



# MathScience Innovation Center

*Imagine. Create. Lead.*

January 21, 2020

Dear Governor's School Applicant and Parents:

The Summer Regional Governor's School at the MathScience Innovation Center is one of more than twenty summer programs for gifted students sponsored state-wide by the Virginia Department of Education. This year's program will be held on June 22 - 26, 29, 30, & July 1, 2020 from 8:30 am – 3:00 pm each day. All classes are held at the MathScience Innovation Center, 2401 Hartman St. Richmond, VA 23223. Students currently enrolled in grades 6, 7 or 8 who have been identified by their school divisions as gifted are eligible to apply. There is no tuition charge for participation in the Center's Summer Regional Governor's School. It is supported by the State of Virginia and the school boards of the MathScience Innovation Center's consortium school divisions. Participation in Governor's School is an exciting opportunity and a special privilege. Our students are selected from the most able and motivated students in the Richmond area.

The MathScience Innovation Center's Summer Regional Governor's School serves students from thirteen counties and cities (both public and private schools.) Because of the great number of students who are interested and the limited number of spaces available, the selection process is competitive, and not everyone who applies can be accepted. Completed applications are to be sent to your school division's gifted education supervisor who will select nominees and alternates for each place allotted to your school or school division. Nominations and applications will then be sent to the MathScience Innovation Center by the school division.

In some cases, students are designated as alternates. If a Summer Regional Governor's School student decides not to participate, the first alternate from his or her division is accepted. If the first alternate cannot attend, the second alternate is notified, and so on. Alternates are not admitted if a student drops out after the program has begun.

Additional information can be found on our website ([www.mymusic.org](http://www.mymusic.org)) under "Student Programs", "Governor's School". Please email me ([cstiff@mymusic.org](mailto:cstiff@mymusic.org)) or call at (414) 704-9927 if you have any additional questions. I wish you success in your efforts!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Stiff', written in a cursive style.

Christian Stiff  
Special Programming Coordinator  
Summer Regional Governor's School Director  
MathScience Innovation Center

**Student Application**  
**MathScience Innovation Center**  
**Summer Regional Governor's School 2020**

Read this page first!

1. Discuss the Summer Regional Governor's School program with your parent or guardian and make sure you understand what the Summer Regional Governor's School is, and that you will be able to participate if you are accepted. If you have questions, talk to your counselor, your gifted program teacher, and with other students who have attended a Governor's School in the past. You may also contact the MSiC by calling Christian Stiff at (414) 704-9927 or Debbie Mitchell, 343-6525 ext. 80243.
2. Read the entire application packet before you begin to fill it out. The packet has three important sections:
  - A. Applicant Information**  
Don't forget to read the "Parent's Permission Statement" and have your parent sign it.
  - B. Student Essay**  
Read the directions carefully and give yourself plenty of time to do your best.
  - C. Teacher Recommendation Forms**  
Be sure to have your parent or guardian sign both of the teacher recommendation forms before you give them to your teacher. You should give these to your teachers as soon as you decide to apply for Governor's School so that they will have enough time to complete the forms and return them to the appropriate person in your school. These two forms are to be filled out by teachers who know you well enough to be able to give complete answers to the questions. You may choose any two teachers you wish, including teachers you had last year. If there is a scout leader, tutor, or other adult (not a family member) who you feel can give a more complete evaluation of you than a teacher, you may ask this person to complete an evaluation form. At least one of the two evaluations must come from a classroom teacher, however.
3. Submit Parts A and B of the application to either your gifted program teacher or your guidance counselor on or before the deadline which has been set by your school. Please direct your teachers to send their recommendation forms (Part C) to your gifted program teacher or your guidance counselor on or before the deadline which has been set by your school as well. If you do not know the deadline, ask your teacher or call the Gifted Program Supervisor at your school division office.
4. If you are selected by your school division as a nominee, your application will be sent to the MathScience Innovation Center. You will receive a notification via e-mail from the Center *on or before April 16, 2020* notifying you of your acceptance status.

**A. Applicant Information**  
**MathScience Innovation Center**  
**Summer Regional Governor's School 2020**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ School Division \_\_\_\_\_

Present Grade in School \_\_\_\_\_

**Class for which you are applying (please indicate first and second choice with a 1 & 2):**

CSI: Student Academy (grade 6 & 7) \_\_\_\_\_ A River Runs Through It (grade 7 & 8) \_\_\_\_\_

Prototyping Nature's Design (grade 6 & 7) \_\_\_\_\_ I am Nano (grade 7 & 8) \_\_\_\_\_

The Next Giant Leap (grade 6 & 7) \_\_\_\_\_

**Address and phone information:**

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

(Acceptance notification will be sent to this email address – Please Print)

**Race/Ethnic Background (optional - for statistical purposes only)**

Black/Non-Hispanic \_\_\_\_\_

White/Non-Hispanic \_\_\_\_\_

American Indian/Alaskan Native \_\_\_\_\_

Asian/Pacific Islander \_\_\_\_\_

Hispanic \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's Permission Statement**

Name of Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(student's name)

has my permission to participate, if selected, in the 2020 Summer Regional Governor's School at the Math Science Innovation Center. I understand that, if accepted, my child will **be required to attend every day** during the program, and participate in all program activities. I understand that daily transportation to and from the Center is my responsibility. Absence (except in case of personal illness or family emergency) and infraction of rules and regulations may result in immediate dismissal. Students who miss more than one day of the program will not be eligible to receive a certificate of completion.

Signature of Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Student Essay**  
**MathScience Innovation Center**  
**Governor's School 2020**

**Directions:**

Complete by typing or neatly writing on separate sheets of paper. Write your full name in the upper right corner of each page, and attach to the "Applicant Information" page.

The essay question on this page is very important. Remember that nearly all students who apply for Governor's School make excellent grades and have high test scores. This essay question will give you a chance to "stand out from the crowd." Your response should showcase your special talents, accomplishments, knowledge, and creativity. You are welcome to supplement your response in any style you wish (artwork, video, etc.) The essay should be between 200-300 words (1-2 typewritten pages). The essay will be evaluated on creativity, clarity of expression, and completeness. You may have someone else type your essays for you, but you must do the original writing yourself!

**Why should you be considered for this program?** (For example: CSI: Student Academy, Prototyping Nature's Design, The Next Giant Leap, A River Runs Through It or I am Nano.) You may include information on any of your special interests / activities, aptitudes, hobbies, or school projects which you feel qualify you for this experience.

**C. Teacher Recommendation 1**  
**MathScience Innovation Center**  
**Governor's School 2020**

**To The Student:** Items A, B, and C below should be completed by your parent before this form is given to your teacher.

A. Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

B. Course applied for \_\_\_\_\_

C. Parent Permission Statement:

Permission is hereby given for the release of the information requested concerning my child.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**To The Teacher:**

This student is applying for a science course at the Center's Summer Regional Governor's School for gifted students sponsored by the Virginia Department of Education. The information requested on this form will be used in the selection process. Your description of this student's interests, abilities, and special talents will be extremely helpful. **The selection team will be seeing this student through your eyes, so your comments are very important!**

This recommendation should be returned to the student's gifted program teacher or your guidance counselor, as soon as possible. The student's application cannot be processed without this form. If you have any questions, call your Gifted Program Supervisor, or call / email Christian Stiff at MathScience Innovation Center at (414) 704-9927 or (cstiff@mymsic.org). Thank you for your help!

1. What course or program of studies under your supervision has the student taken? In what year(s)?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Please estimate the extent to which the student has demonstrated in your classes the qualities listed below:

(Scale: 4 = superior; 3 = good; 2 = fair; 1 = poor)

a. intellectual curiosity	4	3	2	1
b. academic ability	4	3	2	1
c. capacity for analysis and synthesis	4	3	2	1
d. attitude toward learning	4	3	2	1
e. organizational skills	4	3	2	1
f. ability to work with peers & teachers	4	3	2	1
g. initiative	4	3	2	1
h. maturity and dependability	4	3	2	1

(OVER)

**Teacher Recommendation 1**

**Page 2**

(You may use a separate sheet for your responses if you wish. Please include the student's full name on each additional page.)

3. All applicants for this program are among the top students in their school in academic achievement. Cite examples which explain why this student is outstanding among other outstanding students. Please be specific and do not cite grades and test scores.

4. Please add other comments about the student, which would be helpful to the selection committee. For example, how motivated is the student to accept and follow through with academic challenges? How does the student relate to others when working in a group? How much interest and enthusiasm has the student shown toward science?

---

Signature of Teacher

---

Date

---

School

---

School Division

**C. Teacher Recommendation 2**  
**MathScience Innovation Center**  
**Governor's School 2020**

**To The Student:** Items A, B, and C below should be completed by your parent before this form is given to your teacher.

A. Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

B. Course applied for \_\_\_\_\_

C. Parent Permission Statement:

Permission is hereby given for the release of the information requested concerning my child.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature Date

**To The Teacher:**

This student is applying for a science course at the Center's Summer Regional Governor's School for gifted students sponsored by the Virginia Department of Education. The information requested on this form will be used in the selection process. Your description of this student's interests, abilities, and special talents will be extremely helpful. **The selection team will be seeing this student through your eyes, so your comments are very important!**

This recommendation should be returned to the student's gifted program teacher or your guidance counselor, as soon as possible. The student's application cannot be processed without this form. If you have any questions, call your Gifted Program Supervisor, or call / email Christian Stiff at MathScience Innovation Center at (414) 704-9927 or (cstiff@mymusic.org). Thank you for your help!

1. What course or program of studies under your supervision has the student taken? In what year(s)?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Please estimate the extent to which the student has demonstrated in your classes the qualities listed below:

(Scale: 4 = superior; 3 = good; 2 = fair; 1 = poor)

- |  |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| a. intellectual curiosity                | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| b. academic ability                      | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| c. capacity for analysis and synthesis   | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| d. attitude toward learning              | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| e. organizational skills                 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| f. ability to work with peers & teachers | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| g. initiative                            | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| h. maturity and dependability            | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

(OVER)

**Teacher Recommendation 2**  
**Page 2**

(You may use a separate sheet for your responses if you wish. Please include the student's full name on each additional page.)

3. All applicants for this program are among the top students in their school in academic achievement. Cite examples which explain why this student is outstanding among other outstanding students. Please be specific and do not cite grades and test scores.

4. Please add other comments about the student, which would be helpful to the selection committee. For example, how motivated is the student to accept and follow through with academic challenges? How does the student relate to others when working in a group? How much interest and enthusiasm has the student shown toward science?

---

Signature of Teacher

---

Date

---

School

---

School Division