

PEABODY VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ADMISSION POLICY

INNOVATION PATHWAY PROGRAMS

A Branch of *CAREER IN TECHNICAL EDUCATION*

Peabody Veterans Memorial High School, in partnership with the district, family, and community, prepares all students to become lifelong learners, achieve college and career readiness, and contribute positively to society.



PEABODY VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ADMISSION POLICY for INNOVATION PATHWAY

INTRODUCTION

Peabody Veterans Memorial High School's Innovation Pathway Program is a forward-thinking educational framework providing students with a purposeful learning experience designed with a robust academic experience and career education tailored to post-high school endeavors.

The Innovation Pathway Program is Anchored by five guiding principles -

- Equitable Access**
- Guided Academic Pathways**
- Enhanced Student Support**
- Connection to Career**
- Effective Partnerships**

The program requires participants to engage in courses relevant to high-demand industry sectors, with a mandate for two technical and two advanced academic courses, alongside a capstone or externship. The purpose is for students to connect academic learning to real-world industry applications. The program emphasizes hands-on experiences and partnerships with industry employers, creating a dynamic learning environment that prepares students for the demands of the professional world.

I. INITIATION

Peabody Veterans Memorial High School's Innovation Pathway Program extends its offerings to students in grades nine through twelve within the Peabody Public Schools. The initiation of the admission application begins with a comprehensive Exploratory program tailored for ninth-grade students. This program is designed to foster career awareness, conduct student assessments, facilitate educational and career planning, and provide an overview of available Career & Technical Education (CTE) programs, including the Innovation Pathway (IP) offerings.

The exploratory phase enables students to explore various career opportunities, empowering students to make well-informed decisions regarding their chosen pathway and program. Those ninth-grade Exploratory students who opt for the Innovation Pathway embark on their specific pathway education and training in grade ten, following their selection of the preferred Innovation Pathway program.

Students entering ninth through eleventh grades, who express a personal and known interest in a specific Innovation Pathway, may join their selected program as soon as space becomes available in the corresponding pathway courses. However, in cases where space is limited, a lottery system will be invoked.

In maintaining a commitment to fairness and accessibility for all, every applicant for Peabody Veterans Memorial High School's Innovation Pathway programs for grades nine through twelve will undergo a thorough evaluation based on the criteria outlined in this Admission Policy. This robust process is

designed to uphold principles of fairness and transparency, especially when demand for the Innovation Pathway programs surpasses the available space.

II. ADMISSIONS

If Peabody Veterans Memorial High School receives more applications than has available seats then the Peabody Veterans Memorial High School Innovation Pathway Programs will apply selection criteria to determine which students it will admit.

III. EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Peabody Veterans Memorial High School admits students and makes available to them its advantages privileges and courses of study without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability.

If there is a student with limited English proficiency, a qualified staff member from Peabody Veterans Memorial High School will provide an application with the home language, and assist the applicant in completing the necessary forms, and or assisting in interpreting during the entire application and admission process upon the request of the applicant.

Disabled students voluntarily self-identify to request accommodations during the entire application and admission process.

Information on limited English proficiency and/or disability submitted voluntarily by the applicant, to receive assistance and accommodations during the entire application and admission process, will not affect the applicant's admission to the Peabody Veterans Memorial High School IP Programs.

IV. ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility for enrollment in career and technical program pathways at Peabody Veterans Memorial High School extends to all students residing in Peabody, encompassing grades ninth through eleven, contingent upon availability. Our Innovation Pathway is designed to integrate academic and technical programs that adhere to all relevant laws, regulations, and guidelines set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education and the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006.

For incoming ninth-grade students expressing interest in either Career and Technical Education (CTE) or Innovation Pathway (IP) programs, the selection process begins with their indication of the Exploratory course and its corresponding course number on their course selection sheet for Peabody Veterans Memorial High School. These rising ninth graders are subsequently enrolled in the Exploratory program, facilitating a seamless introduction to potential industry-specific pathways.

Moreover, any ninth through eleventh-grade student currently enrolled at Peabody Veterans Memorial High School is eligible to apply for fall admission or admission during the school year. This is subject to the availability of openings in the Innovation Pathway programs at Peabody Veterans Memorial High

School, ensuring ongoing opportunities for students to explore and engage in these highly needed industries and educational pathways

A. Peabody Resident

Any eighth, through eleventh-grade student who is a student at Peabody Veterans Memorial High School is eligible to apply for fall admission or admission during the school year subject to the availability of openings to the Innovation Pathway programs at Peabody Veterans Memorial High School. Resident students will be evaluated using the selection criteria contained in this Admission Policy. Priority for admission is given to Peabody School District residents.

B. Non-Peabody Residents

Students who are not residents of the Peabody School District are eligible to apply for fall admission or admission during the school year provided they expect to be promoted to the grade they seek to enter by their current school. Nonresident students will be evaluated using the selection criteria contained in this Admission Policy.

The superintendent and the district of residence must approve a Non-Peabody Resident for acceptance into an Innovation Pathway program.

C. Transfer Students

Any students in grades nine-eleven who are transferring into Peabody Veterans Memorial High School are eligible to apply for fall admission or admission during the school year to any of Peabody Veterans Memorial High School Innovation Pathway Programs provided they are expected to be promoted to the grade they seek to enter by their current school.

V. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Peabody Veterans Memorial High School is a comprehensive public high school located in Peabody, Massachusetts. The Director of Career and Technical Education is the administrator responsible for the management of Career and Technical Education and Innovation Pathway programs and reports directly to the Principal, Assistant Superintendent, and Superintendent of Schools.

Peabody Veterans Memorial High School Career and Technical Education & Innovation Pathway programs serve students from Peabody. The district contains one middle school (Higgins Middle School), all students from this school are eligible to apply for enrollment into the Exploratory program. The program will allow students to branch off into the Career and Technical Education programs or the Innovation Pathway programs are offered at Peabody Veterans Memorial High School. Students who are in the district and attend private, parochial, and or vocational schools are also eligible to apply for admission to the programs. Students from outside the district are eligible to apply for enrollment into the Innovation Pathway Program in Grades nine through eleven and are accepted following this admission policy and as space is available.

It is the responsibility of the Peabody Veterans Memorial High School Superintendent to supervise the administration of all policies and procedures used to admit and enroll students, consistent with applicable laws, regulations, and guidance in conformity with this Admission Policy.

The Peabody Veterans Memorial High School Career in Technical Education Supervisor/Director is responsible for disseminating information about Peabody Veterans Memorial High School career in technical education and Innovation Pathway programs through local school assemblies and press releases, and for collecting applications from students. The guidance department at the high school is responsible for collecting program (course) selection forms, Exploratory Request, CTE applications, Innovation Pathway applications, and scheduling students.

Peabody Veterans Memorial High School Innovation Pathways is a branch of the Career and Technical Education division from the Peabody Public School District, located in Massachusetts.

The Superintendent of Peabody Public Schools

Josh Vadala Ed. D.

The Assistant Superintendent of Peabody Public Schools

Dr. Kelly Chase

The Principal of Peabody Veterans Memorial High School

Brooke Randall

The Career and Technical Education Director

Shannon Spinosa

Director of Guidance

Diana Finn

VI. APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Rising 9th-grade Students: Two Ways to Apply

- A. Eligible students from Higgins Middle School can register for the Exploratory Program by connecting with their Guidance Counselor in 8th grade. To express their interest in the CTE/Innovation Pathway, students should specify the Exploratory course and its corresponding course number on their course selection sheet.
- B. Alternatively, students may apply for the Innovation Pathway by accessing the online application through the provided link [Innovation Pathway Application](#). The application is available on the Higgins Middle School Main Web page and Peabody Veterans Memorial High School Web page under the Innovation Pathway tab: <https://peabody.k12.ma.us>.
The deadline for application submission is March 17th of the current school year. If there is available space in the chosen Innovation Pathway courses, students will indicate their preference for course enrollment. In cases where space is limited, names will be added to the waitlist, and students will be provided an opportunity to join the Exploratory Program.

2. Tenth through Eleventh-Grade Students:

Students interested in joining the Innovation Pathway programs for fall or current-year admission in tenth through eleventh grade must complete the online application. The application link can be accessed through the Peabody Veterans Memorial High School Web page under the Innovation Pathway tab: <https://peabody.k12.ma.us>. Current PVMHS students may see a guidance counselor to complete the application and adjust their course of study.

3. Application Information Assistance:

Students, parents, or guardians seeking application information for either the Exploratory or Innovation Pathway programs at PVMHS can request a meeting with the guidance department or the CTE Director. Support will be provided to assist in the completion of the application and obtain additional information about the various career and pathway education programs available.

LATE APPLICATIONS

Applications received after the designated deadline of March 17th will be placed in rank order in which they have been received.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Applications from students who are enrolling in Peabody Veterans Memorial High School will be considered for admission if they relocate to Peabody, and complete the Innovation Pathway Applications, before the designated deadline of March 17th. Students will be placed in rank order in which they have been received.

WITHDRAWN STUDENTS

Students who withdraw from Peabody Veterans Memorial High Schools Innovation Pathway Programs and who are attending or not attending another high school may reapply following the procedures contained in this Admissions Policy and will be placed in rank order in which the application was received.

NON-RESIDENT STUDENT

A nonresident student desiring admission to Peabody Veterans Memorial High School's Innovation Pathway in grades nine through eleven must adhere to the admission process specified in this Admission Policy. Furthermore, students who initially enroll as residents of Peabody but subsequently relocate outside the district during their enrollment period may request to continue attending Peabody Veterans Memorial High School as nonresidents. Approval for such a request is contingent upon obtaining consent from the Superintendent of the student's District of Residence

PEABODY VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL 10-11th-GRADE STUDENTS

Students who enroll in Peabody Veterans Memorial High School Innovation Pathways after

grade nine must adhere to obtaining an appropriate number of credits for graduation and complete all program criteria for certification and or licensure. Students will be accepted into a Innovation Pathway program based on space availability. Students must complete the application process to be considered a candidate for program admission. Students must be advised if completion of the program criteria is not obtained, certifications and licensures are not guaranteed.

VII. SELECTION CRITERIA

1. When more students apply to Peabody Veterans Memorial High School **Exploratory Program** PVMHS uses a non-weighted Lottery System.
 - a. The Application will be made **available** online under the [Career & Technical Programs tab](#), and through the Higgins Middle School Guidance Councilor by **November 1 of the current school year**
 - b. Application **deadline** to be entered into the lottery: **March 1** of the current school year. Applications received by March 1 will be entered into the lottery.
 - c. **Lottery drawing:** Will be the **week of April 25 (for rising 9th graders)**. Date TBD *if more Applicants then seats are available*
 - d. Applications received after March 1 may only be considered if additional seats become available.

2. Student applicants seeking **direct admission** into the Innovation Pathway program in grades nine through eleven will be granted placement, contingent upon application. Additionally, successful admission is subject to the student's capacity to earn the necessary credits for graduation and fulfill all program criteria for certification and or licensure

A waitlist will be maintained by the Career & Technical Education Director and or Guidance Department for oversubscribed programs or course offerings. The waitlist is valid for the current school year.

VIII. EXPLORATORY

Because Peabody Veterans Memorial High School offers 5 or more Chapter 74 state-approved programs, and Innovation Pathway programs, PVMHS provides a full-year Exploratory program for 9th-grade students

Exploratory students begin their journey into the Career and Technical Education & Innovation Pathway program by enrolling in the Exploratory course. In this course, they have the opportunity to assess their interest and abilities. Throughout this period, which spans from September to April, students will delve into all career pathway programs available at PVMHS. They will follow a structured schedule, rotating through each program. Students who choose to enter the Innovation Pathway will declare this on their final career pathway choice and complete the application.

From April to June, students will have the chance to dive even deeper into their ultimate program choice.

Throughout the exploratory year, students will actively engage in career planning. They will complete online career assessment evaluations to identify their unique talents and interests. Moreover, they will start to craft their professional portfolio. Students will also attend career seminars designed to inform them about various career opportunities. As part of this process, each student will write reflective pieces based on their experience after each Exploratory rotation. These reflections will be valuable resources for students when they decide on a chosen career path

Students will participate in selecting their top 3 Career and Technical Education or Innovation Pathway program placement choices in two stages.

- a. ***Program Interest:*** After exploring the **first half of all programs offered at Peabody Veterans Memorial High School** students will identify the top three programs they are most interested in.
- b. ***Final Program Selection:*** After exploring all **remaining programs** students will identify their top three programs in which they have found a career path interest. Before completing the final selection parents/guardians are strongly encouraged to have an open discussion with their student on the final program selection.
- c. ***Identifying Innovation Pathway Program:*** Students identifying an Innovation Pathway as their final choice will complete the Innovation Pathway Application.

IX. INNOVATION PATHWAY PROGRAM-SPECIFIC ADMISSION

EXPLORATORY STUDENT SELECTION PROCESS

Students identify an Innovation Pathway as their final choice after completing the Exploratory program will complete the Innovation Pathway Application, from their Final Exploratory Choice Selection and then begin choosing courses that correlate with their business interest.

Exploratory students will be notified of placements/status before the fourth quarter of that school year. (In or around April)

LOTTERY SYSTEM

If the number of Innovation Pathway placement requests exceeds the number of spots. A lottery system will occur and all names will be chosen randomly by a designated administrator. Students are notified by email of either their placement offer or their waitlist number on or before the start of the fourth quarter.

Students who were not admitted and placed on a waiting list will be counseled and provided with an opportunity to enter into another available program while on the waiting list.

Students on the waiting list will be notified as openings occur and remain on the waitlist for one school year. The following March of the next school year, students should reapply.

PVMHS 9th GRADE NON_EXPLORATORY STUDENTS :

Students who are enrolled in the 8th grade who wish not to participate in the Exploratory class, but have a high interest in the offered Innovation Pathway program may apply directly to the Innovation Pathway. Based on program availability, students will be placed as a ninth grader into specific pathway courses. Additionally, a waiting list will be maintained by the Career and Technical Education Director and Guidance Department for programs where there are more applications than available program spots. This waiting list is valid for the current school year and will be accessed in the 4th quarter of the school year, offering students placement if space is available.

Students on the waiting list will be notified as openings occur and remain on the waitlist for one school year. The following March of the next school year, students should reapply.

PVMHS 10th AND 11th-GRADE STUDENTS:

Students who are enrolled in Peabody Public Schools in the tenth or eleventh grade will be placed in their selected program based on program availability, the student's ability to earn the necessary graduation credits, and the completion of all requirements for certification and licensure. Additionally, a waiting list will be maintained by the Career and Technical Education Director and Guidance Department for programs where there are more applications than available program spots. This waiting list is valid for the current school year.

Students on the waiting list will be notified as openings occur and remain on the waitlist for one school year. The following March of the next school year students should reapply.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Students who wish to transfer from one shop to another may apply for this transfer. Transfer requests will be considered, subject to the availability of openings in the requested shops. Each transfer applicant will be interviewed and counseled individually to determine the appropriateness of the transfer for the particular student.

X. REVIEW AND APPEALS

If Peabody Veterans Memorial High School does not accept an applicant or places them on a waitlist, the applicant or their parent/guardian may request that the Superintendent and or the Principal of Peabody Veterans Memorial High School review the decision by sending a letter. PVMHS will respond in writing to the letter with the findings of the review within thirty days of receiving the request.

If after a review, the parent/guardian wishes to appeal the findings of the review they may do so by sending a letter requesting that they be scheduled to appear before the Superintendent and or School Committee to appeal the findings.

The Superintendent and or School Committee will respond in writing to the parent/guardian with a scheduled date for the appeal within thirty days of the receipt of the letter.

The Superintendent and or School Committee will respond in writing to the letter with their decision on the appeal within thirty days of the meeting when the appeal is presented.

Non-Discrimination Policy: Peabody Public Schools does not discriminate based on race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, homelessness status, national origin, or handicap, in its educational activities or employment practices as required by Title IX of the 1972 Federal Education Amendments, Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act, and by Chapter 62 of the General Laws for the State of Massachusetts.

XI. ACCEPTANCE

All Students accepted into the Innovation Pathway Program will have the opportunity to choose which technical and Advanced Practice courses that they are most interested in.

XII. EXIT INNOVATION PATHWAY

Students enrolled in the Innovation Pathway program may conclude their participation in the following three ways:

A. Successful Completion at the End of 12th Grade:

The primary and intended exit point for students in the Innovation Pathway program is through successful completion at the conclusion of their 12th-grade year. This signifies that the student has met all the academic requirements and criteria outlined by the program. To ensure success for each student in the pathway, ongoing academic support, career guidance, and mentorship opportunities should be in place throughout their high school journey.

B. Transfer Out of the Peabody Public Schools Due to Family Relocation:

A student and their family relocate outside the Peabody Public Schools district. In such cases, the student may transfer out of the Innovation Pathway program, and potentially, out of Peabody Public

Schools, based on the family's relocation needs. To maintain the success of students facing this transition, collaboration between schools and a seamless transfer of academic records and progress reports can facilitate a smooth continuation of their educational journey.

C. Withdrawal from the Program with Parental Request and Exit Interview:

Student withdrawal should be initiated by a parental signed written request. Additionally, a crucial step in this process is a student exit interview with the Guidance Counselor. The interview provides an opportunity to discuss the reasons for the withdrawal, gather feedback, and ensure a smooth transition for the student. Implementing exit interview best practices and offering post-withdrawal support can help address any challenges the student may face and guide them toward alternative pathways for success.

Each of these exit pathways is designed to accommodate various circumstances while ensuring that the departure process is well-documented, supportive, and aligned with the overall goals of the student and the Innovation Pathway program. Ongoing support mechanisms, both academically and personally, should be in place to maximize the success and well-being of each student throughout their educational journey.

XIII. ADMISSION EXPECTATION

Students entering the Innovation Pathway Program will embark on a comprehensive educational journey to hone their skills and knowledge within a specific profession. As part of the program requirements students will complete:

1. **Minimum of (2) Technical Courses** within their chosen pathway, equipping them with specialized expertise in their chosen profession
2. **Minimum of (2) Advanced Practice Courses (AP)** within their chosen pathway, enriching their academic knowledge and preparing them for advanced challenges.
3. Senior Year, all students must take either a **Capstone course or an Externship course**, culminating their learning with real-world application and experience that solidifies understanding and readiness for future endeavors

The Innovation Pathway approach promotes academic success and allows students to develop transferable practical skills crucial for career and college pursuits.

Innovation Pathways

A. Business & Financing

a. Technical Courses

- i. Business Marketing **1210**
- ii. Business Application **0674**
- iii. Business Apparel **0611**
- iv. Business Management & Financing **0673**
- v. Business Accounting **0672**

b. Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

- i. STATS: (MATH) **0220**

- ii. PSYCHOLOGY (SS) **0132**
- iii. **Computer Science (Math) 0241**
- iv. Economics (SS) **0129** Micro & Macro

Pending APPROVED BY SCHOOL COMMITTEE FOR ADMISSION on Oct 28,2025

Peabody Veterans Memorial High School (PVMHS) offers an **Innovation Pathway (IP) Program** to students in grades **9 through 12** within the Peabody Public Schools. The program is designed to connect academic learning with real-world experiences, equipping students with the technical, professional, and academic skills needed for college and career success.

Two Ways for Admission into IP program

1. Direct Admission

Students entering **grades 9 through 11** who have a clear interest in a specific **Innovation Pathway** may apply for **direct admission** into the pathway. Admission is based on available space, the student's ability to meet graduation requirements, and commitment to completing all Innovation Pathway components. Students apply by completing the Innovation Pathway application and selecting the specific **pathway courses** they wish to take within that career field.

Each student will complete

A minimum of two (2) Technical Courses within their chosen pathway to build foundational industry skills.

A minimum of two (2) Advanced Practice (AP) Courses to deepen academic knowledge and prepare for college-level work.

A Capstone or Externship Course during senior year that provides real-world application through project-based learning or professional experience.

2. Exploratory Process

Students entering **PVMHS as ninth graders** who wish to explore career possibilities may apply for the **CTE/IP Career Exploration**. This exploratory experience allows students to rotate through and explore **six Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs** and **one Innovation Pathway (IP) program**, including: **Cosmetology, Public Services: Criminal Justice, Culinary & Baking Arts, Medical Assisting, Electronic Engineering, Early Childhood Education, and Innovation Pathway: Business and Finance**

All rising 9th-grade students who are **residents of the City of Peabody** are eligible to apply.

Application Process:

- Application Available: No later than November 1 under the *Career & Technical Programs* tab on the PVMHS website and through the Higgins Middle School Guidance Department.
- Application Deadline: March 1 of the current school year.
- Proof of Residence: Applicants must submit proof of Peabody residency to the Central Office through ASPEN before being entered into the lottery.

Lottery Process:

- Applications received by the published deadline will be entered into the CTE Lottery.
- If the number of applicants exceeds available seats, a non-weighted lottery system will be conducted in a public virtual space on a date to be announced.
- All applicants' names are entered once, and names are drawn randomly.
- Applications received after March 1 will be considered only if additional seats become available.

Business & Financing Innovation Pathway Course List

Technical Courses:

- Business Marketing (1210)
- Business Application (0674)
- Business Apparel (0611)
- Business Management & Financing (0673)
- Business Accounting (0672)

- CAPSTONE/SENIOR or EXTERNSHIP/SENIOR

Advanced Practice (AP) Courses:

- AP Statistics (Math 0220)
- AP Psychology (Social Studies 0132)
- AP Computer Science (Math 0241)
- AP Economics – Micro & Macro (Social Studies 0129)