NPS High School Specialty Programs
Information and Application Instructions

General Application Instructions

Thank you for your interest in applying for one or more of our NPS High School Specialty Programs for entry into the 9th grade at the beginning of 2024-2025 school year.

Please review all information and instructions here, in addition to exploring information about the specialty programs on our website, reviewing our program brochure that briefly explains each program, and attending one or more program-specific information sessions/open houses prior to completing the online application.

Please note that applicants will indicate their program choice(s) when completing the online application. Students may apply for up to three high school programs. However, as part of the application, students will rank their program choices in the online application in the order of preference, so please be sure to have made those ranking decisions prior to accessing the application. Requirements of each program are included below.

Online applications that contain all required components must be submitted by 11:59 pm on January 31, 2024. Only completed applications will be considered. To be considered “complete,” applicants must ensure that they have submitted the following:

- An online application submitted by the deadline (the application will send a confirmation email to the email provided in the application)
- At least two teacher recommendations, submitted online by providing the name of the teacher and their email address.
  Students who think they will be applying to attend a high school specialty program are encouraged to ask teachers to submit their recommendations early. The teacher recommendations must be from the following teachers (see “General Requirements” below):
  o Math teacher
  o English teacher
  o General teacher (the IB Program requires a recommendation from a world language teacher for the 3rd recommendation)
- A recommendation from the student’s school counselor, will also be submitted online. Students will need to submit the name of their counselor and the email address in the application.

All non-NPS applicants will also complete the above process. The NPS Secondary Programs office will be in contact with non-NPS applicants regarding needed academic records to accompany applications after the completed online application is received.

Please call the Secondary Programs office at (757) 628-3989 with questions.
### NPS High School Specialty Programs

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#### NPS High School Program Requirements

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<th><strong>General Requirements</strong></th>
<th><strong>Additional Program-Specific Requirements</strong></th>
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| • Rising 9th grader and City of Norfolk resident | Academy of the Arts  
Booker T. Washington High School  
Contact: Ms. Angela Burns – adburns@nps.k12.va.us |
| • Positive attendance and discipline history* | • Minimum “B” average in 7th grade and first two quarters of 8th grade required  
• Audition/Portfolio and essay (invitations for qualifying students will be sent after the initial online application is reviewed) |
| • Strong standardized test scores (must pass all 7th grade SOLs to be considered) | • Minimum “C” average in 7th grade and first two quarters of 8th grade required  
• Interview and essay (invitations for qualifying students will be sent after the initial online application is reviewed)  
**Prior to beginning the program, students must:**  
• Have a current sports physical  
• Attend Summer Orientation Camp (Summer 2024) |
| • At least two positive teacher recommendations (Math, English, and one other. For IB Programme applicants, the 3rd must be a world languages teacher) | Leadership Center for the Sciences and Engineering  
Norview High School  
Contact: Ms. Katherine Arroyo – kiarroyo@nps.k12.va.us |
| • School counselor recommendation | • Minimum “B” average in 7th grade and first two quarters of 8th grade required  
• 1 or more high school math credit(s) - Algebra I (minimum). 2 credits, including Geometry, is preferred  
• 1 high school credit in French or Spanish  
• 1 high school credit in Biology or Earth Science (honors level preferred)  
• Entrance exam and essay (invitations for qualifying students will be sent after the initial online application is reviewed)  
**Prior to beginning the program, students must:**  
• Meet with Ms. Arroyo to set their schedules (May/June of 2024)  
• Attend 4-day Summer Orientation Camp (mid-August of 2024) |

*Extemuating circumstances may be considered.  
The application includes space for explanations of extenuating circumstances, as needed.*
International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme
Granby High School
Contact: Ms. Heidi Kirby – hkirby@nps.k12.va.us

- Minimum “B” average in 7th grade and first two quarters of 8th grade required
- 1 high school credit in Algebra I
- 1 high school credit in French, Latin, or Spanish. NOTE: Students who do not meet the world language requirement may still apply and should contact Ms. Gardner for more information.
- 1 high school credit in science (preferred)
- Entrance exam and essay (invitations for qualifying students will be sent after the initial online application is reviewed)

Medical and Health Specialties Program
Maury High School
Contact: Mr. Travis Mansell – tmansell@nps.k12.va.us

- Minimum “B” average in 7th grade and first two quarters of 8th grade required
- 1 high school credit in Algebra I
- 1 additional high school credit (preferred: Honors Biology or Honors Earth Science)
- Entrance exam and essay (invitations for qualifying students will be sent after the initial online application is reviewed)

Prior to beginning the program, students must:
- Attend half-day orientation program in August 2024

Important Dates & Deadlines for High School Specialty Programs
12/05/23 – Online applications become available for submission – visit the NPS Specialty Page website for the link
1/31/24 at 11:59 pm – Deadline to submit completed online application, including all 4 teacher and 1 counselor recommendation forms
March 2024 – Testing, auditions, essays, and portfolio reviews (invitation only to qualified applicants based upon initial review of online application submissions).
April 2024 – Notifications of acceptance, waitlist, or denial mailed to all applicants
5/5/24 - Deadline for students and families to notify programs of their intent to attend the program to which they were accepted for the 2023-2024 school year.