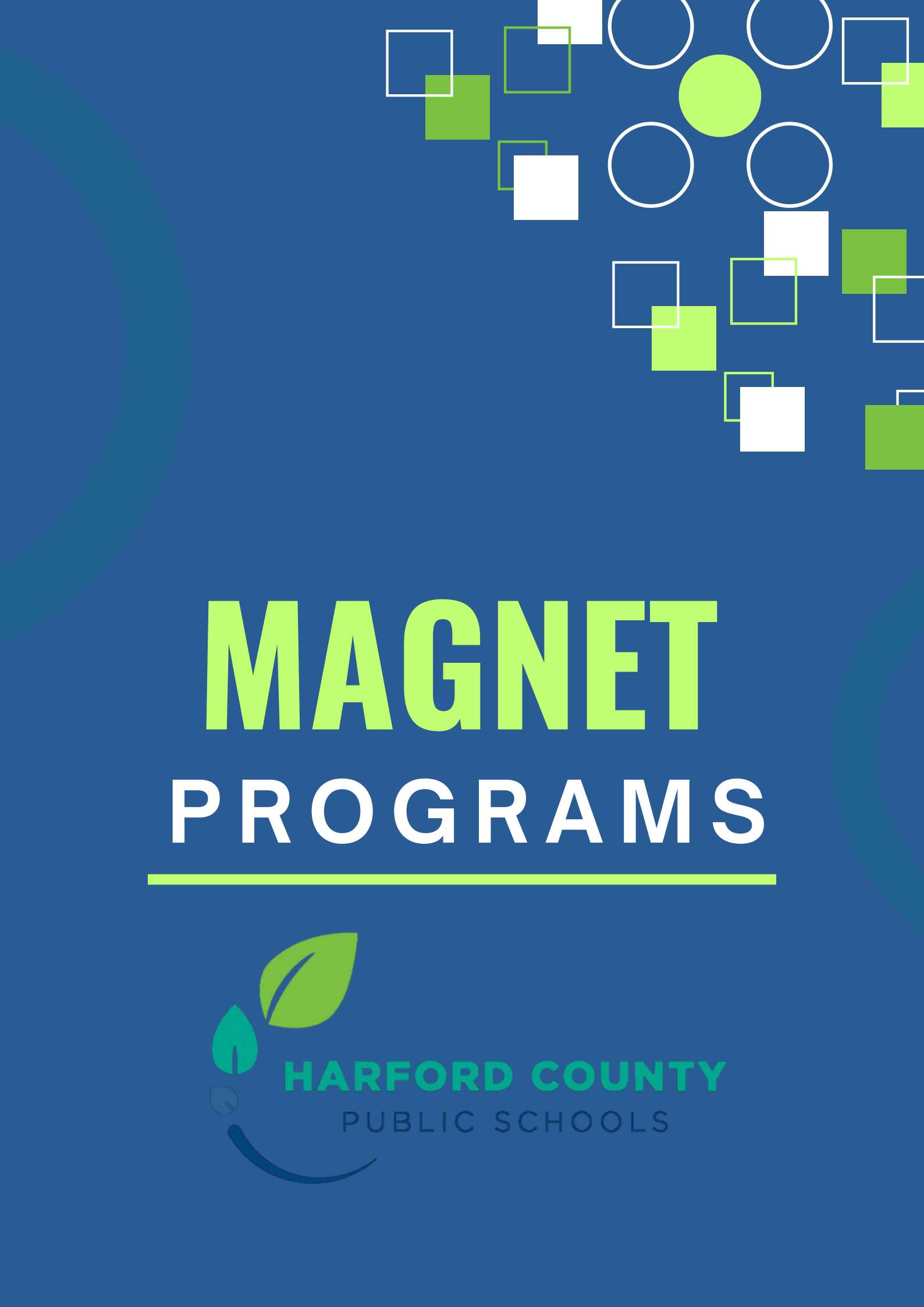




MAGNET

PROGRAMS



HARFORD COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WELCOME

MAGNET

INFORMATION NIGHT

Students of Harford County 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.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

SEPTEMBER- OCTOBER

- Magnet Information Nights
- Middle School Magnet Fairs
- Open House Events
- Online Application Window Opens October 1st



DECEMBER - JANUARY

- 11:59 PM December 1- Online Application Window Closes
- Review and Evaluate Applicants



FEBRUARY - MARCH

- All candidates will be notified via email of admission status.
- Accept or decline all offered seats.
- Declined seats will be offered to waitlisted applicants.





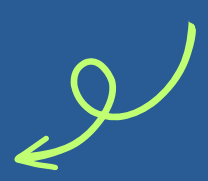
ADMISSION CRITERIA

Students may apply to a total of three Magnet Programs.
For Harford Tech, choose only one program.

Applicants will receive further communication from each
Program Specialist, as appropriate, to indicate
offer/acceptance status.



Academic achievement and performance in middle school

1. Grades
 2. Standardized test scores
 3. Scholastic Reading Index (SRI)/Lexile scores
 4. Attendance rate
- 

Demonstrated interest and motivation for learning:

1. Teacher endorsements
2. School and community involvement (Activity List)
3. Response to open-ended prompt



Completion of ALGEBRA I in Middle School Recommended:

- International Baccalaureate at Edgewood
- Science and Mathematics Academy at Aberdeen



These programs at Harford Technical High School

- Certified Nursing Assistant
 - Computer Aided Design and Drafting
 - Computer Aided Machining and Manufacturing
 - Sports Medicine and Exercise Science
 - IT Networking Academy
- 



FAQ ANSWERED

1

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

- 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 in the portal.

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/postmail 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.



FAQ ANSWERED

continued

8 How can I improve my chances of being accepted?

- Ensure your application is complete and authentically represents you as a learner.

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

- Yes, and services will continue as described in your plan.

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

- Yes.

11 How will I find out about transportation?

- Bus details will be shared in August.

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

- No, but you may elect to return to your neighborhood school.

13 If a Magnet is offered 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.

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

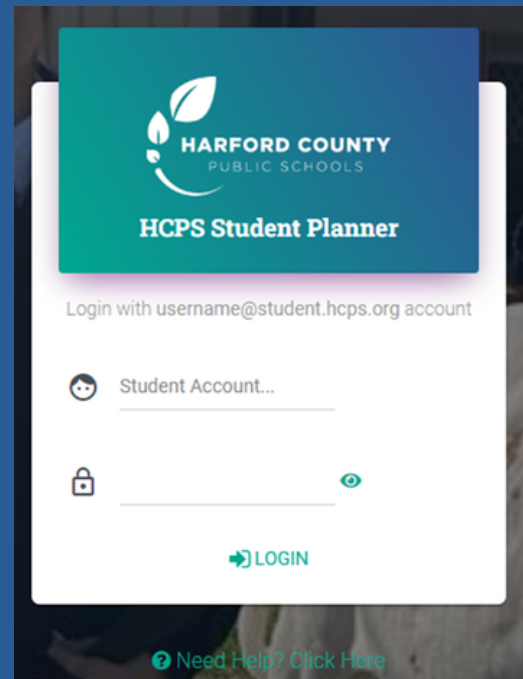
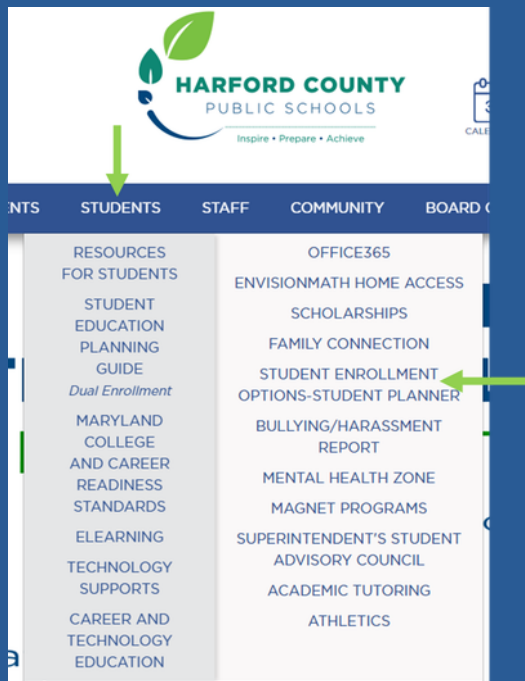
- You may enroll in any of the CTE programs offered in your neighborhood school.

GUIDE TO THE APPLICATION

Visit www.hcps.org, --> Students tab --> Student Planner
OR

Schools > Magnet Programs > Application

Non-HCPS users will be prompted to create an account.



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 1st.
- If you change your mind, you can withdraw your application in the portal.
- Contact your School Counselor for assistance.



GUIDE TO THE APPLICATION *continued*

TEACHER ENDORSEMENTS

HCPS students: Your teachers will autopopulate in the application based on the Magnet you chose.

Non-HCPS students: Accurately enter teacher contact information.

ACTIVITY LIST

Submit a bulleted list.

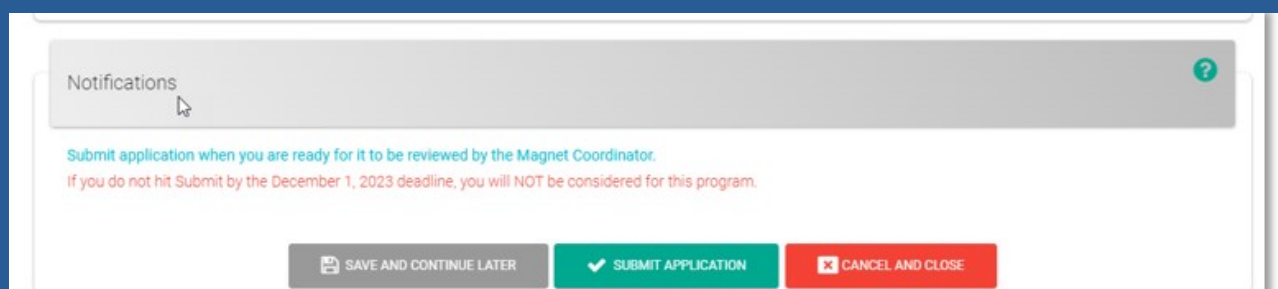
- This list only needs to be submitted once and is active for all programs to which you apply.
- Once you SUBMIT an Activity List, you cannot make changes to it.

OPEN-ENDED PROMPT and RESPONSE

- Applicants will choose and respond to ONE prompt.
- This response will be applied to any and all applications.

SAVING and SUBMITTING

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



The screenshot shows a web interface for submitting an application. At the top, there is a grey notification bar with the text "Notifications" and a green question mark icon. Below this, a message states: "Submit application when you are ready for it to be reviewed by the Magnet Coordinator." followed by a red warning: "If you do not hit Submit by the December 1, 2023 deadline, you will NOT be considered for this program." At the bottom, there are three buttons: "SAVE AND CONTINUE LATER" (grey), "SUBMIT APPLICATION" (green with a checkmark), and "CANCEL AND CLOSE" (red with an X).



WE WANT TO MEET YOU



MAGNET INFORMATION NIGHTS & MIDDLE SCHOOL VISITS

Repeat presentation, varying 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.





2026 MAGNET PROGRAM OPEN HOUSES

Meet Staff, Students, and Tour the High School

All events begin at 6:00 pm

Sponsored by the Office of Career and Technical Education

Thursday, October 8

Army JROTC

P-TECH

- Joppatowne

Tuesday, October 13

**Natural Resources and
Agricultural Sciences
(NRAS)**

- North Harford

Tuesday, October 20

**Global Studies
International Baccalaureate
(GSIB)**

- Edgewood

Wednesday, October 21

**Teacher Academy of
Maryland (TAM/TAM+)**

- Towson University
Northeast (TUNE at HCC)

Thursday, October 22

**Science and Mathematics
Academy**

- Aberdeen

Wednesday, October 28

**Information Technology
Oracle Academy (ITOA)**

- Havre de Grace

Thursday, November 5

All Trade Programs at

- Harford Technical





COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

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

HCPS is committed to bolstering student success and offers various avenues and supports to fulfill this commitment.

Please carefully review HCPS policies for academics and 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	LTC. Ronald Lenker Ronald.Lenker@hcps.org
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
Apprenticeship (non-Magnet)	Pending Available Jobs	Mr. Matt Johnstone Matthew.Johnstone@hcps.org
Coordinator of CTE, Magnet, and Signature Programs		Mrs. Katie Eckstein Katie.Eckstein@hcps.org
Supervisor of CTE, Magnet, and Signature Programs		Mr. Joe Connolly Joseph.Connolly@hcps.org