.m.
Period 3	9:40 a.m. - 10:25 a.m.
<b>Period 4/Lunch</b>	<b>10:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.</b>
4A - 10th Grade Lunch	10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
4B - 11th Grade Lunch	11:05 a.m. - 11:35 a.m.
4C - 9th & 12th Grade Lunch	11:40 a.m. - 12:10pm
Period 5	12:15 p.m. - 1:00 pm
Period 6	1:05-1:50 pm
Period 7	1:55-2:40 pm

Thank you,


Mrs. Rashida Holman-Jones

Director of Family and Community Engagement


# RECRUITMENT FOR SY 2022-2023

Recruitment for next school year will begin on **Saturday, December 11th** @ the annual My School DC EdFEST. Please share with and invite family and friends to attend the virtual EdFEST event where they will learn all about our college-preparatory, public charter, 24-hour, & tuition-free boarding school. The online application for the MSDC Lottery will officially open on Monday, December 13th. Application deadline for high school applicants is February 1st. Don't delay! Apply today! Click on the flyer below to register for EdFEST.

**Side Note: Current SEED families do not need to submit applications to re-enroll for next school year.**



**Public School Lottery  
QUICK START GUIDE  
SCHOOL YEAR 2022-23**



### KEY DATES

**December 11, 2021:**  
EdFEST – the annual public school fair\*

**December 13, 2021:**  
Lottery application opens

**February 1, 2022:**  
APPLICATION DEADLINE (Grades 9-12)

**March 1, 2022:**  
APPLICATION DEADLINE (PK3 – Grade 8)

**April 1, 2022:**  
Lottery results are available

**May 2, 2022:**  
Enrollment deadline for matched students

*\*Stay in the know about this year's event format by signing up for alerts at [MySchoolDC.org](https://MySchoolDC.org)!*

### WHAT IS MY SCHOOL DC?

My School DC is the common application and public school lottery for DC Public Schools (DCPS) and DC public charter schools that serve PK3 – Grade 12. Families can apply to up to 12 public schools using one application and participate in a single, random lottery.

### HOW DO I APPLY?

Apply online at [MySchoolDC.org](https://MySchoolDC.org) by the lottery application deadlines. If you have questions or need help, the My School DC hotline is available Monday – Friday, 8AM – 5PM at **202.888.6336** or by emailing [info.myschooldc@dc.gov](mailto:info.myschooldc@dc.gov).

### WHO NEEDS TO APPLY?

Submit a My School DC application if you wish to enroll your child as a **NEW** student at a:


- PK3 or PK4 program at any DCPS school, including your DCPS in-boundary school
- Dual-language strand at any DCPS in-boundary elementary school (PK3 – Grade 5)
- DCPS school outside your boundary or feeder pattern, including DCPS citywide schools (PK3 – Grade 12)
- DCPS selective high school or program (Grades 9-12)
- Participating public charter school (PK3 – Grade 12)

### WHO DOES NOT NEED TO APPLY?

You do **NOT** need to submit a My School DC application if your child will:


- Remain in their current school. Simply contact your school to re-enroll.
- Enroll at their DCPS in-boundary or feeder school (Grades K-12)
- Enroll at their public charter feeder school

**SCAN ME**



Point the camera on your mobile device to start your school search and apply!

[/MySchoolDC](https://www.facebook.com/MySchoolDC) [@MySchoolDC](https://www.instagram.com/MySchoolDC) [@MySchoolDC](https://twitter.com/MySchoolDC) [@MySchoolDC](https://www.youtube.com/MySchoolDC)



WE ARE THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
**DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR**

# Empower the School Year

**Text  
INTERNET  
to 69866**

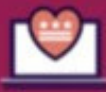
For one year of Comcast Internet Essentials or RCN's Internet First paid for by DC Government.

**Eligibility:**

- Any home that has PK3-12th grade student(s) enrolled at a DC traditional, charter public schools or adult charter school.
- Need one year of internet access.
- Your home is covered by RCN or Comcast.
- For more information, visit: [techtogetherdc.com/internetforall](http://techtogetherdc.com/internetforall)



Closing the Digital Divide in DC



# Internet Access Opportunities in DC

Internet access is the first and most basic step to digital equity. DC residents in need of in-home internet subscription assistance have several options available to them: Internet for All provided by the Bowser Administration and the Federal Communications Commission's new Emergency Broadband Benefits program.



## Which Internet Program Is Right for You?

### Internet for All: DC Students

Text INTERNET to 69866 to sign up

#### What You Get:

One year of Comcast Internet Essentials or RCN's Internet First paid for by DC Government.

#### Why Choose Me:

- You have a PK3-12th grade student(s) enrolled at a DC traditional, charter public schools or adult charter school
- You need one year of internet access
- Your home is covered by RCN or Comcast
- 50 Mbps of internet speed is enough for your household needs

#### Find Out if You're Eligible:

- Visit [techtogetherdc.com/internetforall](https://techtogetherdc.com/internetforall)

### FCC Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) Program

#### What You Get:

A temporary discount on monthly broadband bills for qualifying low-income households.

#### Why Choose Me:

- You do not have a student enrolled in DC traditional or Public Charter Schools
- You need device assistance (up to \$100) in addition to Internet for All
- Your household needs a higher speed internet than Internet Essentials (Comcast) or Internet First (RCN), which are both 50 Mbps.

#### Find Out if You're Eligible:

- Visit [fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit](https://fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit)

# PANDEMIC RENT RELIEF INFO

## End of the Pandemic Unemployment Benefits – What Rights Do I Have?



### Which benefits are ending?

DC has had three special unemployment programs that expire September 4, 2021:

- *Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation, or PEUC*, extending the time you could receive regular unemployment ("UI") benefits.
- *Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation, or FPUC*, giving an extra \$300 per week.
- *Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, or PUA*, giving benefits to people who can't get regular UI.



### Are my unemployment benefits going to stop after September 4, 2021?

Maybe.

- If you get regular UI, your payments might continue – Please keep filing claims cards!
- If you get PEUC, your PEUC will stop, but you might start getting regular UI again or you might be eligible for another benefit program - see below!
- If you get PUA, your payments will stop.
- The extra \$300 per week will stop.



### Are there any other unemployment benefits I can apply for?

If you are in the PEUC or regular UI program and you do not get paid after the week ending Sept. 4, 2021, you may be eligible for the week ending Sept. 11, 2021 through another program called Extended Benefits (EB). If this applies to you or you aren't sure, please apply for EB as soon as your other payments stop at [dcnetworks.org](http://dcnetworks.org) or 202-724-7000.

If you think you may be eligible for PUA for weeks ending between December 1, 2020 and

September 4, 2021, but haven't applied yet, you can apply until October 6, 2021.



### I think DOES owes me money for past weeks. Can they still pay me?

**Yes!** DOES has to keep processing all timely-filed claims. If you are still waiting on DOES to make a decision on your claim or to pay you for missing weeks, please keep following up with them at 202-724-7000 or [uiescalations@dc.gov](mailto:uiescalations@dc.gov).



### DOES told me they aren't going to pay me – what can I do?

You can request a hearing with the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH).

Get the appeal form at <https://oah.dc.gov/publication/ui-request-hearing-appeal-determination-claims-examiner-involving-unemployment-benefits> or by calling OAH at (202) 442-9094. You can email it to [oah.filing@dc.gov](mailto:oah.filing@dc.gov) or bring it in person to the Office of Administrative Hearings, 441 Fourth Street NW, Suite 450N, Washington, DC 20001.

### Are there any non-UI programs I can apply for to help pay my bills?



**Yes!** DC residents can apply for SNAP (food stamps), TANF, & Alliance/Immigrant Children's Program at <https://dcbenefits.dhs.dc.gov/>, via smart phone through District Access App, or in person at a DHS Service Center. You can apply for Medicaid at [dchealthlink.com](http://dchealthlink.com) or by phone at 1-855-532-5465.



You can apply for rental and utility assistance at [stay.dc.gov](http://stay.dc.gov) or 833-478-2932.

\*If you receive benefits through these programs, please meet all your reporting requirements, including if your unemployment benefits stop.

\*\*This flyer is based on information available to Legal Aid as of August 20, 2021, and is subject to change.



**Need help?** Call Legal Aid at (202) 628-1161 or go to <https://www.legalaiddc.org/online-intake/>.

# Student Athlete Vaccine Mandate: Exclusions Start 12/1

On Sept. 20, 2021, Mayor Bowser signed Mayor's Order 2021-109 requiring that effective Nov. 1, 2021, no student age 12 or older shall practice, compete, or otherwise participate in school-based extracurricular athletics (including both interscholastic and intramural sports), unless the student has received a full course of vaccination against COVID-19, or unless the student has received an approved religious or medical exemption. A full course of vaccination means individuals must have received the second dose of a two-dose series, or one dose of a single-dose series. We must continue to encourage our eligible student athletes to receive the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible in order to meet the requirements set out in the Mayor's Order.

In order to ensure that we have a strong implementation process and a window to operationalize these important safety and health concerns, the City Administrator's office has established an implementation window from 11/1-12/1 before full exclusion of student athletes from school-based extracurricular athletics is required. This additional period will enable school personnel to establish and execute systems to collect, review, certify, and record proof of COVID-19 vaccination and medical and religious exemptions.

To operationalize the student athlete vaccination requirement, student athlete exclusion from participation in school-based extracurricular athletics will not be required to be implemented before 12/1/2021. This additional period applies only to student athletes, and not adult school employees, contractors, interns, or volunteers, including athletic directors, coaches, trainers, and game officials.

Starting Dec. 1, 2021:

Student athletes who have not received a full course of vaccination against COVID-19 are to be excluded from all school-based extracurricular athletics, including tryouts, practices, drills, conditioning, and competitions (including fall playoffs and championships) until they provide proof of a full course of vaccination. This applies to student athletes participating in both fall sports and winter sports. Note: this means that to receive a full course of vaccination by Dec. 1, student athletes must receive their first dose of a two-dose series no later than 11/9.

Between 11/1 and 12/1 all student athletes who have not received the full course of vaccination will be required to wear a mask in athletic events (even if the current indoor masking order is rescinded or superseded) and are strongly encouraged to participate in weekly testing for COVID-19. Schools are encouraged to collect proof of a weekly negative test in order to allow these student athletes to continue participating in their school-based athletic activity.

Exemptions:

This additional time provides schools with sufficient time to collect, review, and approve or deny requests for religious and medical exemptions. Schools are expected to set strong internal deadlines to ensure these exemptions can be reviewed and processed by 12/1. As a reminder, LEAs and schools are responsible for reviewing and processing religious exemptions. A template for religious exemptions can be found [here](#), and schools are strongly encouraged to use it in order to promote consistency across schools and the District. Guidance on the COVID-19 Vaccination Mandate for Student Athletes can also be found on the OSSE Guidance and Resources page [here](#).

If an exemption is denied before 12/1, the student athlete will have five days to show proof of receiving the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, at which point they will remain eligible to participate in school-based athletics.

After 12/1, student athletes will need to have exemption requests processed and approved BEFORE beginning to play, or they are to be excluded from playing until either their exemption request is approved, or they show proof of a full course of vaccination.

Be reminded that it is illegal to make false statements on government forms, and that includes filing applications for exemptions in bad faith.

Student athletes that have an approved medical or religious exemption will be required to wear a mask in athletic events (even if the current indoor masking order is rescinded or superseded). Starting 12/1, student athletes with an approved exemption must be tested weekly for COVID-19 and provide a negative COVID-19 test result on a weekly basis in order to participate in their school-based athletic activity.

# Attendance Alerts



Attendance alerts go out daily to the parent/guardian(s) of all scholars who are marked absent in their first and second period classes. We understand that some absences are unavoidable, but please remember to send an email to [attendance@seedschooldc.org](mailto:attendance@seedschooldc.org) in all cases. Please see below for some more reminders:

School starts promptly at 8:00 a.m. each morning and scholars are allowed to start entering the building at 7:30 a.m. to check temperatures, show proof of passing daily health screening and grab breakfast before heading to class.

Scholars should be in complete uniform which includes the maroon polo (5 provided for all scholars), khaki pants and any closed-toe appropriate shoe.

Teachers' complete attendance within the first 10 minutes of class, any scholar who arrives after 8:10 a.m. will be marked absent until the Attendance Coordinator goes back at the end of the day to rectify attendance.

Please try your best to get your scholar here on time. If you have any questions and/or concerns, don't hesitate to contact Ms. Holloway (202.381.8065) or Mrs. Holman Jones (202.329.8961).



# ACADEMIC ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES

## EARLY DISMISSALS AND PLANNED ABSENCES

In the event, a scholar needs to leave campus during the school week and will miss any part of the school programming (academic or student life), including Sunday check-in, families should send an email to [attendance@seedschooldc.org](mailto:attendance@seedschooldc.org). The email should include the following:

1. Scholar's name
2. Date(s) of absences
3. Date and time of pick-up and drop off
4. Name of an adult who will pick up the scholar (proof of identification will be required)
5. If student is departing on their own, please indicate the mode of travel (Uber, Lyft, Metro, etc.)
6. Reason for absence/appointment

**Please note:** All communication regarding absences must be submitted in written form by the parent/guardian/caregiver on file. SEED DC will not allow a scholar to leave campus without a prior written communication from the parent/guardian/caregiver on file. Scholars must be signed out at the front desk in the lobby for early dismissal and signed in when returning to campus. All written communication should be sent to [attendance@seedschooldc.org](mailto:attendance@seedschooldc.org) and should include the time the student will depart and return, mode of transportation, and contact information for an adult authorized to pick the student up. This includes transportation via Metro, Uber, Lyft, or riding with other families. Staff may be directed to conduct a follow-up phone call, to confirm details or ask clarifying questions. When a scholar returns to campus following a medical visit, a signed medical note from the medical facility must be presented to the receptionist stating the reason for the absence.

***If a scholar needs to leave early on a Friday, families should send an email to [attendance@seedschooldc.org](mailto:attendance@seedschooldc.org) no later than 8 p.m. on Thursday evening.*** Student Life staff will be notified to have scholars bring their belongings from the residence halls in the morning to place in the academic building. Please note that emails sent after 8 a.m. will not be honored, as the residence halls are closed from 8 a.m. until student life staff arrives for check-out, 4 p.m. If you still have to pick-up your scholar, you will have to return to pick up their belongings between 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Absent for three (3) or more days? Please contact the Attendance Coordinator at (202) 248-7773 x5116.

# STUDENT LIFE PROTOCOLS FOR SY21-22

## CHECK-IN PROTOCOLS:

Sunday check-in is from 8 - 9:30 p.m. by grade level. Families are not permitted to enter campus during check-in, except to submit prescription and over-the-counter medication or health-related documentation to the school nurse.

Any overnight on-campus scholar who arrives after 9:30 p.m. will not be permitted access to campus and must check-in on the following morning. Any overnight on-campus scholar who does not check-in on the following morning will not be permitted to board for the remainder of their week.

## SIGN-OUT PROTOCOLS:

Overnight on-campus scholars are not permitted to leave campus after 4 p.m. Monday - Thursday, except for pre-approved appointments. If a scholar leaves campus for a pre-approved appointment, the parent/guardian must return with the scholar and provide the appropriate documentation no later than 7 p.m. of the same day. Scholars must also complete the [Daily Health Screen](#) and temperature check **BEFORE** returning to campus or the residence halls. Families must submit all appointments that occur after 4 p.m. for review and approval to Mr. Rooks, Director of Student Life with a minimum of one week in advance of the appointment.

## EARLY DISMISSAL PROTOCOLS:

***Brown Hall and Marshall Hall are not accessible during the academic day, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.*** Scholars may only retrieve their belongings from the residence halls at the end of the academic day. Although we are aware that emergencies do arise and are inevitable, scholar belongings will remain secured in the residence halls until the end of the academic day. *Residence halls open at 4 p.m.*

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Rooks, Director of Student Life by email: [crooks@dc.seedschool.org](mailto:crooks@dc.seedschool.org) or [crooks@seedschooldc.org](mailto:crooks@seedschooldc.org) or by phone on (202) 381-8055.

# WELLNESS SUITE MEDICATION REQUIREMENTS

Please be reminded that that only parents/guardians/caregivers or authorized adults can bring medication to the Wellness Suite. Medication will not be accepted from students and students are not allowed to carry medication on their person, with the exception of an asthma inhaler.

In order for the school to administer prescription medication, a [medical authorization form](#) must be filled out by the doctor. Parents must also sign the form before school medical personnel can administer medication. Only creams, antibiotics, or medical equipment will be sent home on Fridays during checkout and that no student will be allowed to take medication home. Be sure to request for your pharmacist to divide the medication in two (2) bottles, one to keep at home and one to be left at school. Also we have over the counter medications here and all parents should fill out the form if their student needs to take any over the counter medications. All of the medical forms mentioned here can be found on the [health & wellness suite page](#) of the school website.

Click here to review the full [medication policy](#).

Thank you,

The Wellness Team:  
Nrs. Jones & Ms. Faison  
202-248-3008 (phone)  
202-318-8625 (fax)



# PowerSchool Portal for Parents & Families

*The SEED School of Washington, D.C. is proud to offer a tool that parents and family members may use to stay connected to their scholar and their school.*

*The PowerSchool Parent & Family Portal gives you real-time access to valuable information such as grades, assignment details, & messages from teachers.*

**Through the portal, view your scholar's:**



**ACADEMIC HISTORY**



**TEST RESULTS**



**ATTENDANCE**



**& MORE!**



You can log in any time from any computer, tablet, or mobile phone.

**GET ALERTS VIA:**



**TEXT**



**PHONE**



**EMAIL**

**Receive alerts about attendance, school events, & weather-related closures.**

Turn over for more info on how to set up your Parent Portal,

# Parent & Family Portal: Getting Started

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How do I sign up for the Parent & Family Portal & set up my account? You must have a personal email address to sign up for a Parent & Family Portal account.

You can register for a free email account using Gmail, Outlook, Yahoo, or a similar service..

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## WHERE DO I START?

Visit <https://seedschool.powerschool.com/public/>

1

- Click "Create an account"
- Enter your first & last name and email address
- Create a password - at least 6 characters
- Re-enter password
- Enter student's name (If you have multiple student's @ SEED, each will have their own access ID & password)

2

## HAVE YOUR CONFIDENTIAL ID READY

- Enter Confidential ID (provided by school)
- Enter Access Password (provided by school)
- Select appropriate relationship to student

Once completed, you will be taken to the login page of the Parent & Family Portal

3

## DOWNLOAD THE MOBILE APP

- App Store or Play Store
- Enter district code: **FQGN**
- Click Continue
- Enter Confidential ID
- Enter Password
- You're all set to go!

**Still need help?**

**Contact the registrar:**

**[ctyson@seedschooldc.org](mailto:ctyson@seedschooldc.org)**