

Parent and Student Informational Guide to **MAGNET PROGRAMS** 2019-2020



**Global Studies
International Baccalaureate
Edgewood High School**



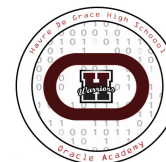
Harford Technical High School



**Natural Resources Agriculture Science
North Harford High School**



**Science and Mathematics Academy
Aberdeen High School**



**Information Technology
Oracle Academy
Havre De Grace High School**



A.A. Roberty Building
102 S. Hickory Avenue
Bel Air, Maryland 21014
Phone 410-838-7300 . Fax 410-893-2478
Dr. S. Bulson
Superintendent of Schools

Welcome Parents, and Congratulations, Students!

You have come to an important point in your education. Now is the time when you have some very important choices to make about your high school studies, and it begins with finding out more about what's available.

The magnet program video offers you some introductory, yet critical, information about the options you have for high school study.

You are very fortunate - all 8th graders in Harford County have more choices than ever, including:

- **Global Studies / International Baccalaureate**
Edgewood High School
- **Harford Technical High School**
- **Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences**
North Harford High School
- **Science and Mathematics Academy**
Aberdeen High School
- **Information Technology Oracle Academy**
Havre De Grace High School

Explore your options, starting with this guidebook and the information in the video, to find which program is right for you!



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Notes

Open Houses

Open House is designed to give parents and students an in-depth look at the specific Magnet Program offered at that school. You will have the opportunity to hear more about the curriculum, meet teachers, students and parents currently involved with the Magnet Program, and see the school facilities. All questions regarding Open House events should be directed to the appropriate Program Specialists.

Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences

(North Harford High School)

October 26, 2019

9:00 am—12:00 pm

Program Specialist:
410-638-3650

Mr. Greg Murrell
Gregory.Murrell@hcps.org

Science and Mathematics Academy

(Aberdeen High School)

November 6, 2019

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Auditorium

Program Specialist:
410-273-5500

Ms. Sarah Ashley
Sarah.Ashley@hcps.org

Harford Technical High School

November 5, 2019

5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. School-wide

Program Specialist:
410-638-3804

Mrs. Jeanne Donlick
Jeanne.Donlick@hcps.org

Global Studies and International Baccalaureate

(Edgewood High School)

November 7, 2019

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Auditorium

Program Specialist:
410-612-1500

Laura Childs
Jamie.Childs@hcps.org

ADDITIONAL APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applications will be available on-line at www.hcps.org beginning **October 23, 2019**.

TIMELINE

December 1, 2019	Closing date for applications
January - February 2020	Evaluation of candidates*
March, 2020	Notification sent to all applicants

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Global Studies and International Baccalaureate (GSIB)

Edgewood High School	Program Specialist: Laura Childs
2415 Willoughby Beach Road	Jamie.Childs@hcps.org
Edgewood, MD 21040	Principal: Mr. K. Mack
410-612-1500	

Harford Technical High School (HTHS)

200 Thomas Run Road	Program Specialist: Jeanne Donlick
Bel Air, MD 21015	Jeanne.Donlick@hcps.org
410-638-3804	Principal: Mr. J. Collins

Information Technology Oracle Academy

Havre de Grace High School	Program Specialist: Robert Scott
700 Congress Avenue	Robert.Scott@hcps.org
Havre de Grace, MD 21078	Principal: Mr. J. Reynolds
410-939-6600	

Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences (NRAS)

North Harford High School	Program Specialist: Greg Murrell
211 Pylesville Road	Gregory.Murrell@hcps.org
Pylesville, MD 21132	Principal: Mr. B. Pawlicki
410-638-3650	

Science and Mathematics Academy (SMA)

Aberdeen High School	Program Specialist: Sarah Ashley
251 Paradise Road	Sarah.Ashley@hcps.org
Aberdeen, MD 21001	Principal: Mr. M. Quigg
410-273-5500	

Supervisor of Magnet and CTE Programs

102 S. Hickory Avenue	410-588-5244
Bel Air, MD 21014	Robert.Limpert@hcps.org

7. TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS

HCPS students will be asked to select teachers from a pull down menu. If two teachers are given, choose one.

- Regardless of program choice, each of your teachers will only need to fill out one recommendation form.
- Once your teacher has submitted a recommendation, it is applicable for **all** programs.

Non-HCPS students will download the recommendation forms and email them to appropriate middle school teachers to complete. Completed forms must be emailed to each Program Specialist(s) for the program(s) to which you are applying. Email addresses are on page 4 of this booklet and on the recommendation form.

8. Next, you will be asked to submit your **ACTIVITY LIST**. This can be done now or at a later time, but NOT later than December 1, 2019 Your application will not be considered until this step has been completed.

- This list only needs to be submitted once and is active for all programs to which you apply.
- Please provide information in the form of a **BULLETED LIST**.
- Once you have submitted your Activity List, you cannot go back to change it!

9. You will also be asked to write an essay for each of the programs you apply to. You may complete this now, or at a later time, but NOT later than December 1, 2019.

- Your application will not be considered until this step has been completed.
- Once you have submitted your essay, you cannot go back to change it!

10. Click "Submit Application." You may then return to the Home Page to apply to another program.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

**You can log back into your account at any time up until December 1st to review your application.*

**There is a place on the website, within your account, for you to withdraw your application to a particular program if you change your mind.*

** Remember to see your school counselor if you need help.*

GUIDE TO THE ONLINE APPLICATION

Applications will be available online at www.hcps.org beginning **October 23, 2019.**

1. Go to www.hcps.org

On the left side of the screen click on "Schools," "Magnet Programs," and "Application," or go to: www.hcps.org/magnetprograms/

First time users - "Click Here to Register"

2. Choose your middle school from the pull down menu or "other" if you are not currently a student in a Harford County public middle school.

- Fill in the required information to set up your account.
- **Double check your typing to ensure 100% accuracy!!**
- An email will arrive with your temporary password.
- You will be sent back to the main log on screen to continue.
- Log on with your ID and temporary password - you will be prompted to change your password to something you can easily remember. You will need this information to log in to your account at any time in the future!!

3. There are five magnet programs from which to choose. Once you have all the information you need, click "To Apply for Admission to a Magnet Program."

4. Read the Application Policy with your parent(s). Both statements at the end must be checked before you can continue.

5. For HCPS students, your information will appear. If everything is correct, click "Continue Application." If you need to make corrections, click "Edit my Information."

For non-HCPS students, please fill in all requested information.

6. You may apply to a maximum of 3 HCPS magnet programs. Each application must be completed individually. Note:

- For Harford Tech - choose ONE technical program
- For NRAS - choose your pathways in order of preference

Admission Requirements

These minimum criteria are evaluated during initial screenings of each Magnet Program applicant. Beyond these, each program uses additional evaluation and screenings during the months of January and February to determine the competitiveness and admission status of each applicant. You will receive further information from each Program Specialist as appropriate.

1. Academic achievement in middle school, to include:

- Grades
- Standardized test scores
- Scholastic Reading Index (SRI)/Lexile scores

2. Demonstrated interest and motivation for learning:

- Report card comments
- Teacher recommendations
- School and community involvement (Activity List)

3. Written communication skills

- Written essay(s)

Additional, program-specific requirements:

Global Studies/International Baccalaureate

- *Algebra I* must be successfully completed prior to entering
- Strongly recommend successful completion of Geometry

Harford Technical High School

- Attendance
- Consideration for honors placement is based on 7th/8th grade standardized test scores and HTHS placement testing
- Consideration for Advanced Placement is based on middle school teacher's recommendation
- See application for program-specific requirements

Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences and Information Technology

- *Algebra I* recommended, but not required

Science and Mathematics Academy

- *Algebra I* and *Geometry* must be successfully completed prior to entering the program.
- *Geometry* may be taken during the summer before ninth grade.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Where should I turn in my application?

- For **ALL** applicants, this process is completed online.
- For non-HCPS students, middle school transcripts and test scores must be sent to the Program Specialist at each program to which you apply.

2. What about teacher recommendation forms ?

- For HCPS students, this process is completed electronically.
- For non-HCPS students, teacher recommendation forms must be downloaded and emailed to current middle school teachers (as noted on the recommendation form). Completed recommendations should then be emailed to the appropriate Program Specialist for each magnet program to which you apply (emailing information for each Program Specialist can be found on page 4 of this booklet).

3. Can I fax my application or letters of recommendation? No.

4. Can I apply to more than one magnet program?

Yes, you may apply to a maximum of 3 programs. **You may apply to only one program at Harford Technical High School; multiple applications to different technical programs, from the same student, are not accepted.*

5. How do I know if my application has been received?

Please note all important communication from Harford County Public Schools, and from the Program Specialist at each Magnet Program, will come to you via **EMAIL**. *It is imperative you enter a FUNCTIONING, frequently checked, and correctly typed email address on the application; the parent's and the student's emails are strongly encouraged on the application.* The following information is relayed to applicants and parent(s) via email:

1. Initial acknowledgment of receipt of your application;
2. Periodic updates regarding evaluation and screening of the application;
3. Notifications regarding further assessment/testing; and
4. Notification of admissions status throughout the admissions process.

Notification will be sent via the email addresses provided on the application. Set your email to accept correspondence from webmaster@hcps.org. In addition, allow your email to accept messages from the appropriate Program Specialist(s) noted on pages 3 & 4 of this booklet. This will prevent your SPAM filter from automatically deleting these emails.

6. How will I find out about transportation?

Please visit <http://www.hcps.org/departments/operations/transportation.aspx> for the most up to date information about Harford County Public Schools Transportation guidelines for magnet programs.

7. What about Harford County students who attend private schools or are home-schooled?

You will access the application online as well. Follow the directions for “non-HCPS students.”

8. I want to apply, but I don't currently live in Harford County. I am in the process of moving - what do I do?

You may still apply. You must be a resident of Harford County when school starts. Proof of residency will be required when registering.

9. How can I improve my chances of acceptance to a magnet program?

Make sure the complete application is submitted on time and you are putting forth your best effort in middle school.

10. What if I have not been enrolled in a Harford County public middle school for ALL or part of grades 6, 7, and/or 8?

Parent(s) will send all transcript information from the school/setting outside of HCPS, directly to the appropriate Program Specialist(s).

11. What if I receive accommodations through an IEP or 504 Plan?

It is the policy of HCPS to afford equal opportunity in education to all students. Students receiving Special Education services or who have a 504 Plan are given the same consideration in the selection process as all other students.

12. I need help with the application process. Where can I get help?

- Refer to our “Guide to the Online Application” on the next page.
- See your School Counselor for help; you may also contact the appropriate Program Specialist.

13. What if I change my mind and want to withdraw my application to a program?

This can be completed on-line through the application website.

14. What if I'm on Home/Hospital teaching?

You may still apply. Choose your assigned middle school on the application.