



MAGNET PROGRAMS



HARFORD COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

.....
Inspire • Prepare • Achieve

WELCOME

MAGNET NIGHT

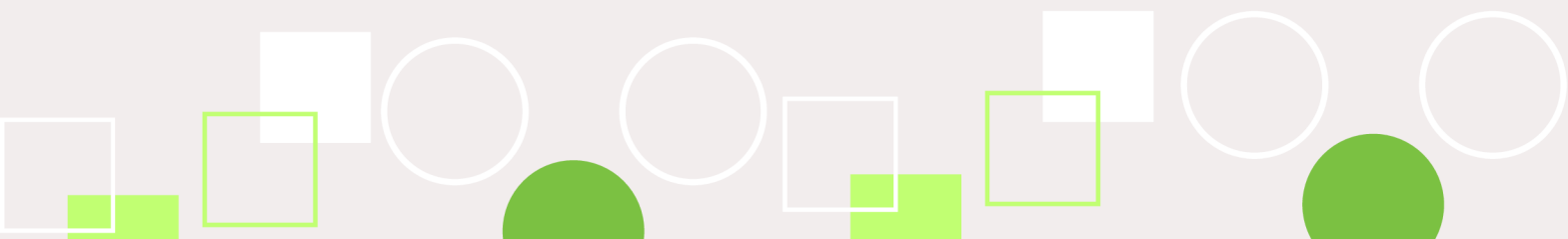
Students of Harford County now have more choices in high school to foster their passions, explore their interests, and develop lifelong skills for success beyond high school.

We welcome your questions and are here to guide you as you explore and determine if a Magnet Program is the best fit for you.

Magnet Information Night is an overview of each program. We invite you to attend our Open House events to learn about each unique program. During Open House events, you will meet the Coordinator, teachers, and students currently enrolled in the program and tour campus.

Once you have found your fit, visit our website to begin the application process before December 1st.

Thanks for joining us this evening.
We look forward to meeting you.





The Blueprint for Maryland's Future provides access to a rigorous and meaningful education that prepares students for success in college, career, and life. All students, regardless of family income, race, ethnicity, and/or ability shall have equitable access to new curricula and college and career pathways.



HCPS Magnet Programs fully align and support the county's North Star initiative. Participating students have opportunities to complete college-level work through Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and Career & Technology Education courses. Additionally, students can earn college credit through Dual Enrollment and/or other career credentials while in high school.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

SEPTEMBER- OCTOBER

- Middle School Visits
- Magnet Information Nights
- Program Open House Events
- Online Application Window Opens October 14



DECEMBER - JANUARY

- 11:59 PM December 5- Online Application Window Closes
- Review and Evaluation of Applicants
- Invitation to Program Assessment where applicable



MARCH

- All candidates will be notified via email of application status.
- If offered a seat, please indicate whether you accept or decline.
- Declined seats will be offered to other applicants.



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

These minimum criteria are evaluated during initial screenings of each program applicant. Each program uses additional evaluation methods during the months of January and February. Applicants will receive further communication from each Program Specialist, as appropriate, to indicate offer/acceptance status.

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 endorsements
- School and community involvement (Activity List)

3. Strong written communication skills: essay component

Additional, program-specific requirements:

Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences (NRAS)

Information Technology Oracle Academy (ITOA)

- Algebra 1 recommended, not required.

Science and Mathematics Academy (SMA)

- Successful completion of Algebra 1 and *Geometry prior to entering the program.
*Geometry can be taken in the summer prior to ninth grade.

Global Studies/International Baccalaureate (GSIB or IB)

- Successful completion of Algebra prior to entering program.
- Strongly recommend successful completion of Geometry. *Geometry can be taken in the summer prior to ninth grade.

Harford Technical High School (HT Trades)

- See application for program-specific requirements.



FAQ ANSWERED

1

If I need guidance accessing the application, who can I ask?

- Refer to the Guide to the Application.
- Schedule time with your School Counselor for assistance.

2

Can I apply to more than one program?

- Yes. You may apply for up to 3 programs.
- Only 1 of 3 applications may be for a Harford Tech program.

3

What if I change my mind and want to withdraw my application?

- You may retract your application online.

4

How do I know if my application(s) has been received?

- All information regarding your application will be communicated via email. Set your email to accept messages from webmaster@hcps.org as well as the Program Specialists to avoid messages going to Spam.

5

Can I fax/email/post mail my application?

- No. All applications will be submitted via the online portal.

6

How do I obtain teacher endorsements?

- The online application will automatically populate and email your teachers AFTER you submit a completed application.

7

If accepted, can I still participate in extra- and co-curricular activities

- Yes. You are fully immersed in the school community.

Continues on next page.





FAQ

ANSWERED *continued*

8

How can I improve my chances of being accepted into a Magnet program?

- Ensure your application is complete, your essay is well-written, and you put forth your best effort in middle school.

9

I receive accommodations through an IEP or 504 Plan. Am I eligible?

- Yes.

10

I am currently on Home/Hospital Teaching. Am I eligible?

- Yes.

11

How will I find out about transportation?

- Please visit [HCPS Transportation](#) for the most current information.

12

If I enroll in a Magnet and dislike it, can I switch programs?

- Magnet Programs are a 4-year commitment. Students are not permitted to move between programs, but may elect to withdraw from the Magnet and return to their community schools.


13

If a Magnet is available at two or more sites, can I choose the location?

- No, you are applying to a program, not a school. For programs offered in multiple locations, seats are assigned at random.

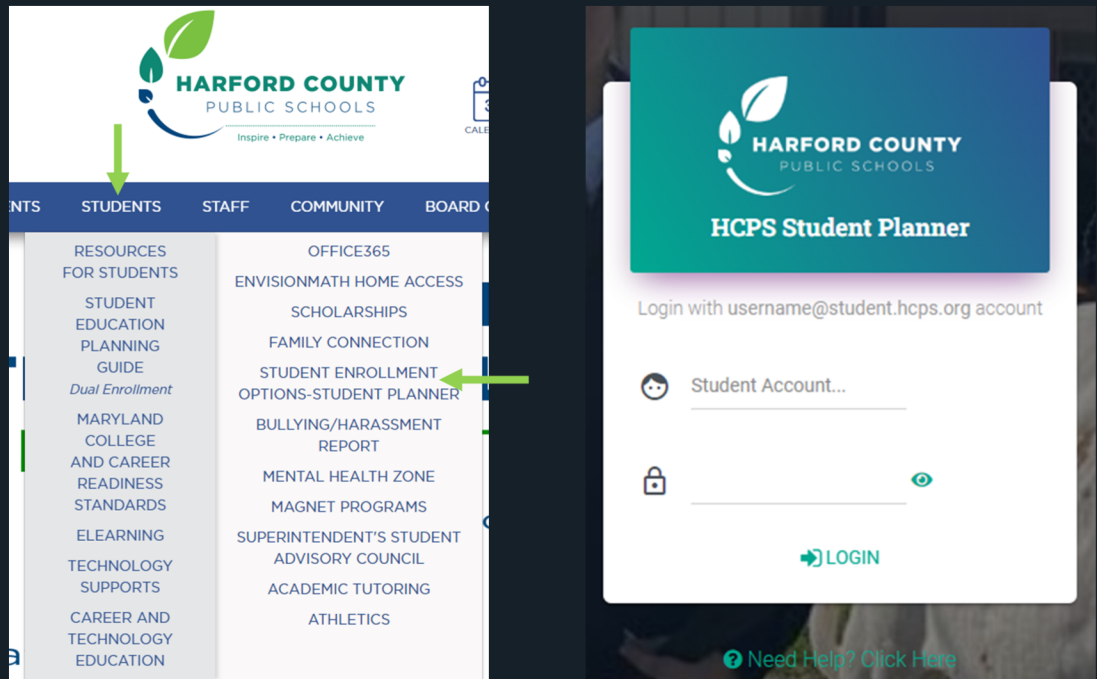
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What are my options if I am not accepted into a Magnet?

- You may enroll in any of the CTE programs offered in your community school, including the Youth Apprenticeship and Workforce Investment programs.
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GUIDE TO THE APPLICATION

- 1 Visit www.hcps.org --> Students tab --> Student Planner OR Schools > Magnet Programs > Application
Non-HCPS users will be prompted to create an account.



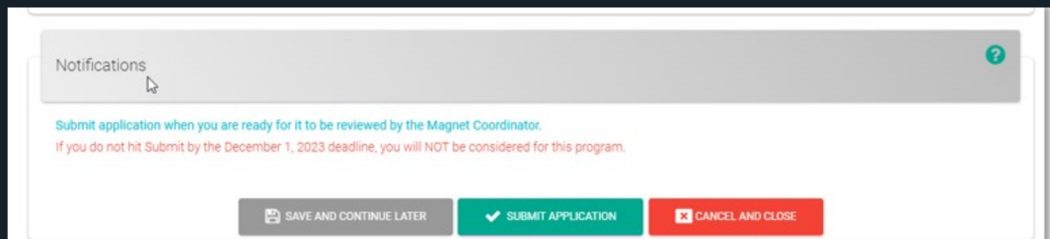
- 2 HCPS Students: Your information will autofill. Verify it is correct or make edits.
Non-HCPS Students: Carefully and accurately enter all information to create your profile.

- You can access your application until 11:59 pm on December 5th.
- Within your account, you can withdraw your application if you change your mind.
- Contact your School Counselor for assistance.



GUIDE TO THE APPLICATION *continued*

- 3** You can SAVE your application and work on it over time. But remember to return to and SUBMIT it before the deadline.




- 4** **TEACHER ENDORSEMENTS**
HCPS students: Your teachers will autofill the application.
Non-HCPS students: Manually enter teacher contact information.
The teacher endorsement is valid for all Programs to which you apply.

- 5** Submit a bulleted **ACTIVITY LIST** by **December 5th**.
- This list only needs to be submitted once and is active for all programs to which you apply.
 - Once you **SUBMIT** an Activity List, you cannot make changes to it.

- 6** Each Magnet program you select will ask you to write an **ESSAY**.
- Each essay must be submitted by December 5th.
 - Once you submit your essay, you cannot make changes to it.

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

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- You may apply to a maximum of 3 programs.
 - Each application must be completed individually.
 - For Harford Tech - choose ONE technical program.
 - For NRAS - rank your pathways in order of preference.

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WE WANT TO **MEET** YOU

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MAGNET INFORMATION NIGHTS & MIDDLE SCHOOL VISITS

Same presentation, various locations.
Choose the date and location best for you.



MAGNET OPEN HOUSES

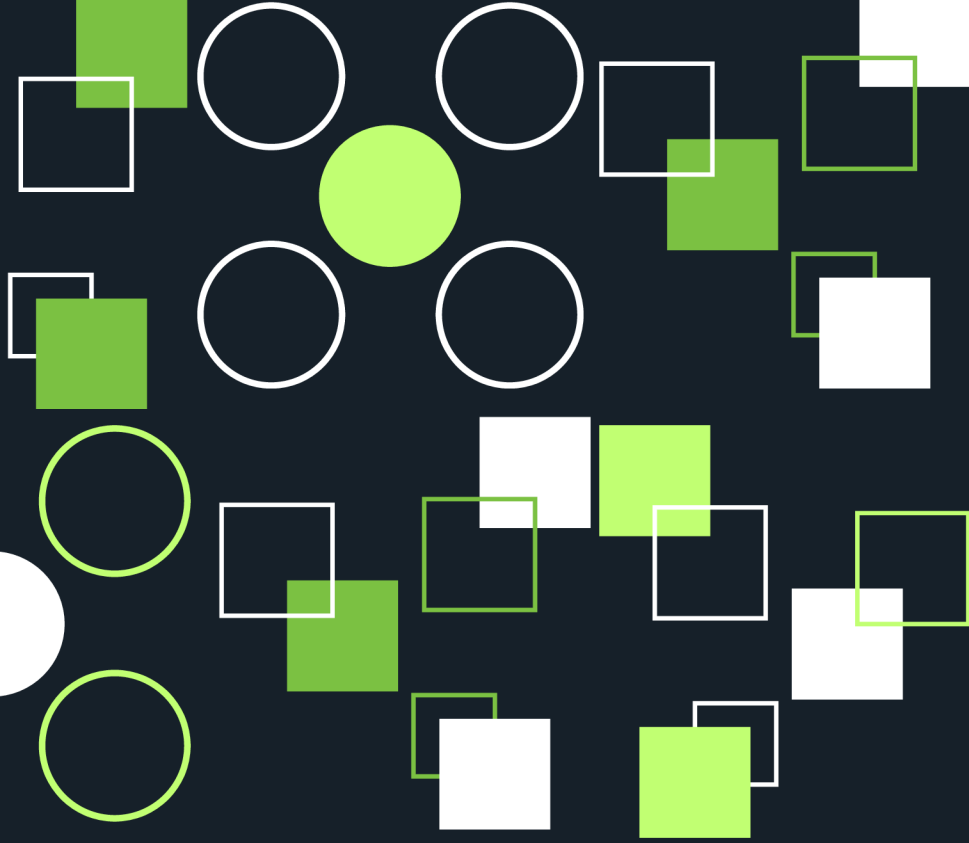
Unique presentations.
Campus tours.
Meet current teachers & students.



CAPSTONE EVENTS

Celebrate Seniors throughout May.
Project presentations and awards.





Harford County Public Schools CTE / Magnet Office

Share your videos with friends, family, and the world

 YouTube

 **SUBSCRIBE**

Check out our YouTube playlist to hear
why other students chose each Magnet.

BUILD YOUR FUTURE **IN CTE & MAGNETS**



COMMIT TO **EXCELLENCE**

Students enrolled in Magnet Programs must meet the academic and behavioral expectations of the Program and its hosting school.

Supports are in place to bolster student success. However, students may be removed from any Magnet Program and its host school if academic and/or behavioral expectations go unmet.

Please carefully review the academic requirements of each program and HCPS policies for student conduct before applying.

Review this and other Magnet Program information at
<http://www.hcps.org/Schools/MagnetPrograms>

PROGRAM SPECIALISTS

Program	Available Seats	Specialist
Global Studies International Baccalaureate	50-60	Mrs. Laura Childs Jamie.Childs@hcps.org
Information Technology Oracle Academy	40-45	Mr. Rob Scott Robert.Scott@hcps.org
Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps	40	SFC (R) Joel Santana @email
Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences	100; 25 per strand	Mr. Greg Murrell Gregory.Murrell@hcps.org
Pathways in Technology Early College High School	30	Dr. Shomari Zachary Shomari.Zachary@hcps.org

PROGRAM SPECIALISTS *continued*

Program	Seats Available	Specialist
Science and Math Academy	up to 55	Mrs. Sarah Ashley Sarah.Ashley@hcps.org
Teacher Academy of Maryland (+)	90	Mrs. Alissa Thomas Alissa.Thomas@hcps.org
Harford Technical High School	270; Varies by trade	Mrs. Jeanne Donlick Jeanne.Donlick@hcps.org
Workforce Investment (non-Magnet)	Varies by Certification	Mrs. Becky Pensero Rebecca.Pensero@hcps.org
Youth Apprenticeship (non-Magnet)	Pending Available Jobs	Mr. Matt Johnstone Matthew.Johnstone@hcps.org
Coordinator of CTE and Magnet Programs		Mrs. Katie Eckstein Katie.Eckstein@hcps.org



JOSEPH CONNOLLY

**SUPERVISOR CTE, MAGNETS, &
SIGNATURE PROGRAMS**



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www.hcps.org/magnetprograms
[@hcps_cte](#)

