MARYLAND SUMMER CENTERS FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

Financial Assistance is available.

Online application should be completed as soon as possible, as Centers fill quickly! Some Centers have extended registration deadlines. Keep checking the webpage, as dates may change at the request of the Center Directors.

http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/programs/Pages/Gifted-Talented/SummerCenters/index.aspx
# 2017 Maryland Summer Centers for Gifted & Talented Students

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*Limited funds for financial assistance available through a generous grant from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation.*
GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION IN MARYLAND: CONTINUING OUR COMMITMENT

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 their potential. These 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 2017 Maryland Summer Centers program continues a 50-year commitment to provide summer educational opportunities for Maryland’s gifted and talented students beyond the scope and outside the walls of the regular classroom. 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:

- "...Outstanding talents are present in children and youth from all cultural groups, across all economic strata, and in all areas of human endeavor." (Jacob K. Javits Gifted and Talented Education Act, 1988);
- gifted and talented students are challenged and motivated by other gifted and talented students with similar academic interests, as well as corresponding social and emotional needs;
- Maryland Summer Centers instructors must possess specialized knowledge, skills, and dispositions in order to maximize the potential of gifted and talented students;
- 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;
- students use creative and critical thinking, as well as problem-solving to confront real-world challenges resulting 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 Maryland Coalition for Gifted and Talented Education (MCGATE) 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 in collaboration with its educational, corporate, and non-profit partners, as well as through the continued generosity of the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation.
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 usually college students majoring in the content related to the Center.

Financial Assistance is available to qualified students through the generosity of the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation.

- 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 Center 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 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 provide some 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 site 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 information requested in the application, including the student essay (except Camp Summit East). 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 ONLINE APPLICATION process is designed to speed-up and make it easier for parents/guardians, students, schools, and Centers. This system provides parents and guardians the ability to apply for multiple students or to multiple Centers. You can also easily upload financial information (if you are applying for financial assistance). Additionally, you can send electronic requests to schools, teachers, counselors, principals, etc. for recommendations, test scores, or any other required information. All you need is your student’s information 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.

- If you intend to apply for financial assistance, you will need to have a copy of the first page of your 2016 FEDERAL TAX FORM (1040 or 1040 EZ).

- Your child should also prepare an essay of LESS THAN 500 WORDS, following the directions in the application. The essay MUST be copied and pasted into the online application. There is no essay required for Camp Summit East!

- Letters of notification are mailed in May.
OUTWARD BOUND CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP FOR ENGLISH LEARNER (EL) STUDENTS

Sponsored by Baltimore Chesapeake Bay Outward Bound School

LOCATION: Wilderness expedition course begins and ends at Baltimore Chesapeake Bay Outward Bound School

ENTERING GRADES: 8 - 9

TYPE: Residential

DATES: August 21-27

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY: Levels 4 & 5 from SY2015-16 ACCESS for ELLs 2.0*

TUITION: $700 for a 7-day residential program (Fee includes all food and use of outdoor equipment)

*Student MUST have been enrolled in an ESOL program in 2016-2017.

Outward Bound programs are a catalyst, equipping students with grit and integrity, new insights into their potential to succeed, and skills to overcome adversity. This EL course offers challenges that enhance self-awareness and self-confidence while developing teamwork, language ability, reflection, and leadership skills. The overnight wilderness setting challenges our students mentally and physically. They learn to dig deep and to push themselves, consistently finding that there is more in them than they know. Participating EL students will be better prepared to apply themselves at school and become positive forces at home and in their communities.

Outward Bound teaches:

Character
Participants will come away with an increase in self-confidence. Courses guide people to be more compassionate toward others and live a healthy and balanced life.

Leadership
Outward Bound teaches the ability to set goals, inspire, and guide others to achieve more. We encourage collaboration, communication, problem solving, and conflict resolution.

Service
Our instructors explain the value of social and environmental responsibility with an emphasis of actively engaging in service to others.

BCBOBS’s expedition curriculum provides the leaders of tomorrow a competitive edge by empowering them with higher-order skills such as collaboration, critical thinking, problem solving, written and cognitive organization, and tenacity. Our unique setting provides genuine, real-world challenges for students to learn to solve together. This expedition is designed to support physical and emotional safety. Skilled and compassionate Instructors foster a caring, positive, inclusive group culture.

BCBOBS enables students to learn the significance of environmental protection through Outward Bound’s commitment to Leave No Trace™. Service to the environment and to each student’s community is one of the pillars of the Outward Bound educational philosophy.

Contact:
Sara Gibb
Baltimore Chesapeake Bay Outward Bound
1900 Eagle Drive
Baltimore, MD 21207
Email: sgibb@outwardboundbaltimore.org
Camp Summit East: The Center for Creativity and Exploration is being brought to the East coast in collaboration with the Maryland State Department of Education’s Summer Centers for Gifted and Talented Students and NorthBay Adventures. It is a week-long overnight summer program designed specifically for gifted students ages 9 through 15. Created especially for developing the "inner and outer nature" of gifted youth. The Summit Center offers stimulating and challenging activities combined with a staff uniquely qualified to nurture such a community located in a beautiful, picturesque setting.

So what makes Camp Summit the annual highlight for our participants? Beyond a knowledgeable and experienced staff, breathtaking settings, and engaging activities, it is those ‘forever’ relationships that campers build with each other that make it unlike any other summer center or summer camp your gifted children have tried.

NorthBay Adventures: The state-of-the-art NorthBay facility also serves as a retreat center for groups both large and small. From small corporate retreats and weddings to large youth retreats NorthBay’s location, facilities and staff combine to create the perfect setting for our guests.

From serving 4400 students in its first year of operation NorthBay’s intensive five-day/four-night, school-year environmental education and character development program now serves over 10,000 public school students each year. Additional educational programs serve an additional 8000 students while over 14,000 retreat guests stay at NorthBay each year.

Contacts:
Julie Skolnick, Director of Public Relations
Julie@WithUnderstandingComesCalm.com
Dr. Michael Postma, Director of Programming
MPost97@gmail.com
Wendy Zinn, Founder
WendyZinn@CampSummitfortheGifted.com

Websites:
http://www.CampSummitForTheGifted.com/
http://northbayadventure.org
Has space exploration and space travel always fascinated you? Have you ever wondered what it is like to be part of an engineering team to plan and design a space mission? At the Center for Space Science, you will work in collaborative teams alongside NASA scientists and engineers to plan a space mission. Learn about the current applications of space technology and exploration of the solar system by simulating the process involved in designing a NASA Discovery Mission. Working in small groups, you will experience the process involved in planning and launching a space mission, including the design and fabrication of a satellite. You will be part of a space center team that builds a scale model of a spacecraft complete with instrumentation. Join in the fun as you design and launch a water bottle rocket. You will also have the opportunity to take a field trip to a space center.

The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (JHU/APL) offers an exciting environment for studying space. You will interact with the JHU/APL scientists and engineers, examine instruments, and tour the test facilities while learning about the exciting careers within the space program from the men and women who plan space missions for NASA and the United States of America.

At the conclusion of the center, you will use the latest technology to present your team's original space mission to your parents and a team of JHU/APL scientists and engineers who will critique the plausibility of your mission.

Contact:
Linda Butler
443-778-5746
Linda.butler@jhuapl.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. With their small groups, they will then interview stakeholders and conduct research and experiments.

Students are given the opportunity to work alongside scientists to make predictions and recommendations on management of upper-Chesapeake Bay’s natural resources. Knowledge gained through data collection and interpretation; library and Internet research; and collaboration with members within the scientific community during the Summer Center program will guide student research and decisions.

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 Center 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
CENTER FOR GLOBAL LANGUAGES

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.

At the conclusion of the 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 to further develop intellectual and critical thinking skills. 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 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 chop-sticks with skill so that they can sample real Chinese food.

French and Spanish
French and Spanish are also available at this Center through the Anne Arundel County Public School System.

Contact:
Office of World and Classical Languages
Anne Arundel County Public Schools
410-224-5424
Fax: 410-224-5469
Email: GlobalLanguages@aacps.org
What to do if I Do Not have a Computer, Internet, 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 50 years!

1) Go to your school and ask a Teacher, Counselor, or 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 and Internet access 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. You should also be able to take the paper or electronic essay and get it scanned to create a PDF document. Your school or a librarian should be able to help you with that.
Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., GOVERNOR

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Maryland Summer Centers
for Gifted and Talented Students

For information please contact:
Office of Gifted and Talented Education
Maryland State Department of Education
200 West Baltimore Street, DCAA, 5th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21201

Phone: (410) 767-0527
Fax: (410) 333-1146

Maryland Summer Centers information, Center descriptions, ONLINE APPLICATION, and videos are available at:
http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/programs/Pages/Gifted-Talented/SummerCenters/index.aspx

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410-767-0100 (voice)
410-333-6442 (TTY/TDD)