



BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Review the eligibility requirements listed on page 7 of this application to ensure you are eligible to apply for Governor's School. The use of Artificial Intelligence is prohibited. AI may not be used to assist with the creative or application process.

INSTRUCTIONS

- SAVE** this application on your computer, then open the saved version in a pdf program. Do not try to complete it within a web browser, as your data might not save.
- STUDENT INFORMATION.** Complete all fields below. If your school/school system elects to nominate you to the State level, the Office of the North Carolina Governor's School will use that information for future contact. **SAVE YOUR FILE!**
- PART 1: GENERAL ESSAY.** Read the instructions and enter your essay. **SAVE YOUR FILE!**
- PART 2: DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC TASK.** Read the specific instructions for your area of nomination and complete the assigned essay or audition.
- PART 3: PERSONAL READINESS.** Quality of activities and awards is more important than quantity; note your leadership, dedication, etc. Tell why some of these are meaningful to you, and how you are ready for Governor's School. **SAVE YOUR FILE!**
- PART 4: STATEMENTS OF ASSURANCE.**
- SUBMIT** this application electronically to the appropriate local school personnel. **DO NOT** send it directly to the State. Your school will add the official transcript and other components to create your nomination if they decide to advance it for State-level consideration.
- RECOMMENDATIONS (2).** Ask two people (*at least one of whom must be one of your current or former high school teachers in the subject area of your nomination*) to each submit an official recommendation. Direct them to the official Recommendation Form on the Governor's School website. They must complete their form electronically and send it directly to the Governor's School contact at your school. (They should not send Recommendation Forms to you or to the state NC Governor's School office.)

STUDENT INFORMATION

COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY, NOT HANDWRITTEN

NOMINATION DISCIPLINE

NC Student ID#

Name:

FIRST

MIDDLE INITIAL

LAST

Preferred First Name:

Mailing Address:

STREET OR BOX #

CITY

ZIP CODE

Best Email Address:

Parent/Guardian Phone Number:

Name of Parent/Guardian:

Parent's Best Email Address:

Date of Birth:

Sex*:
(officially recognized)

Race:
(check all that apply)

American Indian or
Alaska Native

Native Hawaiian or
Other Pacific Islander

Asian

Black or African American

White

Ethnicity:
(answer yes or no)

Hispanic/Latino?

HIGH SCHOOL CURRENTLY ATTENDING

School System/Unit:

School Name:

Currently Enrolled Grade:

Have you ever attended a North Carolina public school?

10TH GRADE: ELIGIBLE ONLY FOR CHORAL MUSIC, INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC, AND DANCE
11TH GRADE: ELIGIBLE FOR ALL DISCIPLINES

NOTE: If yes, please provide your NC Student ID number above



NC Student ID#

Name of Student:

FIRST

MIDDLE INITIAL

LAST

PART 1: GENERAL ESSAY

COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY, NOT HANDWRITTEN

ESSAY INSTRUCTIONS:

- Type or paste your essay into the box below. Do not retype the prompt, but be sure your essay responds to it. Use a standard font (e.g., Arial, Times New Roman, Helvetica, etc.) no larger than 10 point.
- The entire essay (i.e., title, body, etc.) must be no more than 3,500 characters, around 500-550 words. Formal citations or footnotes are not necessary. Credit or mention any authors, works, ideas, etc. that are not your own within the essay itself.
- Do not include pictures, charts or any other graphics.
- Formatting within the essay box is limited. If necessary, edit/format your essay in another program and paste it in the essay box. Essays will be judged on content, not format.

PROMPT: Identify and discuss a contemporary 21st century topic or movement within your area of application that interests you. Who or what has been instrumental in this topic's or movement's development? Why is it significant, and what could be the future impact of this topic or movement? Explain how you would consider multiple perspectives and further explore this topic.

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PART 2: DISCIPLINE-SPECIFIC TASK

ARTS DISCIPLINES (Choral Music, Dance, Instrumental Music, Theater, Visual Arts)

Audition Instructions:

- Identify your audition link according to your nomination discipline.
- Follow directions for each audition. Pay close attention to the audition information and details as you complete your audition.
- Submit an audition link to your Governor’s School Coordinator, as directed. Make sure your link is not locked and can be viewed by others.

Choral Music	Dance	Instrumental Music	Theater	Visual Arts
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When your link has been submitted, please check the box below to verify the statement that you have completed and submitted the audition appropriate for your nomination discipline.

I have completed and submitted the audition for my nomination discipline. I have verified that the link is active and accessible.
I have shared that link with my Governor’s School Coordinator.

ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES (English, Mathematics, Natural Science, Social Science, Spanish)

Essay Instructions:

- Identify your essay prompt according to your nomination discipline.
- Type or paste your essay into the box below. Do not retype the prompt, but be sure your essay responds to it. Use a standard font (e.g., Arial, Times New Roman, Helvetica, etc.) no larger than 10 point.
- The entire essay (i.e., title, body, etc.) must be no more than 3,500 characters, around 500-550 words. Do not include pictures, charts, or any other graphics.
- Formatting within the essay box is limited. If necessary, edit/format your essay in another program and paste it in the essay box. Essays will be judged on content, not format.
- It is recommended that your General Essay and Discipline-Specific Essay explore different topics, ideas, and/or information.

Prompts:

English: Describe a vision of the world as presented in a 20th or 21st century literary work that is fundamentally different from your own. What have you learned from seeing through this lens? How has this impacted your own perception or understanding of the world?

Mathematics: Modern mathematics is driven not by a reliance on the concepts of numbers and data, but by the need for people to ask good questions and think deeply. With that in mind, what are some questions you hope to have answered by your further study of mathematics? What factors influence your ability to think deeply in a mathematics environment? Support your answer with examples that briefly describe how you interact with mathematics and your interest in the subject.

Natural Science: Discuss a scientific concept or idea from the past 10 years that is still being developed or still considered experimental. How could gathering additional evidence about this process, concept, or idea affect the scientific discipline and society as a whole? How could development and study of this concept continue in an ethical and sustainable manner?

Social Science: Select an influential person (thinker, writer, artist, etc.), a social movement, or an event that you believe does not receive enough attention or study in today’s society. Explain why this should receive more attention by focusing on a specific work, action, or detail from that influential person, social movement, or event. How could your topic be studied by people with different perspectives, and what could more intentional study better help us understand about today’s society?

Spanish: Complete both the Essay and Speaking Component.

- Essay: Choose a current issue that exists in both the US and a Spanish-speaking country. Compare how both societies’ people, laws, and social movements address the issue. Respond in Spanish. Speaking Component: Click this link for instructions: [Speaking Component for Spanish](#).
- Speaking Component: Click this link for instructions: [Speaking Component for Spanish](#).

Continue to the next page to write your essay.



PowerSchool ID#

Name of Student:

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PART 2: DISCIPLINE-SPECIFIC TASK | ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES *continued*

Type your essay in the box below:



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Name of Student:

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LAST

PART 3: PERSONAL READINESS

Spanning the past three years, list the school and community activities in which you have been involved in a dedicated & meaningful way. List any awards and honors you have received during this time. Please use bulleted lists. (LIMIT 1500 CHARACTERS)

School and Community Activities and Honors

Select one of your activities or honors and explain why it was particularly meaningful for you.

(LIMIT 1500 CHARACTERS)



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PART 3: PERSONAL READINESS *continued*

PERSONAL REFLECTION

North Carolina Governor’s School seeks to create a vibrant learning community each summer. While residing on campus for four weeks is often a new and rewarding experience for students, it can present new challenges. Share an example of a challenge you have overcome, either in your studies, extracurricular activities, or your personal life, and explain how overcoming this challenge demonstrates your readiness to attend Governor’s School. (LIMIT 3500 CHARACTERS)



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PART 4: STUDENT AND PARENT/GUARDIAN STATEMENTS OF ASSURANCE

After completing the application please read the statements below and sign that you are in compliance with each statement.

1. I have read the family overview of the program and will abide by the rules outlined therein.
2. I understand the attendance and visitation policy detailed in the family overview of the program.
3. I understand that all decisions regarding selection are final and that there is no appeals process.
4. I understand that the Governor's School's health and safety measures will be based upon the prevailing needs of students and the community in consultation with health officials at the time of the beginning of the 2026 session.
5. I certify that the work in this application is entirely my own. I have not used AI to assist in completing this application.

STUDENT NAME
(YOUR NAME SERVES AS YOUR SIGNATURE)

DATE

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME
(YOUR NAME SERVES AS YOUR SIGNATURE)

DATE

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Students must meet the requirements below to be considered for selection to the NC Governor's School.

1. Be a North Carolina resident,
 - Exchange students are not eligible.
 - Students attending a NC federal high school (ie Lejeune High School), regardless of residency, are eligible to apply if they meet the other eligibility requirements.
2. Attend a North Carolina public or non-public school, and
3. Be enrolled in Grade 11 at the time of nomination. Students in Grades 10 or 11 may apply only in Dance, Choral Music, or Instrumental Music.

To be eligible to apply to the NC Governor's School, a student must meet one of the criteria listed below:

- Cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.25 or higher; or
- Cumulative weighted GPA of 3.5 or higher; or
- Score of 4 or higher on an NC End of Course assessment; or
- Score of 3 or higher on an Advanced Placement exam; or
- Grade of B or higher in a Career College Promise course on the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement, or a University Course; or
- Minimum composite score of 19 on the Pre-ACT/ACT or a minimum score of 1010 on the PSAT/SAT; or
- Minimum score of 90th percentile on aptitude assessment (composite or subtest).