

Parent and Student Informational Guide to Magnet Programs



**Global Studies
International Baccalaureate**
Edgewood High School



Trades & Industry Programs
Harford Technical High School



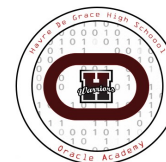
Natural Resources Agriculture Science
North Harford High School



**Pathways in Technology Early College
High School (P-Tech)**
Joppatowne 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 & STUDENTS

As an 8th grader in Harford County, you have more choices than ever as you prepare to enter high school.

The Magnet Program video offers introductory, yet critical, information about the options you have for high school studies including:

- **Global Studies / International Baccalaureate**
Edgewood High School
- **Trades and Industry Programs**
Harford Technical High School
- **Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences**
North Harford High School
- **Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-Tech)**
Joppatowne High School
- **Science and Mathematics Academy**
Aberdeen High School
- **Information Technology Oracle Academy**
Havre De Grace High School

Explore your options to determine which program is right for you.

Mr. Robert Limpert, Supervisor Magnet & CTE Programs

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410-588-5244



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BY THE NUMBERS

This chart indicates the average number of applicants each year alongside the average number of students accepted into each program.

Applicants may apply to a maximum of 3 programs. If offered admission to any programs, please notify program coordinators as soon as possible of your choice so those placed on the waiting list can be notified of the change in their admission statuses.

Remember, each program is a four-year commitment. Due to capacity limitations and program requirements, students cannot change programs. If a student no longer wishes to participate in a Magnet, he/she will withdrawal and return to his/her community school.

Program	Applicants	Accepted
GSIB @ EDHS	180-220	50-60
Trades & Industry @ HTHS	750	267 (Varies by program)
ITOA @ HdHS	115	50
NRAS @ NHHS	150	100 (25 per strand)
PTech @ JOHS	120	30
SMA @ ABHS	225-250	55



OPEN HOUSES

Open House provides an in-depth look at the specific Magnet Program offered in a school. You will learn more about the curriculum, meet teachers, students, and parents currently involved with the Magnet Program, and tour the school facilities. Please direct all questions regarding Open House events to the appropriate Program Specialists listed on page 4 of this booklet.

This year, Open Houses will be conducted virtually.

Science and Mathematics Academy

Aberdeen High School

October 20, 2020 6:30 pm—8:30 pm

Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences

North Harford High School

October 21, 2020 6:30 pm—8:00 pm

Trades and Industry Programs

Harford Technical High School

October 22, 2020 6:30 pm—8:00 pm

Global Studies and International Baccalaureate

Edgewood High School

October 27, 2020 6:30 pm—8:00 pm

Information Technology Oracle Academy

Havre de Grace High School

October 28, 2020 6:30 pm—8:00 pm

Pathways in Technology Early College High School

Joppatowne High School

October 29, 2020 6:30 pm—8:00 pm

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applications will be available online at www.hcps.org beginning **October 19, 2020**.

TIMELINE

December 1, 2020	Online applications close
January - February 2021	Evaluation of candidates
March 2021	Notification sent to all applicants

Global Studies and International Baccalaureate (GSIB)

Edgewood High School
2415 Willoughby Beach Road
Edgewood, MD 21040
410-612-1500

Program Specialist: Laura Childs
Jamie.Childs@hcps.org
Principal: Mr. K. Mack

Harford Technical High School (HTHS)

200 Thomas Run Road
Bel Air, MD 21015
410-638-3804

Program Specialist: Jeanne Donlick
Jeanne.Donlick@hcps.org
Principal: Mr. J. Collins

Information Technology Oracle Academy

Havre de Grace High School
445 Lewis Lane
Havre de Grace, MD 21078
410-939-6600

Program Specialist: Robert Scott
Robert.Scott@hcps.org
Principal: Mr. J. Reynolds

Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences (NRAS)

North Harford High School
211 Pylesville Road
Pylesville, MD 21132
410-638-3650

Program Specialist: Greg Murrell
Gregory.Murrell@hcps.org
Principal: Mr. B. Pawlicki

Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-Tech)

Joppatowne High School
555 Joppa Farm Road
Joppa, MD 21085
410-612-1510

Program Specialist: Shomari Zachary
Shomari.Zachary@hcps.org
Principal: Ms. P. Zeigler

Science and Mathematics Academy (SMA)

Aberdeen High School
251 Paradise Road
Aberdeen, MD 21001
410-273-5500

Program Specialist: Sarah Ashley
Sarah.Ashley@hcps.org
Principal: Mr. M. Quigg

7. TEACHER ENDORSEMENTS

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 endorsement 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 endorsement 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, 2020. 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, 2020.

- 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 into your account at any time 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 contact your school counselor if you need additional assistance.*

GUIDE TO THE ONLINE APPLICATION

Applications will be available at www.hcps.org **October 19, 2020.**

1. Go to www.hcps.org

On the left side of the screen click on Schools > Magnet Programs > Application or visit 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 setup 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 into your account at any time in the future!!

3. 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 enter 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 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 endorsements
- School and community involvement (Activity List)

3. Written communication skills

- Written essay(s)

Additional, program-specific requirements:

Global Studies/International Baccalaureate

- Successful completion of Algebra I prior to entering program.
- Strongly recommend successful completion of Geometry.

Harford Technical High School

- Regular 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.

Information Technology Oracle Academy

Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences

- Algebra I recommended, not required.

Science and Mathematics Academy

- Successful completion of Algebra I and *Geometry prior to entering the program.
*Geometry may be taken during the summer before ninth grade.

Pathways in Technology Early College High School

- No additional requirements at this time.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Where should I turn in my application?

- Applications for all students will be submitted 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.
- If in the process of moving, you must be a resident of Harford County when school starts. Proof of residency will be required when registering.

2. What about teacher endorsement forms ?

- For HCPS students, this process is completed electronically.
- For non-HCPS students, teacher endorsement forms must be downloaded and emailed to current middle school teachers (as noted on the form). Completed endorsements should then be emailed to the appropriate Program Specialist for each magnet program. Email information for each Program Specialist is 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 for receipt of application;
2. Periodic updates regarding evaluation and screening of the application;
3. Notifications regarding further assessment/testing; and
4. Notification of admission 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. Can I still be involved in sports, drama, music, and extracurriculars?

Yes, you have the opportunity to participate in any and all activities offered at your Magnet school.

8. 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.

9. 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).

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

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.

11. I am on Home/Hospital teaching. Am I eligible?

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

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. If I am accepted and end up not liking the program, can I switch?

Due to seat capacity and programmatic requirements, students are not permitted to change magnet programs, but may elect to discontinue the magnet program and return to their community school. Magnet Programs are a 4-year commitment.