



Schools issue DSA-Sec 2026 outcomes by 28 August

Description

Schools taking part in Direct School Admission for secondary schools (DSA-Sec) were required to notify applicants of their 2026 outcomes by Friday (Aug 28).

The Ministry of Education (MOE) publishes that deadline on its DSA-Sec selection-outcomes page, last updated 24 April 2026, which was checked on Saturday (Aug 29).

There are three possible results: a confirmed offer, a wait-list place, or unsuccessful. Some applicants receive offers from more than one school.

THREE OUTCOMES

A confirmed offer reserves a place in that secondary school. The student still has to name the school during the October preference window and obtain a Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) score that qualifies for a posting group the school admits from. MOE's example is a school that offers only Posting Group 3: the student needs a PSLE score of 4 to 22.

A wait-list place may convert if other students with confirmed offers do not take them up. The same October ranking and posting-group tests apply. MOE's page notes that in previous years, about half of the students on schools' wait lists were eventually given a place. That figure is a historical pattern, not a published conversion rate for 2026.

An unsuccessful outcome means there is no DSA-Sec place. Those students take part in Secondary 1 (S1) Posting, if eligible.

OCTOBER PREFERENCE WINDOW

Students with a confirmed offer or a wait-list place may submit up to three school preferences from 9am on Monday (Oct 19) to 4.30pm on Friday (Oct 23), through the DSA-Sec Portal.

MOE's preference page, last updated 24 April 2026, states that only one parent needs to submit, using Singpass on a desktop browser. The child's primary school can submit on a family's behalf in the same window. Instructions also go out by SMS and email from postman.gov.sg.

A family that submits nothing in that window is treated as having withdrawn from DSA-Sec. The student can still apply through S1 Posting at the end of the year, if eligible. Preferences can be updated or withdrawn during the same five-day window.

The application stage itself closed at 4.30pm on Tuesday (Jun 2). Applications opened at 11am on Wednesday (May 6), were free of charge, and allowed up to three choices, with a maximum of two for the same school, MOE said in a 5 May 2026 press release.

That release also set the intake cap: secondary schools and junior colleges may take up to 20 per cent of their non-Integrated Programme Secondary 1 or Junior College 1 intake through DSA.

Crest Secondary School in Jurong East joined the DSA-Sec exercise from 2026, offering football as a talent area. MOE's SchoolFinder lists the 2026 talent area as football (boys). The school admits students eligible for Posting Group 1 or the Posting Group 1/2 option band.



Crest Secondary School in Jurong East joined DSA-Sec from 2026, offering football.
Source: Crest Secondary School.

WHAT A PLACE BINDS

Accepting a DSA-Sec place, whether from a confirmed offer or a wait list that converts, is a commitment to that school and to the chosen talent area.

Students admitted through DSA-Sec cannot submit school choices in S1 Posting and cannot transfer after PSLE results. For the Singapore-Cambridge Secondary Education Certificate (SEC) track, talent-area participation and the school commitment run from Secondary 1 to 4. For the Integrated Programme (IP), talent-area participation runs from Year 1 to Year 4 of the six-year programme, and the school commitment runs for six years, from Year 1 to Year 6.

MOE's 5 May release adds that students seeking an IP place must meet the minimum requirement for Posting Group 3. Students seeking entry to Crest Secondary School must be eligible for Posting Group 1 or the Posting Group 1/2 option band. MOE's outcomes page tests the posting group the school admits from, not the S1 Posting cut-off point.

NOVEMBER ALLOCATION

Final DSA-Sec allocation is released with the PSLE results, tentatively on Tuesday (Nov 24) or Wednesday (Nov 25). Results can be collected from the primary school or the S1 Portal from 11.30am on the day of release. Applicants not in a mainstream primary school receive the outcome by email on the same tentative dates, according to MOE's results page, last updated 20 April 2026.

If an eligibility letter comes with the PSLE results, posting-group and third-language options can be submitted in the S1 window. School choices cannot. If the allocation is unsuccessful, the student joins S1 Posting, if eligible, and may still list most of the schools applied to under DSA-Sec, except specialised independent schools, which do not take part in S1 Posting.

MOE asked families who have changed the residential address on their NRIC to tell the primary school by the end of October, so posting records are current. For a later aptitude-based admissions route, see the [polytechnic Early Admissions Exercise offer rules](#). School-fee support is mapped in the [MOE financial assistance note](#). The next administrative window is 19 to 23 October. The [DSA-Sec Portal and MOE's DSA-Sec pages](#) carry the submission steps.

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