

Informational Guide to Magnet & Technical Programs



**Information Technology
Oracle Academy**
Harve De Grace 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



**Global Studies
International Baccalaureate**
Edgewood High School



Teacher Academy of Maryland
*Harford Technical & Edgewood High
School*



Trades & Industry Programs
Harford Technical High School



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102 S. Hickory Avenue
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Sean Bulson, Ed. D.
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 & Technical Program video offers introductory, yet critical, information about the options you have for high school studies including:

- **Information Technology Oracle Academy**
Havre De Grace 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
- **Global Studies International Baccalaureate**
Edgewood High School
- **Teacher Academy of Maryland**
Harford Technical High School & Edgewood High School
- **Trades and Industry Programs**
Harford Technical High School

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

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My Notes & Questions

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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.

If offered admission to any programs, please notify program specialists 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 4-year commitment. Due to capacity limitations and program requirements, students cannot change programs. If a student no longer wishes to participate in a Magnet or Technical program, he/she will withdrawal and return to his/her community school.

| Program | Applicants | Accepted |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Information Technology Oracle Academy | 115 | 50 |
| Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences | 150 | 100 (25 per strand) |
| Pathways in Technology Early College High School | 120 | 30 |
| Science and Mathematics Academy | 250 | 55 |
| Global Studies and International Baccalaureate | 200 | 55 |
| Harford Technical High School | 750 | 270 (Varies by program) |
| Teacher Academy of Maryland | 120 (projected) | 90 (projected) |



OPEN HOUSES

Open House provides an in-depth look at the specific programs 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 at the following times. Please note: Open House events would be offered in a virtual format for the 2021-22 school year. Please see program specific information below

Science and Mathematics Academy

Aberdeen High School

[Teams Live event Link](#)

October 21, 2021 6:30 pm—7:30 pm

Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences

North Harford High School

[Teams Live event Link](#)

October 26, 2021 6:30 pm—7:30 pm

Global Studies and International Baccalaureate

Edgewood High School

[Teams Live event Link](#)

October 25, 2021 6:30 pm—7:30 pm

Information Technology Oracle Academy

Havre de Grace High School

[Teams Live event Link](#)

October 27, 2021 6:30 pm—7:30 pm

Trades and Industry Programs

Harford Technical High School

[Teams Live event Link](#)

October 28, 2021 6:30 pm—7:30 pm

Pathways in Technology Early College High School

Joppatowne High School

[Teams Live event Link](#)

November 2, 2021 6:30 pm—7:30 pm

Teacher Academy of Maryland

[Teams Live event Link](#)

November 4, 2021 6:30 pm—7:30 pm

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applications will be available online at www.hcps.org

TIMELINE

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| October 20 - December 1 | Online Applications |
| January - February 2022 | Evaluation of candidates |
| March 2022 | Notification sent to all applicants |

Information Technology Oracle Academy (ITOA)

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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. Richard Jester |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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. Brian Pawlicki |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Joppatowne High School 555 Joppa Farm Road Joppa, MD 21085 410-612-1510 | Program Specialist: Shomari Zachary Shomari.Zachary@hcps.org Principal: Ms. Pamela 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. Michael Quigg |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Global Studies and International Baccalaureate (GSIB)

Teacher Academy of Maryland

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Edgewood High School 2415 Willoughby Beach Road Edgewood, MD 21040 410-612-1500 | IB Program Specialist: Laura Childs Jamie.Childs@hcps.org TAM Program Specialist: Alissa Thomas Alissa.Thomas@hcps.org Principal: Mr. Kilo Mack |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Harford Technical High School (HTHS)

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|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 200 Thomas Run Road Bel Air, MD 21015 410-638-3804 | Program Specialist: Jeanne Donlick Jeanne.Donlick@hcps.org Principal: Mr. Jim Reynolds |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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 complete one endorsement form.
 - Once your teacher has submitted an endorsement, it is applicable for **all** programs.
 - Non-HCPS students must include 3 teachers emails into the portal.
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, 2021. Your application will not be considered until this step is completed.
- This list only needs to be submitted once and is active for all programs to which you apply.
 - Please provide information including clubs, sports, volunteer work, hobbies, and interests in the form of a **BULLETED LIST**.
 - Once you submit your Activity List, you cannot make changes to it.
9. All programs will ask you to write an essay. You may complete this now, or at a later time, but NOT later than December 1, 2021.
- Your application will not be considered until this step is completed.
 - Once you submit your essay, you cannot make changes to it.
 - Student essays that do not demonstrate interest in the program of their choice will not be considered for admission.

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

IMPORTANT NOTES:

**You can log into your account any time until December 1st to review your application.*

**Within your account, there is an area 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 20, 2021**.

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 Harford County Public Schools.

- Complete 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 and Technical Program."

4. Read the Application Policy with your parent/guardian. 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 Technical High School- choose ONE technical program.
- For Natural Resources Animal Science - choose your pathways in order of preference.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

These minimum requirements 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
- Reading Index

2. Demonstrated interest and motivation for learning

- Report card comments
- Teacher endorsements
- School and community involvement (Activity List)

3. Written communication skills and essay component

Additional, program-specific requirements

Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences and Information Technology Oracle Academy Teacher Academy of Maryland

- Algebra 1 recommended, not required.

Pathways in Technology Early College High School

- Open lottery

Science and Mathematics Academy

- Successful completion of Algebra 1 and *Geometry (summer school offered) prior to entering the program.

Global Studies/International Baccalaureate

- Successful completion of Algebra1 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

- 50% of students on merit, 50% of students open lottery
- Academy of Health Professions, Computer Aided Drafting and Design and IT Networking successful completion of Algebra 1 prior to entering the program.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Where should I turn in my application?

- Applications for all students are 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 moving, you must be a resident of Harford County when school starts. Proof of residency is required when registering.

2. What about teacher endorsement forms ?

- For HCPS students, this process is completed electronically.
- For non-HCPS students, students must download teacher endorsement forms and emailed to current middle school teachers (as noted on the form). Completed endorsements should be emailed to the appropriate Program Specialist for each 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 was received?

Please note each communication from Harford County Public Schools and Program Specialists, will come to you via **EMAIL**.

- Initial acknowledgment for receipt of application;
- Periodic updates regarding evaluation and screening;
- Notifications regarding further assessment/testing; and
- Notification of admission status throughout the admissions process.

Notifications will be sent to the email addresses provided on the application. To ensure you receive these communications, set your email to accept correspondence from webmaster@hcps.org, as well as messages from the 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 current transportation information.

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 or Technical school.

8. What if I have not been enrolled in Harford County Public 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).

9. I receive accommodations through an IEP or 504 Plan. Am I eligible to apply for HCPS magnet and technical programs?

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.

10. I am on Home/Hospital teaching. Am I eligible for HCPS magnet and technical programs?

You may still apply by choosing your assigned middle school.

11. I need help with the application process. Where can I get help?

Refer to our "Guide to the Online Application" on the next page, contact your School Counselor, or the appropriate Program Specialist.

12. What if I change my mind and want to withdraw my application to a program?

This can be completed online through the application website.

13. 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 program and return to their community schools. Magnet and Technical Programs are a 4-year commitment.