MARYLAND SUMMER CENTERS FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

Summer Programs in the Fine and Performing Arts, Environmental Science, Technology, Computer Science, Space Science, Physics, Engineering, World Languages, Creative Writing, Biotechnology/Forensic Science, and Digital Filmmaking

Financial Assistance is available.

Online applications should be completed by April 17, as Centers fill quickly! (Fine and Performing Arts Center has an earlier deadline because of live auditions.)

Spanish materials are available. Call 410-767-0821.

www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters
Map of the 2015 Maryland Summer Centers for Gifted and Talented Students: Challenging Students Across the State

Maryland Summer Centers information, Center descriptions, LINK TO NEW ONLINE REGISTRATION, and videos are available through the website:

www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters
# The Maryland Summer Centers for Gifted and Talented Students

## Gifted and Talented Education in Maryland

## Facts At A Glance

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* Refer to the numbered map of Maryland on the previous page for approximate location of the Center.

✓ Variety of sessions within time frame

Online applications should be completed before the end of April for guaranteed consideration. All applications completed after this date will be considered on a space availability basis.

**NOTE:** Application deadlines for Arts Center are earlier to allow for auditions.
In 1994, The Maryland Gifted and Talented Education Task Force submitted to the State Board of Education its report entitled “Renewing Our Commitment to the Education of Gifted and Talented Students: An Essential Component of Educational Reform.” This report reaffirmed the right of all students to an education responsive to their needs. For gifted and talented students, this means opportunities to learn at a different level, depth, and pace.

Maryland law defines a gifted and talented child as “an elementary or secondary student who is identified by professionally qualified individuals as:

(1) having outstanding talent and performing, or showing the potential for performing, at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared with other students of a similar age, experience, or environment; (2) exhibiting high performance capability in intellectual, creative, or artistic areas; (3) possessing an unusual leadership capacity; or (4) excelling in specific academic fields.” A gifted and talented child needs different services beyond those normally provided by the regular school in order to develop his/her potential. These educational services for gifted and talented students are locally selected and implemented. Currently, the state enhances the services provided by local boards of education through the availability of program technical assistance.

The 2015 Maryland Summer Centers program continues a 48-year commitment at the state level to provide summer educational opportunities for Maryland’s gifted and talented students. The Maryland Summer Centers program, in partnership with public and non public agencies, provides Maryland’s diverse gifted and talented student population with advanced, rigorous, experiential learning opportunities that nurture these students’ talents and abilities within unique learning environments. We believe:

• that Maryland Summer Centers instructors must possess specialized knowledge, skills, and dispositions in order to maximize the potential of gifted and talented students;

• that the interaction of Maryland Summer Centers students with experts, using the tools, techniques, and technology of professionals in a given field, is a life-changing experience that inspires students to develop intense interests and possible career pursuits;

• that students’ use of creative and critical thinking and problem-solving to confront real-world challenges results in gratifying personal growth and increased awareness of civic responsibility.

Parental commitment remains a key factor in the success of gifted and talented children. Parent advocacy and support groups such as the statewide Maryland Coalition for Gifted and Talented Education (MC-GATE) assist in obtaining information and resources to advocate for appropriate services for gifted children.

We look forward to having your children attend the Maryland Summer Centers program this summer. Thank you for your interest, support, and your commitment to Gifted and Talented education in Maryland.

The Maryland Summer Centers for Gifted and Talented Students program is sponsored by the Maryland State Department of Education.
FACTS AT A GLANCE

• The Goal of the Maryland Summer Centers is to provide opportunities for Maryland’s gifted and talented students to work with like-minded peers in an area of ability and interest. Many participants have reported these programs to be a life-changing experience, meeting for the first time others with interests and abilities like their own and forming lasting friendships.

• All principal instructors are certified teachers or experts in their field of study. Teaching Assistants are generally college students majoring in the content offered by the Center.

• Financial Assistance is available to qualified students. See page 23 or the online application.

• If your child’s school does not identify students as Gifted and Talented, your child should still apply. There will be ample opportunity to demonstrate outstanding ability through the Maryland Summer Centers application process.

• Transportation is the responsibility of the parent/guardian. However, the Center’s contact person may assist you in arranging a car pool.

• If applying to more than one Center, you will simply enter all Centers in the online application.

• If your child attends a private or parochial school, follow the online or paper application process.

• Upon notification of your child’s acceptance into the program, you will be asked to complete detailed medical information. The certified nurse who is on staff at each Center will carefully review this information. All Centers have provisions for medical and emergency care during the time students are on campus or involved in Center-related activities.

• Students are supervised at all times during the Center’s instructional, recreational, social and cultural activities. Residential Assistants supervise small groups of no more than 15 students in the dormitories for Residential Centers.

• If you home school your child, follow the directions in the online application or notify the contact person at the Center to which you wish to apply to receive specific directions for the paper-application process.

• If your child attended a Maryland Summer Center in the past, he or she may reapply. However, in the event that a Center has an abundance of equally qualified candidates, priority will be given to applicants who have never had the opportunity to attend a Summer Center.

• Students are selected based upon various data sources requested in the application process. (See pages 20 - 25.) Applications are reviewed by professionals chosen for their expertise in an instructional area, as well as their understanding of the characteristics of gifted and talented students.

• The NEW ONLINE APPLICATION process is designed to speed-up and make the entire application process easier for parents/guardians, students, schools, and Center staff members. This system provides parents/guardians the ability to apply for multiple students, upload financial information (if you are applying for financial assistance), send electronic requests to schools, teachers, principals, etc. for recommendations, test scores, or any other required information. There are no more forms to fill-out by hand and mail. All you need is the information that you provide, and a computer with internet access. ASK FOR HELP AT YOUR CHILD’S SCHOOL OR A PUBLIC LIBRARY, IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A COMPUTER. Go to marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters and you will follow the link to the application. If you intend to apply for financial assistance, you will need to have a copy of the first page of your 2014 FEDERAL TAX FORM (1040 or 1040 EZ). Your child should also prepare an essay of LESS THAN 500 WORDS, following the directions on page 21 of this packet. The essay MUST be uploaded into the online application in PDF format.

• Letters of notification are mailed in May.
NOTE: Applicants to the Center for Fine and Performing Arts at Salisbury University must audition/interview for all courses. Call or email MSCA Director Robert Smith to arrange for an audition. 410-548-4777 - msca@salisbury.edu Applicants are encouraged to audition/interview for two different courses as some courses are competitive or may not be offered if enrollment is not adequate.

Field trips, workshops, performances by guest artists and state-of-the-art facilities — including professional rehearsal, production, and performance spaces — enhance the learning experience.

Section #1: Orchestra
Exceptional string, wind, brass, and percussion students will explore intricacies of musical interpretation and performance. Experience will be provided in individual, small ensemble, and large group settings. Emphasis is on concepts, skills, and aesthetic/creative awareness. The final organization of the group will depend on the experience and expertise of the applicants.

Section #2: Musical Theatre Performance
Talented vocalists will develop skills by exploring a variety of musical theatre dimensions such as characterizing a song, movement and choreography as well as the evolution of musical theatre as an art form. Students will perform individually, in duets/trios, and collaborate on staging large musical theatre selections.

Section #3: Acting
Explore the fundamentals of acting and your own creative processes. Emphasis is on the creative performance process through monologues, scenes and improvisational techniques. Gain experience with character/scene analysis, stage movement, stage combat and creative collaboration with other artists. Opportunities to write your own monologues and scenes will also be provided. Superior students will be given the opportunity for advanced study apart from beginning students.

Section #4: Integrated Visual Arts Studio
Students interested in visual arts have the opportunity to explore a variety of media including drawing/painting, 3D and glass making, and silkscreening/printmaking. Student artists will train in a variety of areas but will be allowed to pursue a major project in a particular medium. Participants will collaborate in organizing and presenting a showing of their best work in a gallery setting. Superior student artists will be given an opportunity to participate in a specialized mixed-media studio setting.

Section #5: Digital Filmmaking
If you are interested in watching movies and TV, how about making the programs you watch? Learn how to create videos and short films in this hands-on class about video filmmaking. From shooting to editing, video production takes you behind the scenes and offers the opportunity to create original music videos, short films and documentaries. Learn about digital cameras, digital editing, studios, and working with actors.

Section #6: Creative Writing
Imagination, creativity and words create a world. Explore and create works of fiction and poetry, study professional examples and discover the techniques, models, strategies and conventions used by professional writers. Find your voice!
Instructions for On-Site Auditions and Interviews
To be considered for selection, students must complete an audition and interview for each course selection. Two auditions/interview sessions are scheduled:

Saturday, April 18
Franklin Middle School
10 Cockeysmill Road
Reisterstown, MD 21136

OR

Saturday, April 25
Salisbury University Fulton Hall Lobby
1101 Camden Avenue
Salisbury, MD 21801-6860

You must contact the Center Director at 410-548-4777 Ext. 2 to arrange for an audition.

Orchestra students must bring their own music and instruments for the audition. Orchestra students should prepare a three-minute selection using standard audition procedures, including sight-reading and major and chromatic scales. Orchestra applicants should seek the help of their school or private instructors when choosing solos and preparing for the audition. Accompaniment should not be used.

Musical Theatre Performance students should prepare a piece from a Broadway musical which does not exceed three minutes. Students should bring their own music; an accompanist will be provided. Students will also be tested for vocal range and sight-singing ability.

Acting students should perform a monologue, which must be memorized, from a published play or other piece of literature for no longer than two minutes. You are encouraged to choose material appropriate to your age level. Musical selections and material from films or television are not acceptable. Students may also be asked to perform an improvisation or other exercise.

Digital Filmmaking students will be interviewed and should be prepared to discuss their interests and experience. Students may bring sample tapes, DVDs, drawings, designs or plots (not required).

Creative Writing students should submit three (3) poems or one short story of no less than three pages, or a combination of both. Include a paragraph introducing yourself with a brief history of your writing life, and why you would like to participate in the program. Applicants will be interviewed, and should be prepared to discuss their writing interests.

Contact Person:
Robert Smith, Director,
Maryland Summer Center for the Fine and Performing Arts
Salisbury University
1101 Camden Avenue
Salisbury, MD 21801-6860
410-548-4777, Ext. 2
Email: msca@salisbury.edu
Please visit www.salisbury.edu/msca for more information.
Have you ever dreamed of seeing your short story, play, or poem in print? Of hearing readers of your words laugh with delight or of seeing their eyes fill with tears? Have you wished that you could argue your ideas so convincingly that you change people’s minds? This is the focus of the Dixon Center for Creative Writing: you will have the opportunity to become an author among authors as you spend nine days at the Center at Washington College discussing published masters of style, responding to pieces in progress, and composing your own written works. Learn the power of the written word: to explore, to express, to persuade, as you hone your craft on state-of-the-art computers. Be inspired and coached by creative writing teachers and authors as they share their expertise with you.

You will spend almost two weeks writing, reading, and discussing on the beautiful campus at Washington College, among the nation’s leading liberal arts institutions, located on the scenic Chester River on Maryland’s Eastern Shore. Washington College, nationally renowned for its creative writing courses, was founded in 1782, the first college in the new nation - an appropriate setting for inspiration and aspiring writers. As you experiment with choices in diction, syntax, structure, character, and tone, you will develop your own unique style. On the final day of the Dixon Center for Creative Writing, you will share your writing and experiences with an audience of your parents/guardians, college professors, and business professionals at a celebration. “Writing,” says Marie de L’Incarnation, “teaches us our mysteries.” Come discover the mysteries around you and within you through creative writing.

**Six Pillars of Character**

- Trustworthiness
- Fairness
- Caring
- Citizenship
- Respect
- Responsibility

*The Josephson Institute Center for Youth Ethics*

**Contact Person:**

Marianne Hickman  
Dixon Valve and Coupling Company  
800 High Street  
Chestertown, MD 21620  
443-282-2034  
Email: mhickman@dixonvalve.com
Learn a new way to be creative through computer programming. Using the medium of computer languages, participants will become the architects of their own virtual worlds. Students will create animations using visual objects and straightforward commands that make programming easier to understand.

Students will exercise their creativity, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills while designing a final project to present at the conclusion of the session. The skills they develop provide a useful foundation for learning more advanced programming in languages such as Java, C++, and Python. Students will also learn valuable processes essential to programming. This includes everything from the software development cycle to “CamelCase.” The program also emphasizes critical executive function skills such as project management, collaboration, and communication.

Housed at the Community College of Baltimore County Essex Campus, students will get the college experience in state of the art computer labs. The two-week experience will emphasize Internet safety and highlight the exciting careers in Computer Science and Cyber-security.

Contact Person:
Karena Curtis
Baltimore County Public Schools
Office of Science PreK-12
105 W. Chesapeake Ave., 3rd Floor Towson, Maryland 21204
410-887-2063
Email: kcurtis@bcps.org
Are you interested in robots and wireless sensor networks? Would you like to build an intelligent system of robots that can be programmed and communicates to do different operations? Look into the future as you design your very own robot for a real world application. You will define the needs based on an actual situation and use your creativity, passion, and interest to build it. Have fun with your peers and enjoy the success when you present your design to your parents and guests.

Come join us for a week at Frostburg State University’s brand new Compton Science Center. You will learn how to program real robots and build your own mobile robot. You will visit the engineering and physics labs and discuss career paths in engineering and science with professors working in various fields.

The FSU campus is located in the beautiful mountains of Western Maryland and is conveniently accessible from I-68. Our modern campus includes air-conditioned dormitory rooms where you will stay, a contemporary student center with game room and large screen television, and a physical education complex with facilities for racketball, basketball, weight room, tennis, and swimming.

**LOCATION:** Frostburg State University, Frostburg, Maryland Allegany County

**ENTERING GRADES:** 9 - 12

**TYPE:** Residential

**DATES OF OPERATION:** June 20-25

**TUITION:** $550 for a six-day (Saturday - Thursday) residential program

Contact Person:
Wendy Miller
Center for Future Engineers: Robotics Design Frostburg State University
Department of Physics and Engineering 123 Compton Science Center
Frostburg, MD 21532
301-687-4298
Fax: 301-687-7966
Email: wmiller@frostburg.edu
Website: www.msc-robotics.net

Funded by Northrop Grumman and the Maryland Space Business Roundtable
Come experience the world of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) at the Center for Space Engineering: Robotics! Selected participants will design, build, and test robots that use sensors to conduct missions. In small engineering teams, participants will explore the process of brainstorming, collaborating, and implementing various levels of robotic challenges in order to search for simulated lunar ice. During the investigation, small groups will design and build a variety of robots for testing on simulated moon surfaces. In addition, participants will also have access to the Challenger Learning Center, NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center’s Science on a Sphere, and the Planetarium. Lastly, the opportunity to interact with an astronaut, engineers and other science-related professionals is available while learning about cutting edge STEM careers and participating in space engineering-based field trips.

The ten-day experience will integrate technology, inquiry, and hands-on opportunities for all participants. A culminating presentation will feature the space engineering accomplishments of the teams. Families will be invited to experience the guest speaker, as well as the participant presentations.

The Howard B. Owens Science Center is a public school facility owned and operated by Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS). The Center is located on Greenbelt Road in Lanham, Maryland, near the NASA Robert Goddard Space Flight Center, Duval High, and Catherine T. Reed Elementary Schools.

Contact Person:
Traketa Wray
Howard B. Owens Science Center
9601 Greenbelt Road
Lanham, Maryland 20706
301-918-8750
Fax: (301) 918-8753
Email:traketa.wray@pgcps.org
Do you love science and mathematics? Do you love physics? Would you like to use what you have learned in science classes to help make our world a more beautiful and cleaner place? Come and join us for a week of study and research on wind and solar energy. The Maryland Summer Center for the Physics of Solar and Wind Power will focus on mathematical modeling of energy available from sunshine and moving air.

We will begin with electric circuit experiments for you to expand your knowledge of electricity, power, and energy. You will use “Snap Circuits” to learn basic physical principles of voltage, current, power, and energy. You will work with miniature solar panels and a model windmill to learn the fundamentals of conversion of sunlight and wind power to electricity. Then you’ll set up a model house with the windmill and solar panels to study how these basic principles are applied to the residential use of renewable energy.

You’ll use the results of the measurements from your model house to make predictions about how much power can be produced by full-size solar panels and a windmill attached to a real house. You’ll compare your predictions with actual data from a solar and wind equipped house on the Frostburg State University campus. The sophisticated laboratory technology to be used includes computer-assisted data collection and analysis, a 40-foot wind tunnel, and the fully instrumented WiSE hybrid solar-wind electrical system. By doing research on the economics of electric power production and solar panels and windmills, you’ll finally prepare arguments in favor of or opposing the use of solar and wind power as a source of energy for typical houses.

This Summer Center emphasizes hands-on learning and research activities. The five one-day sessions include electric circuit analysis with graphing exercises using graph paper, a computer spreadsheet, and computer-assisted data collection software; experimenting with solar cells under controlled light sources and a small windmill in a wind tunnel; scaling the results from the laboratory measurements up to a residential-size solar array and wind turbine, and analyzing data from an actual residential solar and wind power installation. All the activities will be conducted by the students, with the help of the physics/engineering professors at Frostburg State University.

At the end of the week, the students will present their research results to predict the economic and environmental value of solar panels and windmills.

The program is designed for gifted and talented students in middle school (entering grade 7 through entering grade 9).

**Contact Person:**
Hang Deng-Luzader  
Department of Physics/Engineering  
Frostburg State University  
104 Compton Science Center  
Frostburg, MD 21532  
301-687-4385  
Fax: 301-687-7966  
Email: hluzader@frostburg.edu
BALTIMORE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE CENTER FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY AND FORENSIC SCIENCE
Funded by Baltimore City Community College

Did you know that scientists help to solve most crimes? If you attend the BCCC Center for Biotechnology and Forensic Science, you will follow evidence, perform analysis on DNA, and solve a variety of mysteries just like the professionals.

Baltimore City Community College (BCCC) offers a one-week summer center for 8th- and 9th-Grade gifted and talented students in Maryland. The primary goal of the workshop is to ignite student interest in scientific careers. The students will work in a state-of-the-art laboratory environment learning fundamental biotechnology concepts & techniques to solve forensic mysteries. The workshop will be conducted in a unique model where students and college community student aides work in teams. The experience will advance higher level thinking and scientific presentation skills. It will culminate with an event inviting parents to share the experience.

On Saturday, there will be a closing session with parents and guardians invited to tour the facility, hear culminating presentations by their children, work side-by-side with their child in a laboratory activity, and share an award luncheon with the staff and guests.

LOCATION:
Baltimore City Community College
BioPark Campus, 2nd Floor
801 W. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

ENTERING GRADES: 8 - 9

TYPE: Nonresidential

DATES OF OPERATION: June 22 - 27

TUITION: $175 for a one-week nonresidential program

Greater Baltimore-Washington Biotechnology Corridor at University of Maryland BioPark (UM BioPark). Since 2004, UM BioPark has successfully generated 710 new jobs and more than $200 million in capital investment in new technologies, fostering research endeavors and start-up companies. This and similar ventures have created growing opportunities for research and employment that will only fall to those with biotechnology skills and education.

Contact Person:
José L. Barata, Coordinator
Science Resource Learning Center
Life Science Building, Room 321
Baltimore City Community College
2901 Liberty Heights Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
410-462-8332
Fax: 410-462-4647
Email: jbarata@bccc.edu
Work alongside scientists at one of the premier marine research facilities in the world to collect and analyze data pertaining to the management of the Chesapeake Bay’s natural resources. You will live and work on the beautiful 850-acre campus of Horn Point Environmental Laboratory, situated in the woodlands and marshes of the shores of the Choptank River, eight nautical miles from the Chesapeake Bay. Horn Point has dormitories, a wet lab, museum, and a cafeteria multipurpose center.

Students will collect and analyze real world data to determine the effects of physical, chemical, biological, and human influences on the Chesapeake Bay. Using the IEEIA (Investigating and Evaluating Environmental Issues and Actions) model of instruction, students will choose an environmental area to study, and with their small groups, interview stakeholders and conduct research and experiments.

Students will be given the opportunity to work alongside scientists to make predictions and recommendations on management of natural resources. Knowledge gained through data interpretation, library and Internet research, and communication with members within the scientific community during the Summer Center program.

After completion of the issue analysis, students design a presentation that will be shared with family and community stakeholders at the end of Center celebration.

Contact:
Email: msc.ee.coordinator@gmail.com

“I believe that the Honeywell Institute for Ecosystems Education at Horn Point is a wonderful summer program for gifted and talented students. It combines education and fun, while having the opportunity to bond with other GT students from all over the state."

— MSC student, 2013
The Maryland Summer Center for Global Languages offers gifted and talented students a challenging and exciting language experience and an opportunity to explore many aspects of cultures and civilizations far more ancient than those of the United States. The Center offers a rigorous, exciting, hands-on, engaging cultural experience in the context of creating cultural understanding and knowledge of language. Students may choose to study Chinese or Arabic. During the two weeks of the Center, students will learn where Chinese or Arabic are spoken and will use their chosen language to exchange greetings and personal information with others. Through these activities, students will meet some of the communication and cultural objectives of the Maryland State Curriculum for World Language. At the conclusion of the Summer Center, students will have the opportunity to apply many newly learned language skills as they showcase final projects. Take advantage of this unique opportunity to explore other parts of our world!

Section #1: Arabic Studies
The excitement and global importance of the Arabic language and culture come alive in this hands-on communicatively rich language experience. In light of an increasingly globalized world, we encourage language students to develop linguistic competencies in more than one world language. Developing communication skills in Arabic will challenge and encourage students intellectual and critical-thinking. Since most or all of the students will have had little or no prior exposure to a second language, this experience with the Arabic language and culture will encourage students to explore interdisciplinary connections to the economic, political, and cultural situations of the world. Students will enjoy exposure to STEM concepts in Arabic which will help them to infuse science, technology, engineering and mathematics alongside language and the arts. Students will take part in virtual travel to geographic places of interest where Arabic is spoken. This will further enable students to learn about the economic, arts, and topography of various Arabic-speaking countries. Lessons will be enriched through visiting consultants focusing on authentic fine arts of the Arabic world.

Section #2: Chinese Studies
Learn to speak Chinese. Greet friends and strangers and talk about family in Chinese. Students will throw away the calculator and master the use of an abacus as they learn to count from 1 to 31 in Chinese. Enter the world of Chinese inventions. It was the Chinese military who were first to use kites. It was the invention of gunpowder by the Chinese that led to inventions such as rockets. Today’s electronic navigation systems have their roots in the Chinese-invented compass. What about the Chinese calendar? Students will find out the year they were born according to the Chinese calendar. They will practice Chinese painting and calligraphy, play Chinese games, learn a Tai Chi routine, sing Chinese children’s songs, and use chopsticks with skill so that they can sample real Chinese food.

French and Spanish
French and Spanish are also available through the Anne Arundel County Public Schools.

Contact Person:
Jennifer Hernandez
Office of World and Classical Languages
Anne Arundel County Public Schools
410-224-5424
Fax: 410-222-5469
Email: jhernandez@aacps.org
What To Do If I Do Not Have A Computer, Internet Access, Or Have Any Other Problems With The Online Application Process:

Our move to a completely online registration has been a slow and overdue process. The Maryland Summer Centers for Gifted and Talented Students must reflect the changes that our society and students are going through every day. At the same time, we realize that some of the students and families for whom we are working hardest to provided services and support might not have the proper technology, Internet connectivity, or a valid email address to complete our new online application. We DO NOT want to lose those students. We need to be sensitive to your needs.

Please read through this page to find our suggestions as to how you can still register your child for one or more of our Centers. If you are still having trouble, please contact the Center Director or Contact person who is listed for the Center to which you want to apply. Do not get frustrated or give up. We want your child to have the support that they need and to have the same incredible experiences that thousands of other Gifted and Talented students have had over the past 48 years!

1) Go to your school and ask a Teacher, Counselor, Administrator to help your get information about the Centers and to get online to complete the application.

2) Go to the Public Library and ask for help--Libraries have computers as well.

3) Ask a friend who has a computer to help.

4) Use a Smart Phone or tablet with an Internet connection to get online and apply.

5) Remember to take or have with you the following before you begin the online application:
   a. Name, email address, and telephone number of a teacher, counselor, principal, or other professional who will provide a recommendation for your child
   b. School name, address, telephone number
   c. Knowledge of your child's availability to attend the Center about which he/she is interested
   d. FIRST PAGE of your most-recent TAX FORM (if you plan to apply for Financial Assistance)
   e. A form or letter stating that your child qualifies for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program (if you plan to apply for Financial Assistance)
   f. A copy of your child's ESSAY that is saved on a flash drive in pdf format OR a print-out of the essay that can be scanned into a computer and converted to pdf format
ONLINE APPLICATION
Instructions

The Maryland Summer Centers for Gifted and Talented Students Program has been in operation for 48 years.

Six Maryland Summer Centers are located at Maryland colleges and universities.
THE SIX-STEP ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS

ONLINE APPLICATION MUST BE USED Directions: Check each step as you complete it. If applying to more than one Center, just sign up online. ALL STEPS are completed by going through www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters.

--- STEP #1: Student Application Form Using information from the application and your teacher's and counselor's email addresses, complete all items on the Application Form.

--- STEP #2: 2014 Student Essay
- Follow the instructions on page 21 for completing the Student Essay.
- Save the essay as a pdf file and upload it directly through the application.

--- STEP #3: Parent/Guardian Recommendation Form
(An online registration version is available.)
- Send tall items through the online application—NO mailing!
- NOTE: If you are applying for Financial Assistance, complete Step #4 and upload copies of ONLY the FIRST PAGE of your 1040 or 1040EZ.

--- STEP #4: Financial Assistance (Optional)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STEP #1</th>
<th>STEP #2</th>
<th>STEP #3</th>
<th>STEP #4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What?</td>
<td>2015 Student Application Form</td>
<td>Student Essay</td>
<td>Parent/Guardian Recommendation Form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who Completes?</td>
<td>Student and Parent/Guardian</td>
<td>Student</td>
<td>Parent/Guardian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When</td>
<td>By April 17 or until the Center is filled (except for Fine and Performing Arts Centers that has an earlier deadline)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Parent/Guardian and Student: Complete the ONLINE application.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE SIX-STEP APPLICATION PROCESS (CONTINUED)

___STEP #5: Teacher Recommendation Form
- Complete the requested information in the online application, including the name, email address of the teacher, counselor, principal, or other professional whom you have contacted about completing a recommendation.

___STEP #6: Achievement Data Form
- Complete the requested information in the online application, including the name, email address, and telephone number of the school official who would be best able to complete the form that tells us about your grades or other evaluation criteria used, standardized test scores, and other information about your progress in school. This person will complete the written statement if your school does not use numeric or letter grades.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>STEP #5</strong></th>
<th><strong>STEP #6</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What?</strong></td>
<td>Teacher Recommendation Form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Who Completes?</strong></td>
<td>Teacher in Subject Area related to the Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>When</strong></td>
<td>by April 1*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Action</strong></td>
<td><strong>Parent/Guardian:</strong> Teacher in subject area of Center is emailed as part of the application.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Parent/Guardian:</strong> School official is emailed as part of the application process.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These are suggested dates to ensure completion by the April deadline.

**NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE:** You will be notified in early May as to whether or not you have been selected by the Center to which you have applied. If you have been selected, you will receive more specific information about the Center shortly thereafter.
**STEP #1: 2015 STUDENT APPLICATION FORM**

*Step #1 MUST be completed online at www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters. Minority students and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Please complete all items ONLINE. This is just a GUIDE and NOT the actual APPLICATION!*

Last Name: ___________________________ First Name: ___________________________ Middle Initial: _____

Choice of Center: ___________________________ Section (where applicable): ___________________________

Did you apply to this Center last year? Yes ___ No ___

Home Street Address or Box Number: __________________________________________

Town/City: ___________________________ ZIP Code: _________ State: __________

Home Phone Number: ___________________________ Parent/Guardian Cell Phone Number: ___________________________

Parent/Guardian E-Mail Address: ___________________________ Residence Code Number is (see page 23.): ____________

Birth Date, Month/Day/Year: _____ / _____ / _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____ M _____ F Entering Grade (Fall 2014): _____


Name of school I attend: __________________________________________

School Phone Number: ___________________________ My school is: _____ public _____ non-public _____ home schooled

Maryland Summer Centers I have previously attended: __________________________________________

Name of Center/Year: ___________________________ Name of Center/Year: ___________________________

T-Shirt size (Adult sizes, click one): XS S M L XL XXL

I plan to complete the Financial Assistance Application: _____ yes _____ no

*Parent/Guardian Permission Statement*

By completing this ONLINE Application, I hereby grant permission for my child to apply to this program and to participate in the field trips sponsored by the Center. I grant permission for school officials to report my child’s achievement scores to Maryland Summer Center personnel.

I understand that the teacher recommendations and achievement scores will be maintained in confidence and that applications will not be returned to students. Also, I will allow my child to complete questionnaires designed to evaluate the program. I further permit my child to participate in media events designed to promote the benefits of gifted education, such as video, photos, and TV.

Name of Parent/Guardian:

Daytime Telephone

Evening Telephone Number:

You will be required to sign a formal statement upon your child’s acceptance to the Center.)
STEP #2: STUDENT ESSAY INSTRUCTIONS

The Student Essay is required of all applicant. Your essay will provide information about your interest and abilities in the subject offered at the Summer Center. Examine the Center descriptions carefully before writing your essay. NOTE to ESOL (ELL) students: You may write your essay in your native language. Learning disabled students: You may have an adult type and upload an essay that you communicate.

Directions:
Limit your essay to 500 WORDS. Essays must be saved as a pdf file and uploaded through the online site.

1. At the top of the essay, type your name and the Center (and program, if there is more than one at a center) to which you are applying.

2. Answer the following questions in your essay:
   - **Interests**: Why are you interested in this Center?
   - **Related Experiences**: What experiences have you had that are related to the subject matter of the Center to which you are applying?
   - **Achievements**: What achievements, special training, awards or honors have you received related to the subject matter of the Center?
   - **Goals**: What do you hope to gain by participating in this program?

3. **Proofread and Edit** your essay. Your essay should be a representative sample of your best writing.

   **NOTE**: If you have a documented learning disability, you should follow the recommended modifications on your IEP or 504.

4. Type the following sentence at the bottom of your essay: “I pledge that this essay is representative of my own ability.” Type your First and last name.

5. Upload a pdf version to the Student ONLINE Application Form.

6. Move to Step #3 in the online application process.

---

Residence Codes for Maryland Residents:

| Allegany                                      | 01 |
| Anne Arundel                                 | 02 |
| Baltimore County                             | 03 |
| Calvert                                      | 04 |
| Caroline                                     | 05 |
| Carroll                                      | 06 |
| Cecil                                        | 07 |
| Charles                                      | 08 |
| Dorchester                                   | 09 |
| Frederick                                    | 10 |
| Garrett                                      | 11 |
| Harford                                      | 12 |
| Howard                                       | 13 |
| Kent                                         | 14 |
| Montgomery                                   | 15 |
| Prince George's                              | 16 |
| Queen Anne's                                 | 17 |
| St. Mary's                                   | 18 |
| Somerset                                     | 19 |
| Talbot                                       | 20 |
| Washington                                   | 21 |
| Wicomico                                     | 22 |
| Worcester                                    | 23 |
| Baltimore City                              | 30 |
| Out of State                                 | 31 |
**STEP #3: PARENT/GUARDIAN RECOMMENDATION FORM**

**Step #3 can be completed online at www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters**

Below are some behaviors and abilities that can be signs of potential or demonstrated giftedness. Please check those behaviors that you have observed by clicking on the box in the online application. We do not expect students to demonstrate all of the behaviors.

Compared to agemates, my child:

1. ____ Asks thoughtful questions
2. ____ Has a sustained attention span, or is willing to persist on challenging tasks
3. ____ Has storehouse of knowledge or information
4. ____ Experiments, explores
5. ____ Has many and/or intense interests
6. ____ Exhibits high-level skill in one or more areas

7. ____ Has a good sense of humor
8. ____ Is expressive with words, numbers, symbols
9. ____ Sees and solves problems
10. ____ Invents, creates
11. ____ Exhibits unusual talent in music, drama, art, or dance
12. ____ Shows talent in making up and telling stories

**In the area provided for this step of the online application process, please describe any unique or unusual learning behaviors or needs of your child.**

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________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STEP #4: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Complete STEP 4 only if you are applying for financial assistance.

Decisions regarding student selection are independent of requests for financial assistance. All MSC participants, including those receiving full or partial financial assistance, will be required to pay a nonrefundable registration fee upon notification of acceptance into a Center.

Note to Parents/Guardians:

• If your child currently qualifies for your school’s free/reduced lunch program, he or she may qualify for full or partial financial assistance for the Maryland Summer Centers Program.
• Please enclose a copy of the FIRST PAGE ONLY your latest tax return to certify eligibility.

Please type any information that might be helpful in determining financial need or explaining extenuating circumstances directly into the online form:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

I verify that the above information is reported accurately.
STEP #5: TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM (Sent automatically during the online application process)

Student’s Name: _______________________________ School: _______________________________

This student has applied to _____________________________________________________________
(Refer to the online Center descriptions).
Contact Person: _______________________________ (Center Title)
Contact Address: _______________________________ (Autocompleted)

Directions to Teacher:
Please relate your responses specifically to this student’s ability in the subject area of the above-named Maryland Summer Center as compared to other gifted and talented students you have taught. It may be helpful to have input from other teachers. Please rate each behavior on a scale of 1-4:

4 = Frequently Observed or Demonstrated
3 = Occasionally Observed or Demonstrated
2 = Seldom Observed or Demonstrated
1 = Unable to Observe

This student — (PLEASE CIRCLE)

• Demonstrates a high level of interest in this subject
• Demonstrates a high level of commitment to this subject area
• Demonstrates a high level of ability in this subject area
• Engages in academic risk-taking behaviors (experimenting, researching, challenging, questioning)
• Generates multiple ideas or solutions to problems or questions
• Demonstrates an ability to work on a task of interest with independence, commitment, and focus for an extended period of time
• Demonstrates an ability to set goals and evaluate progress in accomplishing tasks of interest
• Produces work of high quality
• Demonstrates creativity
• Demonstrates motivation

Would you recommend this student for the Maryland Summer Centers Program? Yes____ No____ Add comments below.

Please comment on specific ways this student has demonstrated outstanding abilities, talents, achievements, and/or potential for growth in the subject area represented by the Summer Center to which he/she is applying:

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

When form is completed it will be emailed to the Center Director or Contact. This form may be photocopied.
STEP #6: ACHIEVEMENT DATA FORM (Sent automatically during the online application process)

Student Name: __________________________ Name of Center: __________________________

I. Directions to the Parent/Guardian: Place a check mark (✓) next to the cluster that contains the name of the Center to which your child is applying and complete the following information.

Center Contact Person: __________________________ Center Name: __________________________
Contact Address: __________________________ City: ________ State: ________ Zip: ________

Directions to the Principal or School Counselor: Complete the report card grades for the subject/s in the row designated by a check mark (✓) and the MSA/HSA if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>✓</th>
<th>Center for...</th>
<th>Achievement Data/ Report Card grades for present year in:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Honeywell Institute for Ecosystems Education, Chesapeake Bay Watershed Investigations at the National Aquarium, Geospatial Technologies</td>
<td>science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Future Engineers: Robot Design, Space Science, Computer Science and Creativity, Physics of Solar and Wind Power, Space Engineering: Robotics</td>
<td>science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MSA/HSA score in mathematics _______</td>
<td>mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fine and Performing Arts at Salisbury University.</td>
<td>art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dixon Creative Writing, Fine and Performing Arts at Salisbury University - Creative Writing</td>
<td>chorus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Global Languages</td>
<td>orchestra</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>drama</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>dance</td>
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<td>language arts</td>
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<td>language arts</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Quarter ___ 2nd Quarter ___ 3rd Quarter ___</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. Check areas in which this student has been receiving gifted and talented education services:

___ General Intellectual Ability  ___ Mathematics  ___ Reading/English Language Arts  ___ Science  ___ Social Studies  ___ Visual or Performing Arts

III. School formally identifies students as gifted and talented. Yes ___ No ___

IV. Does this student have any special needs that the Center should plan for in order to serve this student in its summer programs?

___ ESOL (ELL)  ___ IEP  ___ 504 Plan  Specialized health needs: __________________________

Other (explain): __________________________

Note: Supplemental data, including psychological testing that document identified learning disabilities which may impact student performance, may be submitted with this form.

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the above information is accurately reported.

Signature of Principal or Counselor __________________________ Position Title __________________________ Date ________

Both the Teacher Recommendation and Achievement Data Forms are automatically emailed directly to the Center contact and not to the parent/guardian.
Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., GOVERNOR

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Maryland Summer Centers for Gifted and Talented Students

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Northrop Grumman
Salisbury University
Baltimore City Community College

For information please contact:
Office of Gifted and Talented Education
Maryland State Department of Education
200 West Baltimore Street, DCAA
Baltimore, MD 21201

Phone: (410) 767-
Fax: (410) 333-1146

Maryland Summer Centers information, Center descriptions, NEW ONLINE APPLICATION, and video are available on the website:

www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters

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