



2025–2026

Magnet, CAT, and JROTC Program Information Guide

Anne Arundel County Public Schools

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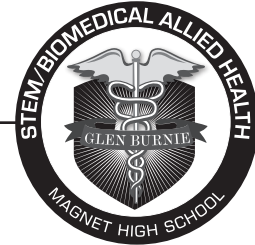
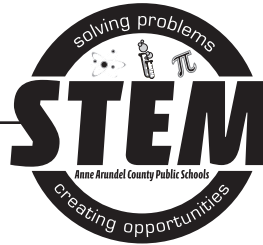
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Magnet, Career & Technical, and JROTC Programs in Anne Arundel County Public Schools



Magnet Programs

AACPS is proud to offer the following Magnet Programs:

- Apex Arts,
- International Baccalaureate (IB),
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) including the healthcare industry through our Biomedical Allied Health (BMAH) program.

Students in Magnet programs explore their interests, talents, and abilities in a hands-on, highly specialized, and rigorous instructional setting. They learn the skills, techniques, and issues that are current and relevant within their field of study. Students take both pride and ownership in being a part of a Magnet program as they prepare themselves to be future leaders.

Applications are submitted online within the published timeframe. Applications are reviewed; an application to Apex Arts requires auditions and an application to STEM and BMAH requires student interviews. All applications for students with high numbers of referrals and/or absences are subject to additional review and may result in the student being denied admission or enter the program under a probationary status.

Centers of Applied Technology

In addition to the Magnet Programs, AACPS also offers Career and Technical Education completer programs at both Centers of Applied Technology—CAT North and CAT South. Students in these programs take classes in their home high school and are transported to the CAT center for specialized courses set in a hands-on and rigorous instructional setting.

IB Magnet students may be able to take courses at a CAT center during their 9th grade year, pending room in the schedule. During grades 10–12, IB Magnet students who wish to pursue a CTE completer program at a CAT Center must consult with their school counselor and Magnet program lead.

Junior Reserve Officers' Corps

JROTC is the Department of Defense's (DoD) largest youth development program in our secondary schools. JROTC's leadership development curriculum begins with instruction about leadership theory, which teaches Cadets motivational principles, individual and group management practices, decision making skills, and interpersonal relations. Students from around the county will be able to apply for a seat in JROTC programs located at three county high schools. As with the Magnets programs, geographic zones will be created; transportation will be provided. Further details regarding transportation will be provided closer to the beginning of the school year.

JROTC programs will remain partial-day programs with students attending the JROTC school for periods 3 and 4. This will allow them to remain members of the home school community while pursuing JROTC. Due to long-standing partnerships and Board approved Memos of Understanding with the Armed Forces, the JROTC schools will continue to consist of a 60% participation of students from the JROTC school, leaving 40% of the seats available through the application and potential lottery process.



Applying for a Magnet, CAT, or JROTC Program

Although the application process is similar for each program, there are specific differences for Apex Arts and CAT programs. Those differences are clearly stated.

What You Need to Know Before You Apply

Username and Password

Current AACPS Students

Username: This is your official, six-digit, AACPS student ID number (also known as your lunch number).

Password: This is the same password you use when logging into computers at school.

Non-AACPS Students

You will be prompted to create a Username and Password. Please note, Magnet offices cannot reset passwords.

Documentation

Current AACPS students

No documentation is required when applying for a Magnet program. If you were not an AACPS student last year, the Magnet Office will be in contact with you for copies of the previous year's end of year marks.

Non-AACPS students

You'll need to upload the following documents when applying for a Magnet program:

- Proof of residency in Anne Arundel County (a utility bill or phone bill, for example)
- Previous year's report card
- Current grades

Application Process Timeline

Please consult the Magnet website, at www.aacps.org/Magnet for a timeline which maps out the review, eligibility, and application process.

World Language Requirement

For those applying to a high school Magnet Program, who have not taken Level 1 of a World Language or have taken a World Language that is not offered at the Magnet HS to which you are applying, please contact the Magnet Site Coordinator to discuss your options. Rosetta Stone and Duolingo do not count for Magnet applications. The requirement is that a student should have successfully completed a high-school-bearing credit course.

Step 1—(Application)

Apply online at www.aacps.org/Magnet during the application window.

Step 2—(Documentation/Apex Arts Audition)

Current AACPS Students:

For students attending AACPS for two consecutive years at the time of application, no further action is necessary. The online application system will have access to information needed for academic evaluation.

For students attending AACPS at the time of application but who did not attend AACPS in the previous school year, the program leads will contact you for last year's end of year marks.

Non-AACPS students:

Students coming from outside AACPS will need to upload proof of residency and the previous year's end-of-year marks, along with any current grades. Please review the criteria for eligibility. The Magnet Office cannot request information from the current school for the purpose of evaluating eligibility if the academic end of year marks comes from another school system.

Home Instruction students:

Evidence of compliance with Maryland State regulations (COMAR). Applicants must also comply with Magnet qualifications for application (see *World Language Requirement*, left).

Apex Arts applicants:

Applicants will be assigned an audition date and time. Contact the Apex Arts office at apexarts@aacps.org if you need to change your appointment.

STEM & BMAH applicants:

Applicants will be emailed an interview form or provided with a virtual interview date and time for Phase I of the interview process. Directions will be provided by the STEM-BMAH Office for those needing to change their interview appointment. Those students who require a second interview will be notified following the outcomes of the Phase I interviews.

Step 3—(Timeline)

Please check your email regularly (the email you provided in your application). Many of our emails require timely feedback. Please be sure to check your Spam/Junk folders regularly as well.

Step 4—(Lottery)

A third party conducts a non-weighted lottery. Parents will be notified of lottery results no later than the end of February. The seat offers and waitlist offers will be published on the Magnet website.

[For information about the CAT lottery, please contact the CAT Center directly.]

Note: There is no sibling preference or policy for lottery results.

- Two lists will be generated from the lottery: a seat offer for each Magnet Program, and a waitlist offer for each Magnet Program.
- Students may only accept one seat offer but can accept multiple waitlist offers.
- The Magnet Office maintains the waitlist until September. All waitlists will be disbanded in September.

Accepting/Declining Offers and Commitment to the Magnet Program of Choice:

- Parents must accept or decline each seat offer within the timeline given in the offer notification through the online portal at www.aacps.org/Magnet.
- Day 1 is the day of notification.
- If there is no response by noon on the fifth school day, the Magnet Office will decline the offer. The offer will then go to the next student on the waitlist. Once declined, the seat offer no longer exists.
- All Magnet waitlist offers will be automatically considered accepted unless parents go to the application to decline the waitlist seat.

Step 5—(Committing to a Magnet Program)

In the early spring, individual Magnet school leaders will contact families with information about a *Welcome and Registration Night* (either virtual or face to face). Be prepared to:

- Sign a commitment document (both students and parents/guardians), sent at the time of seat offer and found at www.aacps.org/MagnetLottery.
- Furnish residency documentation (if required).
- Plan for mandatory summer experiences for students (for some programs).

Middle School Magnet Programs (Grades 6–8)



Middle School

Apex Arts (Formerly Performing and Visual Arts, PVA)

Grades	Magnet Schools	Contacts	Website
6–8	Bates Middle School Brooklyn Park Middle School	David Kauffman Apex Arts Senior Manager apexarts@aacps.org	Jennifer Jerrell Apex Arts Teacher Specialist 410-280-1501

Who should apply?

Grade 5 and 6 students interested in music, dance, theatre, creative writing, and visual arts. Seat offers for 7th grade entrance will be made based on seat availability. See the Apex Arts website for more information.

Program Overview

The Apex Arts Middle School Magnet program offers an arts-infused curriculum for students interested in achieving their maximum potential as an artist. This program is designed to engage students in focused arts instruction (also called Prime Arts areas) with qualified teachers and professional artists to foster creative inquiry, artistic excellence, and community engagement.

Students can focus their study in one of the Prime Arts Areas:

- Creative Writing
- Theatre
- Instrumental Music: Band
- Instrumental Music: Orchestra
- Dance
- Vocal Music
- Visual Arts

The Apex Arts Middle School curriculum offers the following World Language options:

Bates:

- Spanish & Italian—(1A/1B/2 Hybrid)
- Spanish & French—(1A/1B/2 Hybrid)

Auditions—All applicants are required to attend an audition during the audition window.

Students may apply to and audition for two arts areas. If two seats are offered in Apex Arts, students may only accept one arts area. Auditions may include:

- Prime-specific portfolio of student work (prepared in advance)
- Prepared selection for performance (prepared in advance)
- Prime-Specific performance prompt (provided at the audition)
- Interview

Specific audition requirements are available on the Apex Arts website (www.aacps.org/apexarts).

Auditions for the Apex Arts Program will take place in December and January. Audition appointments are assigned by the online application system. Reschedules are limited and not guaranteed. Please plan accordingly.

Important Note:

Acceptance and participation in a middle school Magnet program does not guarantee placement in the corresponding high school Magnet program. All middle school students (Magnet students included) must apply in grade 8 if they wish to be eligible for the high school Magnet.

Middle school students who plan to apply to a high school Magnet program must take a middle school World Language which is also offered in the Magnet high school in which they would like to apply. If the World Language a middle school student takes is not available in the Magnet high school they would like to apply to, they must start at level 1 of a World Language that is offered at the Magnet high School they are attending. American Sign Language is NOT an approved World Language for the High School Magnet World Language requirement.

Apex Arts Eligibility Requirements		Grade 4	Grade 5 (First marking period)	Grade 5 (final grades) ¹
Academic Criteria	Final Grade Average Students whose GPA is below 2.0 are ineligible.	2.5 GPA with no Es	2.5 GPA with no Es	2.5 GPA with no Es
	OR	State Standardized Tests	For students who have a GPA of 2.0 to 2.5, State Standardized Test or WIDA ACCESS scores may be used to establish eligibility:	
		WIDA ACCESS	Score of 3 or above on most recent State Assessments in Language Arts & Mathematics	
Other Criteria	Attendance	Students should demonstrate a pattern of consistent attendance during Grades 4 and 5		
	Discipline	Students should have minimal referrals and suspension days during Grades 4 and 5		
	Audition Score	6 or above		

1. Transcripts will be reviewed by the Magnet Office at the end of the school year to ensure students are still eligible.

If your geographic school is...	Your Magnet school is...
Annapolis • Bates • Central • Crofton • Magothy • Severn River • Severna Park • Southern	Bates Middle
Arundel • Brooklyn Park • Chesapeake Bay • Corkran • Northeast • Lindale MacArthur • Marley • Meade • Old Mill Middle North • Old Mill Middle South	Brooklyn Park Middle



Middle School

IB MYP (International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme)

Grades	Magnet Schools	Contacts	Website
6–8	Annapolis Middle School Old Mill Middle School North MacArthur Middle School	Mary Austin IB Programme District Coordinator 410-222-5415/maustin1@aacps.org	Angela Speach IB Teacher Specialist 410-222-5415/aspeach@aacps.org

Who should apply?

Grade 5 students interested in learning about global cultures, world languages, and design thinking through a problem- and project-based approach. Grade 6 students may apply pending seat availability.

Program Overview

The IB MYP engages students across all content areas through global challenges and the use of inquiry, action, and reflection. This Magnet program challenges students to take action in their global and local communities. It also encourages them to become critical thinkers, effective communicators (in English and one additional world language offered at the IB MYP school) and reflective lifelong learners. Research shows that students participating in the MYP: build confidence in managing their own learning; learn by

doing, connecting the classroom to the larger world; outperform non-IB students in critical academic skills; consistently have greater success in IB Diploma Programme examinations; thrive in positive school cultures where they are engaged and motivated to excel; develop an understanding of global challenges and a commitment to act as responsible citizens.

The IB Middle School curriculum offers the following World & Classical Languages:

- French
- Mandarin Chinese
- Spanish

Important Note:

Students who live within the attendance area for Annapolis, MacArthur and Old Mill Middle North Middle Schools are automatically enrolled in the IB Middle Years Programme and do not need to complete

an application. Only students who live outside of the feeder area for these IB MYP schools need to complete an Online Magnet application.

Acceptance and participation in a middle school Magnet program does not guarantee placement in the corresponding high school Magnet program. All middle school students (Magnet students included) must apply in grade 8 if they wish to be eligible for the high school Magnet. Middle school students who plan to apply to a high school Magnet program must take a middle school World Language which is also offered in the Magnet high school in which they are interested. Students applying to an IB High School Magnet must enroll in level 2 of a world language offered at that IB High School.

IB MYP Eligibility Requirements	Previous School Year	Current School Year (Grade 5 or 6)	
	Final Grades	First marking period	Final grades ¹
Academic Criteria Final Grade Average Students whose GPA is below 2.0 are ineligible. OR State Standardized Tests WIDA ACCESS World Languages	2.5 GPA with no Es	2.5 GPA with no Es	
	For students who have a GPA of 2.0 to 2.5, State Standardized Test or WIDA ACCESS scores may be used to establish eligibility:		
	Score of 3 or above on most recent State Assessments in Language Arts & Mathematics		
	Score of 2 or above (English learners only)		
	Grade 6 applicants only —must have successfully completed Language 1A (French, Mandarin, or Spanish) by the end of grade 6.		
Other Criteria Attendance Discipline	Students should demonstrate a pattern of consistent attendance during Grades 4, 5 and 6		
	Students should have minimal referrals and suspension days during Grades 4, 5, and 6		

1. Transcripts will be reviewed by the Magnet Office at the end of the school year to ensure students are still eligible.

If your geographic school is...	Your Magnet school is...
Bates • Central • Crofton • Magothy • Severn River • Southern	Annapolis Middle
Chesapeake Bay • Northeast • Old Mill Middle South • Severna Park	Old Mill Middle North
Arundel • Brooklyn Park • Corkran • Lindale • Marley • Meade	MacArthur Middle



Middle School

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics)

Grades	Schools	Contacts	Website
6-8	Central Middle School Lindale Middle School Old Mill Middle School South	Maureen McMahon, PhD. STEM/BMAH Coordinator mmmcmahon@aacps.org /410-222-5391	Laura Pinto STEM Teacher Specialist lpinto@aacps.org /410-533-6014 www.aacps.org/STEM

Who should apply?

Grade 5 students interested in hands-on experience in advanced science, technology, engineering, and math.

Program Overview

The STEM Middle School Magnet Program offers students an inquiry-based, interdisciplinary setting to explore the diverse subjects of science, technology, engineering, and math. This program is designed to engage students in a STEM-focused, student-centered learning environment through cutting edge technology, STEM career awareness, lifelong learning and understanding students' roles in local and global issues.

STEM students engage in high level, meaningful, and relevant STEM experiences facilitated by both teachers and STEM professionals through after-school clubs and community-based offerings, online or in virtual environments, and during the four required annual STEM Saturday Explorations. The STEM Magnet program is based on a set of STEM core values. For a detailed look at the STEM Values please go to www.aacps.org/stem.

The STEM Middle School curriculum offers the following World Language options:

Central Middle

- French
- Spanish
- Mandarin Chinese

Lindale Middle

- French
- Spanish
- German

Old Mill Middle South

- French
- Spanish

World Language courses begin in Grade 7 for all STEM students.

Important Notes:

Acceptance and participation in a middle school Magnet program does not guarantee placement in the corresponding high school Magnet program. All middle school students (Magnet students included) must apply in grade 8 if they wish to be eligible for any high school Magnet.

Middle school students who eventually plan to apply to a high school Magnet program must take a middle school World Language which is also offered in the Magnet high school in which they are interested. If the World Language a middle school student takes is not available in the Magnet high school to which they would like to apply, they must start at level 1 of a World Language that is offered at the Magnet high school they plan to attend. American Sign Language is NOT an approved World Language for AACPS High School Magnet Programs' World Language requirement.

All Grade 6 STEM students will take Gateway to Technology, Computer Science, and STEM ToolKit, all required courses in the STEM middle school program.

STEM Eligibility Requirements		Grade 4	Grade 5 (First marking period)	Grade 5 (final grades) ¹
Academic Criteria	Final Grade Average Students whose GPA is below 2.0 are ineligible.	2.5 GPA with no Es	2.5 GPA with no Es	2.5 GPA with no Es
	OR	State Standardized Tests	For students who have a GPA of 2.0 to 2.5, State Standardized Test or WIDA ACCESS scores may be used to establish eligibility: Score of 3 or above on most recent State Assessments in Language Arts & Mathematics	
		WIDA ACCESS	Score of 2 or above (English learners only)	
Other Criteria	Attendance	Students should demonstrate a pattern of consistent attendance during Grades 4 and 5		
	Discipline	Students should have minimal referrals and suspension days during Grades 4 and 5		

1. Transcripts will be reviewed by the Magnet Office at the end of the school year to ensure students are still eligible.

If your home school is...	Your Magnet school is...
Annapolis • Bates • Central • Crofton • Magothy • Severn River • Southern	Central Middle
Arundel • Brooklyn Park • Corkran • Lindale • MacArthur • Marley • Meade	Lindale Middle
Chesapeake Bay • Northeast • Old Mill Middle North • Old Mill Middle South • Severna Park	Old Mill Middle South

High School Magnet Programs (Grades 9–12)



High School

Apex Arts (Formerly Performing and Visual Arts, PVA)

Grades	Magnet Schools	Contacts	Website
9–12	Annapolis High School Broadneck High School	David Kauffman Apex Arts Senior Manager apexarts@aacps.org	Jennifer Jerrell Apex Arts Teacher Specialist 410-280-1501

Who should apply?

Current Grade 8 and 9 students interested in music, dance, theatre, creative writing, visual arts, and film. Seat offers for 10th grade entrance will be made on seat availability. See the Apex Arts website for more information.

Program Overview

The Apex Arts High School Magnet Program offers students interested in the arts the opportunity to build on their artistic skills while gaining real world experiences and avenues to display their art. This program is designed to engage students in focused arts instruction (also called Prime Arts areas) with highly qualified teachers and professional artists to foster aesthetic and critical thinking, creative inquiry, and artistic excellence.

Students may apply to 2 arts areas in Apex Arts. If two seats are offered in Apex Arts, students may only accept one arts area.

During Extended Day instruction (referred to programmatically as Apex +), students from all Prime Arts areas at both Apex Arts High Schools refine their craft through focused, small group instruction while expanding their creative lens through collaboration, community engagement, and multiple performance opportunities.

Prime Arts Areas

Students will focus their study in one of the Prime Arts areas:

- Theatre and Acting
- Creative Writing
- Dance
- Visual Arts
- Theater Design and Production
- Film and New Media
- Instrumental Music: Band
- Instrumental Music: Orchestra
- Piano
- Guitar
- Vocal Music

Auditions

All applicants are required to attend an audition during the audition window. Auditions may include:

- Prime-specific portfolio of student work (prepared in advance)
- Prepared selection for performance (prepared in advance)
- Prime-Specific performance prompt (provided at the audition)
- Interview

Auditions for the Apex Arts Program will take place in December and January.

Audition appointments are assigned by the online application system. Reschedules are limited and not guaranteed. Please plan accordingly.

For more information about audition schedules and auditions, please visit www.aacps.org/apexarts.

Apex Arts Eligibility Requirements		Grade 7	Grade 8 (First marking period)	Grade 8 (final grades) ¹
Academic Criteria	Final Grade Average Students whose GPA is below 2.0 are ineligible.	2.5 GPA with no Es	2.5 GPA with no Es	2.5 GPA with no Es
	OR	State Standardized Tests	For students who have a GPA of 2.0 to 2.5, State Standardized Test or WIDA ACCESS scores may be used to establish eligibility:	
		WIDA ACCESS	Score of 3 or above on most recent State Assessments in Language Arts & Mathematics	
		World Language	Successful completion of a Level 1 (or Level 1A and 1B) World Language ²	
Other Criteria	Attendance	Students should demonstrate a pattern of consistent attendance during Grades 7 and 8		
	Discipline	Students should have minimal referrals and suspension days during Grades 7 and 8		
Audition Score	7 or above out of a 10-point rubric			

1. Transcripts will be reviewed by the Magnet Office at the end of the school year to ensure students are still eligible.

2. If you have not taken Level 1A and 1B of a World Language offered at the Magnet high school to which you are applying, please contact the Apex Arts Senior Manager to discuss your options. In certain circumstances, participation in ESOL programs in middle school could count as the Level 1 World Language requirement. Please contact the coordinator of the Magnet Program to which you wish to apply for verification.

If your arts area is...	Your Apex Arts School is...
Creative Writing • Dance • Film & New Media • Theatrical Design & Production • Theater & Acting • Visual Art	Annapolis High School
Guitar • Instrumental Music • Piano • Vocal Music	Broadneck High School



High School

IB MYP (Middle Years Programme)

IB DP/CP/Course (Diploma, Career-related, Course)

Grades	Magnet Schools	Contacts	410-222-5415	Website
9–10 MYP	Annapolis High School	Mary Austin	Angela Speach	www.aacps.org/IB
11–12 DP/CP	Old Mill High School Meade High School	IB Programme District Coordinator 410-222-5415/maustin1@aacps.org	IB Teacher Specialist 410-222-5415/aspeach@aacps.org	

Who should apply?

Grade 8 students interested in learning more than one language and through a concept and inquiry-based approach can apply to IB MYP. Grade 9 and 10 students may apply to IB MYP pending seat availability. Grade 10 students may apply to either DP, CP or Course pending seat availability.

Program Overview

The IB four-year program offers a course of study that focuses on students developing an intercultural awareness while becoming active leaders in both their local and global communities. This college preparatory Magnet program challenges students to think critically, creatively, and independently as they apply their classroom learning with the world around them. This

Magnet program prepares students for success in their post-secondary educational paths. Our IB high schools are excited to offer three different pathways for students to continue their IB journey after they complete the IB Middle Years Programme (in grades 9 & 10). Students who have successfully completed their IB MYP coursework and IB Personal Project can decide which IB pathway is right for them as they complete their four-year IB sequence: the IB Diploma Programme, the IB Career-related Programme, or the IB Course pathway—an opportunity to take three (minimum) or more IB Diploma Programme courses. The IB is an internationally recognized program of study that leads to university recognition and a global certification for students.

World Language Options

The AACPS IB Diploma Programme requires a student to take a **minimum of five years** of the same language and enrolling in Level 2 or Level 3 in grade 9. If you have taken Level 1 of a language that is not available in your Magnet IB school, see that school's IB Coordinator to discuss your options. The following languages are offered as part of the high school IB curriculum:

Annapolis High School

- French
- Mandarin Chinese
- Italian
- Spanish

Meade and Old Mill High Schools

- French
- Mandarin Chinese
- Spanish

IB MYP Eligibility Requirements		Grade 7	Grade 8 (First marking period)	Grade 8 (final grades) ¹
Academic Criteria	Final Grade Average Students whose GPA is below 2.0 are ineligible.	2.5 GPA with no Es	2.5 GPA with no Es	2.5 GPA with no Es
	OR	State Standardized Tests	For students who have a GPA of 2.0 to 2.5, State Standardized Test or WIDA ACCESS scores may be used to establish eligibility:	
		WIDA ACCESS	Score of 3 or above on most recent State Assessments in Language Arts & Mathematics	
		World Language	Successful completion of a Level 1 (or Level 1A and 1B) World Language offered at the IB School ²	
Other Criteria	Attendance	Students should demonstrate a pattern of consistent attendance during Grades 7 and 8		
	Discipline	Students should have minimal referrals and suspension days during Grades 7 and 8		
IB DP/CP Course Eligibility Requirements		Grade 9	Fall of Grade 10	Grade 10 (final grades)
Final Grade Average		3.0 GPA (weighted)/no D or E	3.0 GPA (weighted)/no D or E	3.0 GPA (weighted)/no D or E
Number of "C" grades		No more than 2 for final marking period grades		
World Language		C or above in Level 2 or higher	C or above in Level 3 or higher	
Other Requirements		Successful completion in Grade 10 of IB MYP Personal Project. Must be on track to meet Maryland high school graduation requirements and the IB Diploma Programme requirements. IB Career Programme applicants must be enrolled and in good standing in an approved Career-study pathway		
Attendance		Students should demonstrate an attendance rate higher than 90%		
Discipline		Students should have minimal referrals and no suspensions		

1. Transcripts will be reviewed by the Magnet Office at the end of the school year to ensure students are still eligible.

2. If you have taken Level 1 of a World Language that is not available in your Magnet IB high school, or you are currently an English Learner, please contact the Magnet school's IB Programme Coordinator to discuss your scheduling options. In certain circumstances, participation in ESOL programs in middle school could count as the Level 1 World Language requirement. Please contact the coordinator of the Magnet Program to which you wish to apply for verification.

If your home school is...

Your Magnet school is...

Annapolis • Bates • Central • Crofton • Magothy • Severn River • Southern Middle	Annapolis High School
Chesapeake Bay • Northeast • Old Mill South • Old Mill South • Severna Park Middle	Old Mill High School
Arundel • Brooklyn Park • Corkran • Lindale • MacArthur • Marley • Meade Middle	Meade High School



STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics)

STEM-BMAH (STEM-Biomedical Allied Health)

Grades	Schools	Contacts	Website
9–12	North County High School (STEM) South River High School (STEM) Glen Burnie High School (BMAH)	Maureen McMahon, PhD STEM/BMAH Coordinator mmmcMahon@aacps.org /410-222-5391	Joseph Desilva STEM Teacher Specialist jdesilva@aacps.org /410-703-4626

Who should apply?

Current Grade 8 students interested in hands-on, rigorous experiences in advanced science, technology, engineering and math or career interest in the healthcare industry.

Program Overview

The STEM Magnet programs offer a rigorous problem/project based educational opportunity for motivated and academically able students who are seriously interested in a relevant and hands-on education focused on the STEM fields of science, technology, engineering and math or the healthcare industry (BMAH). STEM Magnet programs are designed to engage students in an exciting and technology-rich learning environment. Students will develop strong research, data analysis, and critical thinking skills; self-direction; and an understanding of their social responsibility as changemakers.

Through partnerships with STEM professionals, local colleges and universities, students collaboratively apply classroom learning to solve current real-world challenges. Students develop the STEM content and skills used in the STEM professional setting, and the soft skills used in the workplace. Students

are required to participate in STEM clubs and competitions annually and complete a STEM internship prior to graduation. The STEM Magnet program is based on the STEM core values. For more details on the STEM Values, please visit www.aacps.org/stem.

STEM middle school Magnet students must apply to a high school Magnet program if they wish to be considered for lottery. There is no automatic continuation of Magnet programs from middle to high school; all students in grade 8 must apply through the Magnet process in order to be considered for lottery entering Grade 9.

NOTE: High School STEM Magnet applicants who are accepted into any of the three STEM or BMAH high school Magnet Programs and have yet to take Algebra I in middle school must enroll in an Applied Math Skills course with us that runs virtually one evening hour per week from April through June and one in-person four-day STEM Ready-for-Algebra Summer Camp during July.

This engaging applied math learning experience will ready students for the algebraic thinking and math-related rigors of the STEM and STEM-BMAH Magnet high school program.

Pathways of study in STEM

Please visit www.aacps.org/stem for further details on descriptions and courses for each STEM/BMAH pathway:

- Computer Science & Applied Mathematics
- Earth and Space Systems
- Engineering
- Green Technologies
- Nanotechnologies & Materials Science

Pathways of study for BMAH

- Engineering and Environmental Health and Sustainability
- BioScience (Project Lead the Way)
- Health Information Technologies
- Public and International Health
- Aging and Wellness

Interviews (Phase I) for the high school STEM and STEM-BMAH Programs are required for all high school STEM and STEM-BMAH applicants. Applicants will be emailed an interview form or provided with a virtual interview date and time for Phase I of the interview process. Students requiring a second interview will be notified following the outcome of the Phase I interviews.

STEM/BMAH Eligibility Requirements		Grade 7	Grade 8 (First marking period)	Grade 8 (final grades) ¹	
Academic Criteria	Final Grade Average Students whose GPA is below 2.0 are ineligible.	2.5 GPA with no Es	2.5 GPA with no Es in any courses and no Ds in Science or Math courses	2.5 GPA with no Es	
	OR	For students who have a GPA of 2.0 to 2.5, State Standardized Test or WIDA ACCESS scores may be used to establish eligibility:			
		State Standardized Tests	Score of 3 or above on most recent State Assessments in Language Arts & Mathematics		
		WIDA ACCESS	Score of 2 or above (English learners only)		
	World Language	Successful completion of a Level 1 (or Level 1A and 1B) World Language ²			
Other Criteria	Attendance	Students should demonstrate a pattern of consistent attendance during Grades 7 and 8			
	Discipline	Students should have minimal referrals and suspension days during Grades 7 and 8			

1. Transcripts be reviewed by the Magnet Office at the end of the school year to ensure students are still eligible.
2. If you have not taken level 1A and 1B of a World Language that is offered in the Magnet high school to which you are applying, please contact the STEM Program Coordinator to discuss your options. In certain circumstances, participation in ESOL programs in middle school could count as the Level 1 World Language requirement. Please contact the coordinator of the Magnet Program to which you wish to apply for verification.

If your home school is..	Your Magnet School is...
Annapolis • Bates • Central • Crofton • Magothy • Severn River • Severna Park • Southern	South River High School
Arundel • Brooklyn Park • Chesapeake Bay • Corkran • Northeast • Lindale • MacArthur • Marley • Meade • Old Mill	North County High School
STEM/BMAH—open to all students in the county	Glen Burnie High School

The Centers of Applied Technology (CAT)

CAT students, in grades 9–12, take regular classes at their geographic school but travel to one of our two CAT centers for more specialized instruction. Students are picked up from and returned to their home schools within the regular school day.

Geared for the Future!

Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) offers more than 25 Career Institutes at our Centers of Applied Technology. These programs provide students with Market Value Assets—industry-recognized certifications, college credit, and hands-on work-based learning—that prepare them for success in college and career.

The CAT Centers offers something for every student. Each state-approved Career Institute builds future-ready skills for today’s global economy, and many students graduate as dual completers, earning both CTE credentials and University System of Maryland entrance requirements.

Who should apply?

Current 8th, 9th, 10th or 11th grade students who want to get a jump start on their career, as well as their post-secondary education. (A few Career Institutes require 11th and 12 grade entry).

Program Overview


High school is the ideal time to explore career interests. Our Career Institutes prepare students for success in college and career by helping them:

- Engage in hands-on learning with industry professionals.
- Build transferable, future-ready skills.
- Graduate with industry certifications and possibly college credit.
- Potentially complete both CTE requirements and University System of Maryland entrance requirements as dual completers.

Course Sequence

CAT Career Exploration (9th grade)

This optional course is recommended for 9th grade students and provides a hands-on introduction to four different Career Institutes, each representing a distinct career cluster. Students gain exposure to a variety of pathways through engaging activities and real-world experiences, helping them make informed decisions about which institute pathway best aligns with their interests and goals. Successful completion of all four rotations during the semester earns students 0.5 elective




For more information, contact:

CAT North
Amy Canterbury, *School Counselor*
Lauren Smith, *School Counselor*
410-969-3100

CAT South
Amanda Bulmahn, *School Counselor*
410-956-5900

www.aacps.org/CTE

Career Institute Pathways

Each Career Institute is organized into a structured pathway of three or four courses within a specific career cluster. As students advance through the sequence, they build technical and academic skills while earning industry-recognized certifications, and some institute students can even earn college credits. These credentials help students become future-ready and prepared to enter the workforce in entry-level positions or continue their education in postsecondary programs aligned with their chosen pathway.

Career Connect Learning Experiences (12th grade only)

These senior-level experiences are designed to connect classroom learning with real-world career opportunities. Students may participate in internships, or apprenticeship opportunities aligned with their chosen institute pathway. Participation is determined by the availability of work sites, academic progress toward graduation, successful completion of relevant coursework, teacher recommendations, a strong attendance record, and the student’s and parent’s ability to provide reliable transportation. These experiences help students become future ready by building professional skills and preparing them for college, career, or both.

CAT-Specific Conditions of Eligibility into a Program

Applicants are required to:

- Be currently enrolled in 9th, 10th, or 11th grade, depending on the program.
- Have made satisfactory progress toward meeting graduation requirements, including, but not limited to, behavior, attendance, and credits earned.

Please Note: CAT Centers reserve the right to review any and all applications to determine possible circumstances that might present placement that is detrimental to a student’s health, safety, or success.

Programs include (CATN or CATS only):

- Animation & Game Development (CATS)
- Architecture Design & Drafting (CATN)
- Automotive Collision Repair & Refinishing (CATN)
- Automotive Technology
- Baking & Pastry Arts (CATN)
- Barbering (CATN)
- Carpentry
- CASE—Natural Resources (CATN)
- Certified Clinical Medical Assistant
- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts
- Dental Assistant (CATS)
- Electrical
- Facilities Management (CATN)
- Graphic Communications (CATN)
- HVACR
- Marine Maintenance & Repair (CATS)
- Masonry (CATN)
- Medium/Heavy Truck & Equipment CATN)
- Networking
- Pharmacy Technician
- Plumbing
- Teacher Academy of Maryland
- Welding

Co-curricular opportunities include

- Future Farmers of America
- National Technical Honor Society
- Skills USA

If your home school is...	Your CAT school is...
Arundel • Chesapeake • Glen Burnie • Meade • North County • Northeast • Old Mill • Severn Run	CAT North
Annapolis • Broadneck • Crofton • Mary Moss at J. Albert Adams • Phoenix Academy • Severna Park • South River • Southern	CAT South

Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC)

Anne Arundel County Public Schools offers three Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) programs focusing on student leadership, citizenship, and service to the community.



Army JROTC
Meade High School
www.aacps.org/mhsjrotc



Marine JROTC Cluster
Northeast High School
www.aacps.org/nhsjrotc



Navy JROTC Cluster
Annapolis High School
www.aacps.org/ahsjrotc

For more information about the JROTC program, contact:

Dwight Jefferson
Director of Carrer & College Readiness

410-222-5435
djjefferson@aacps.org

www.aacps.org/magnet

Through partnerships with the United States Army (Meade HS), Marines (Northeast HS), and Navy (Annapolis HS), instructors from all three branches prepare students in grades 9–12 for leadership roles while making them aware of their rights, responsibilities, and privileges as American citizens through rigorous instruction and hands-on activities.

Skills emphasized across all three branches:

- Leadership
- Citizenship
- Physical fitness
- Character

JROTC prepares students for life and they are not under any obligation to join the military. However, if they choose to further their interest in the military, satisfactory completion of the JROTC program can lead to advanced placement credit in the Senior JROTC program (college level) or advanced rank in any of the Armed Forces.

AACPS employs a Magnet/Cluster structure for all three JROTC Leadership Programs (see below). As with all Magnets, clusters have been created based on the home high school of student participants and will be supported with transportation.

Similar to CAT Centers, the JROTC Magnets will remain partial-day programs with students engaging at the host site for periods 3 and 4 on an alternating day basis. This will allow them to remain members of the home school community while pursuing JROTC.

Who Should apply?

Current 8th, 9th, or 10th grade students. Once students apply at the portal (www.aacps.org/magnet), they will be placed on a list to schedule the JROTC class as an elective at the hosting high school.

If your home high school is (bold indicates JROTC school)..

Your JROTC Program is...

Annapolis • Broadneck • Crofton • South River • Southern

Navy JROTC

Arundel • Glen Burnie • North County • **Meade**

Army JROTC

Chesapeake • **Northeast** • Old Mill • Severn Run • Severna Park

Marine JROTC

Magnet Program Values

Apex Arts Values (Formerly PVA)

Apex Arts' mission is to provide students with rigorous, immersive, and collaborative artistic experiences that are rooted in the creative process, while preparing them for an array of future opportunities. We believe in:

Extending the Arts

Extending the arts education experience beyond the classroom is important.

Collaboration

Collaboration is an essential part of the Apex Arts program.

Artists and Performers as Teachers

Students should learn not just from teachers, but from a range of artists and performers.

Storytellers

Each student has a story to tell.

Creative Assessment

Assessment should not be based solely on technique, but on the willingness to engage in the creative process, take risks, struggle, embrace feedback and reflect.

The IB Learner Profile

IB Learners think critically about, engage with, and take action in our global society. We are:

Inquirers

We develop our natural curiosity and the skills we need to question, research and become increasingly independent in our learning.

Knowledgeable

We see everyone in our IB community—from students to teachers to families—as a continuous learner who is challenged to inquire and explore as much as possible.

Balanced

We understand the importance of intellectual, emotional and physical well-being and we make deliberate and thoughtful choices.

Communicators

We communicate in multiple languages, through the arts, math and sciences, and with each other; collaboration is not just encouraged, but expected.

Principled

We have built a community that recognizes respects and values differences between people and cultures. We act with integrity and honesty with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect.

Open-minded

We participate in hands on, authentic experiences that connect to all contents and offer a diversity of perspectives.

Caring

We interact meaningfully with each other and our local and global community. We take advantage of the opportunity to solve real-world problems and grow into agents of positive change.

Thinkers

We take advantage of ongoing opportunities to apply what we are learning—allowing us to become scientists, historians, humanitarians, videographers, storytellers...

Reflective

We examine our work and actions; evaluating our success in meeting our goals and determining how to adapt moving forward.

Risk-takers

We embrace our strengths; we constantly challenge ourselves through new experiences.

STEM Values

Using all of our knowledge, resources, and skills to solve problems and create opportunities in the world, we value:

Empathy & Mindfulness

Enhancing the ability to understand others and respond in a positive way allows students to build truly meaningful relationships with each other and the world.

Making & Changemaking

Capitalizing on their innate power to tinker, invent, & design allows for students to “develop new solutions, mobilize others, and improve of society.”

Design & Systems Thinking

Through discovery, interpretation, ideation, experimentation and evolution our students can both understand and transform the systems they are a part of.

Radical Curiosity & Revolutionary Imagination

Make believe, improvise, tinker, think beyond what you can see, and imagine the possibilities.

Passionate About Play

Play allows students to develop executive functioning skills for a lifetime, gives them a chance to physically move while learning, nurtures creativity, and underlies the experiences with the power of fun.

Ethics & integrity

Honesty, honor, respect, authenticity, social responsibility, and the courage to stand up for what you believe is right.

CAT Values

We believe in:

- preparing all students for continuing education; apprenticeship, college, trade/technical schools, and on-the-job training.
- stimulating students to develop a passion/drive to excel in a chosen career and to demonstrate a willingness to give back and support our mission.
- creating a challenging educational environment where a diverse group of students can successfully pursue their career goals.

- providing students equal access to programs in a safe, structured learning environment.
- reflecting state-of-the-art changes in technology, business, industry, and society.
- involving businesses and the community.
- offering a balance of theory, interdisciplinary activities, and applied learning.
- preparing all students to use technology/tools and equipment in a safe & responsible manner.

- developing positive work ethics/habits, team work skills, and leadership potential.
- providing real-world work experiences that occur in the school lab environment and at industry work sites.
- providing teachers with opportunities to up-grade technical/trade skills, knowledge of industry trends, methods of teaching and instructional strategies.

Frequently Asked Questions

Before You Apply

Is a Magnet Program right for you?

We understand that a Magnet program may not be the best fit for every student. Before you make your fully informed decision about accepting a seat in a Magnet Program, you should be willing to:

- Transfer to the Magnet school you are accepted into, which may be different from the one you currently attend.
- Arrange personal transportation to a consolidated bus stop that is outside of your neighborhood.
- Be on the bus for up to an hour one way.
- Allot time outside of school for group projects, study groups and independent studying.
- Register for and successfully complete all required Magnet courses; there will be a limited number of non-Magnet specific elective courses such as band, chorus, and orchestra.
- Attend required summer, weekend, after and during school opportunities.
- Commit to the length of the program—three years for middle school, and four years (full days) for high school.

Are there any Advanced Programs available for students who are not in Magnet Programs?

Every middle and high school has advanced courses, programs, and before/after school programs available, including STEM-related courses and programs, rich arts programs and competitions, and academically rigorous courses (honors, AP, etc.). Talk to your school Counselor to learn more about the programs available at your home school. There are also co-curricular activities that might interest you. For more information, see www.aacps.org/cocurricular.

General Information

What is a Magnet program?

A Magnet is an educational program with a specialized course of study or an emphasis on instruction that is different from the traditional curriculum offered throughout Anne Arundel County Public Schools. Upon acceptance, students attend a designated Magnet school which becomes their new geographic school. Magnet Programs are designed to increase and enrich a student's classroom and co-curricular experiences centered on the theme of the magnet program in which they are enrolled.

What do Magnet Programs offer?

Magnet Programs are:

- Rigorous, student-centered environments that give students the chance to learn with others who share similar interests.
- Environments in which students can apply theory and knowledge towards skills proficiency with hands-on, real-world experiences.
- Interdisciplinary approaches to curriculum (inside and outside the classroom walls) that promote critical thinking and effective communication.

How do Magnet Programs prepare students for future success?

Magnet Programs offer students:

- The opportunity to meet and engage with professionals from their fields.
- Necessary career skill development, such as resume writing, interviewing, and professional ethics specific to the field of the program.
- College visits, job shadows, internship opportunities, or field experience that help students decide their next steps after graduation.

Who can attend a Magnet Program?

Middle and high school students must reside in Anne Arundel County, complete an application, and be determined eligible for a Magnet Program. If there are more eligible applicants than seats available, an unweighted lottery is run to determine who is invited to attend.

Where do Magnet students attend school?

Students attend their Magnet school in place of their home geographic school. Magnet school feeder regions are based on the elementary and middle school the student would attend. Students who do not attend their geographic school can only attend the Magnet Program zoned for them based on their home address. Please see page 16 for further details.

Are there requirements for remaining in the Magnet program once the program starts?

Yes. All Magnet programs have academic and activity requirements for students each year they are in a Magnet program. See specific Magnet webpages for further information.

Can I accept multiple seats in a charter school, JROTC Program, CAT Center and/or a Magnet school?

No. If you select a seat in a charter school or AACPS Virtual Academy, the electronic system automatically removes you from your seat in the other program. Only IB magnet program students may be dually enrolled in JROTC or CAT programs; verification with each IB school is required.

Can I accept a seat in both a charter school and a Magnet school?

No. If you select a seat in one program, the electronic system automatically removes you from your seat in the other program.

Is transportation provided?

Transportation is provided from consolidated bus stops. It is the family's responsibility to provide transportation from the home to the bus stop. Bus stops for accepted Magnet students to their Magnet school will be consolidated and may not be located within ordinary walking distances. Almost all consolidated bus stops will be at local elementary schools, middle schools, or libraries. Parents/guardians will be required to transport students to the consolidated bus stop or to the Magnet School. Please consult www.aacps.org/transportation.

Frequently Asked Questions, continued

A list of consolidated stops will be published by the Division of Transportation in August. Any questions about Magnet bus stops should be directed to the Transportation Office. <https://busstops.aacps.org>

Can I take CAT classes while in a Magnet program?

Magnet students may be able to take courses at a CAT center during their 9th grade year if scheduling is possible. During grades 10–12, Magnet students who wish to pursue a CTE completer program at a CAT Center must consult with their school counselor and Magnet program lead.

I qualify for Special Education services. Can I still participate in a Magnet Program?

AACPS strongly believes in equitable access and inclusive opportunities. We will make every attempt to support all students within our Magnet Programs. Magnet programs are rigorous academic pursuits. Together with families, we will discuss the best possible educational plan for applicants. In rare cases, IEP requirements and magnet program requirements may not be able to be met for a given student.

What happens to students who attend magnet programs with marginal interest and passion in the magnet theme?

While some students expand and grow their interests once enrolled in a magnet program, many marginally interested students struggle to connect in a program where their peers have strong passion and interest in the magnet themed activities, courses, clubs, and competitions. If a student is verbalizing their dislike of or disinterest in applying for and attending a magnet school, it is worth reaching out to the magnet program leader to discuss the situation, including the possibility of choosing another options.

Applying for a Magnet Program

Where is the Magnet Application?

The online Magnet Application available at www.aacps.org/Magnet. Only online applications will be accepted.

Who should apply?

Grade 5 and Grade 8 students who live in Anne Arundel County can apply. Some programs allow applications from students in grades 6, 9, or 10. Please see individual Magnet program webpages for further details.

When should I apply to a Magnet Program?

You should apply in the fall before the year when you would enter the Magnet program. For example, if you hope to attend a Magnet program in 9th grade, you will apply in the fall of grade 8.

Is a current middle school Magnet student automatically enrolled in the corresponding high school program?

No. Middle school Magnet students wishing to continue in any high school Magnet program must apply during the application season of Grade 8.

Is it important for me to submit my application as soon as the applications open?

No, our seats are NOT offered on a first-come, first-served basis. All eligible applicants who submit an application before the deadline will be included in the lottery.

What if there are more applicants than there are seats in the program?

Should more students qualify than there are available seats in a specific program, a random, unweighted lottery process will select students.

What if I miss the application deadline?

Some programs will open a late application window if necessary. (NB: STEM does not offer late applications.) After the late application process, we may generate a late waitlist, by order of completed application, if seats are available. Any late applicants will need to meet the requirements set out by the individual programs. Be sure to regu-

larly check the Magnet website for updates: www.aacps.org/Magnet.

What is my username and password?

Students who are currently enrolled in AACPS should use the username and password they use when logging in to the computers at their schools. Non AACPS students will be given a prompt to set up a username and password.

What do I do if I forgot my password?

Contact the person at your school who resets passwords (Computer Tech or secretary). You may also contact the AACPS Help Desk at 410-222-5135 or Help-Desk@aacps.org. The Magnet Office cannot reset passwords.

Why do you need my e-mail address?

Email is the primary form of communication used to send you notifications and updates about the status of your application. You must have a valid email address to receive these notifications. You may not want to use your student's email address as all communication from the Magnet Office will go to your student, not to the parent/guardian. Please be sure to check your Spam/Junk folders regularly as well.

Why can't I change my Student, Parent, or School information in the Magnet Application?

The Magnet Application uses your Username to automatically pull this information from the AACPS Student Database. If any of this information needs to be changed, contact the person at your school who updates the Student Database.

I am a School Counselor/Interpreter helping a student complete an application. What do I have to do?

Complete all areas of the application. On the Application Terms of Agreement page, answer "Yes" to "Were these terms signed by a School Counselor other third party?" Fill out the requested information. Counselors may apply with students, with parental consent.

Frequently Asked Questions, continued

How will I be evaluated?

The Magnet Office will review grade average, classes taken, Audition scores (Apex Arts only), and Interview scores (high school STEM and BMAH only), along with other requirements. Specific eligibility criteria differ for each program.

I've submitted my application.

What do I do now?

Please take note of your Magnet ID number(s), verify your Apex Arts audition date and time, if applicable, and if possible, print out your application for your records. Your application will be reviewed after the application period has closed; you will be contacted with further instructions via email.

How do I schedule an Audition for Apex Arts?

Apex Arts applicants will be automatically assigned an audition appointment once all required documents are submitted. Audition appointments will be delivered via email to the primary account listed in the application. Audition spots are limited, please save the dates to ensure availability. If you need to make changes to your assigned audition, please contact the Apex Arts Office at apexarts@aacps.org. Audition changes are subject to availability.

How do I schedule an Interview for high school STEM & BMAH Programs?

High school STEM and BMAH applicants will be emailed an interview form or automatically assigned a virtual interview appointment once all required documents are submitted. Phase I interview appointments will be delivered via email to the primary account listed in the application. Please complete the interview form or scheduled interview during the Phase I allotted time. Directions will be provided to those needing to request a change in interview date/time. Interview changes are subject to availability. Those students requiring a second interview will be notified following the outcomes of the Phase I interviews.

After the Application—The Lottery and Waiting Lists

What is the Lottery?

If there are more eligible applicants than seats available for a Magnet Program, a randomized, computerized lottery will be conducted to assign on-time eligible applicants to either a seat in that Magnet program or a position on the waitlist. The Magnet Office will not know if a Lottery will need to be conducted until all on-time applications are evaluated.

How can I find my lottery position?

The lottery results are posted on the Magnet website by your Magnet ID (your Magnet ID was included in the email offering you a program seat or wait-list seat). Students are initially posted in the order assigned by the lottery. As students begin declining their seats, those lists will change.

Am I placed differently in the lottery based on my grades or other factors?

No. All eligible applications are treated equally and without marking or weight in the lottery; all applications have the same, equal chance of getting a seat in a Magnet Program. The Magnet Office does not use a weighting system for any students in the lottery, regardless of a student's academic achievements, number of applications submitted, siblings in the program, or any other special circumstances. **There are no exceptions.**

Is there a waiting list?

Yes. If there are more eligible applicants than spots available in the Magnet Program, an unweighted lottery is run. All students deemed eligible beyond the number of available seats will be placed on a waitlist with their position determined by the lottery results. The waitlists will be updated weekly.

I can't find my Magnet ID on the website! What do I do?

First, double check the website. Keep in mind that as other students decline their seats, your original position on the list may change. If you still cannot find your Magnet ID, contact the individual Magnet Offices (IB: 410-222-5435; Apex Arts: 410-280-1501; BMAH/STEM: 410-222-5391.)

What are the odds of moving off the waitlist and being offered a seat in a program?

Waitlist movement is affected by the number of students on the waitlist, the number of programs each student applied to, and individual student preference. It is impossible for the Magnet Office to predict the probability of any student moving off the waitlist. The Magnet Office will continue to update the waitlists until September. While most waitlist movement will occur over the first month, some students may move off the waitlist throughout the spring and summer.

Can I move off the waitlist after school starts or at the start of the school year?

No. Because of the unique courses that Magnet students will take, new students will not be allowed to enter the program after the start of the school year. All students still on a waitlist at this point will be notified and removed from the waitlist. All waitlists will be disbanded in September.

What happens if military orders require me to move to Anne Arundel County after the application window is closed?

If a child of a military family applies during the regular Magnet application window, the application will be placed in the general applicant pool and processed according to the published timeline.

Military families moving into the area are also able to apply to any open Magnet program after the closing of the application window. Any eligible applicants will get placed at the top of the late waitlist for any of the open Magnet programs. (NB: STEM does not have late applications.) Proof of Anne Arundel County residency

Frequently Asked Questions, continued

or military orders must be verified before a seat offer can be made. [Please review the House Bill 503 document for further details.](#)

What if my child no longer wants to be a part of the Magnet program after we have accepted a magnet seat or a waitlist seat?

It is very important that you decline any Program Seats or Waitlist seats in which you are not interested before school begins in the fall. We have many waitlist students hoping to get into a program. Please decline your seat as soon as you know so another interested student may be offered the seat. By not declining your offer, you are causing a delay for another student to be offered a seat.

Upon accepting a seat, the family should understand that a three-year commitment is expected for middle school programs and a four-year, full-day commitment is expected for high school programs. If a withdrawal is required, the student will return to the geographic home school. Out-of-Area requests to remain at the Magnet school once exited from a Magnet program will not be considered. Magnet Program exits require approval from the Magnet Program Office and the Assistant Superintendent of College and Career Readiness.

Accepting or Declining an Offer

What is the difference between a Program Seat offer and a Waitlist offer?

Students who are placed into a Magnet Program by the lottery are offered a Program Seat. If they choose to accept this Program Seat, they will enter that Magnet Program in the fall. Students who are placed onto a waitlist by the lottery will receive a waitlist offer. As students decline their seats for each program, students will move off the waitlist and be offered a Program Seat.

What does it mean to “Accept” a Program Seat?

Accepting a seat in a Magnet Program means that you are committing to attending that Magnet Program. Students who accept their seat offer will be expected to attend the Welcome and Registration Night at their Magnet school and complete all summer requirements for their program.

What does it mean to “Accept” a Waitlist Offer?

Accepting a Waitlist offer means that you would like to remain on the waitlist and see if a seat becomes available for that Magnet Program. Students who accept their Waitlist offer will be notified by email if a seat becomes available. All waitlist applications will be accepted automatically with a waitlist status. Parents should inform the Magnet Office should they not want to remain on the waitlist.

What does it mean to “Decline” a seat in a program or on a waitlist?

Declining a seat in a Magnet Program or on a waitlist means that you will not attend that Magnet Program nor remain on that waitlist. When you decline your seat, your Magnet ID will be removed from that list and your seat will be offered to the next student on the list. Your decision is binding.

How do I accept or decline my seat?

Log in to your Magnet Application Account (<http://Magnet.aacps.org>) with the student ID and password used to submit your application. You will be shown a list of existing applications and can accept or decline your seat by selecting the appropriate action from the drop-down menu under “Actions” and clicking “Go.” Once you save your decision, you will receive a confirmation email. You have ten days to accept or decline your seat offer (see your original email seat offer for your official deadline). After that time, the Magnet Office may take the lead in declining the offered seat.

I’ve been offered more than one Program Seat. What can I do?

Decide which program will be best for you. Students may only accept one Program Seat. When you accept a seat in one program, we will automatically decline all other Program Seat offers that you may have received.

I’ve been offered more than one Waitlist seat. What can I do?

You may accept multiple waitlist seat offers at the same time. Students who have been offered a Program Seat as well as one or more waitlist seats may only keep one Program Seat but can keep multiple waitlist seats. All waitlists will be disbanded in September.

My friends also applied to this Magnet Program. Should I follow their decision?

No. In the past, students have declined seats to a Magnet Program because they did not believe that their friends would get into the same program, only to have their friends move up on a waitlist and be offered a seat. The decision to accept or decline a seat should be a personal decision between applicants and their family.

Frequently Asked Questions, continued

I have accepted a Magnet Program Seat. What do I do now?

All students who accept a seat in a Magnet Program must attend a **Welcome and Registration Night** at their new Magnet School. During this event students will enroll in the Magnet Program, register for the Magnet School, and choose their classes for the following school year. (Students still on a **waitlist** cannot attend the Welcome and Registration Night for their Program.)

I have been accepted into a Magnet program and I accepted the seat and attended my school's Welcome and Registration Night. Is there anything else I must do?

Please refer to the website for the Magnet to which you are applying (www.aacps.org/Magnet) to see if there are any additional requirements.

I missed my school's Welcome and Registration Night. What should I do?

Contact the Magnet lead for your Magnet school. You should have received their contact information in previous correspondence.

I am a private school student who accepted a seat in the Magnet Program. What do I need to do?

Non-accredited private school students must be enrolled in comparable math and world language courses. For your application to be complete, you must submit your most current grades, the previous year's grades, proof of residency in Anne Arundel County, and standardized test scores.





I am a Home Instructed student who accepted a Magnet seat. What do I need to do?

Contact the Office of Home Instruction at 410-222-5457 to discuss the process for making the transition into the public-school system.


www.aacps.org/magnet

Which Magnet School Would I Attend?



School Assignments are determined geographically* based on the student's home middle school. (Students are not eligible to select an alternate school assignment within any Magnet program.)

Which Magnet school would you attend if...						
If your Home Middle School is	Your IB Middle School is	Your IB High School is	Your Apex Arts* Middle School is	Your STEM Middle School is	Your STEM High School is	Your BMAH High School is
Annapolis	Annapolis	Annapolis	Bates	Central	South River	Glen Burnie
Arundel	MacArthur	Meade	Brooklyn Park	Lindale	North County	
Bates	Annapolis	Annapolis	Bates	Central	South River	
Brooklyn Park	MacArthur	Meade	Brooklyn Park	Lindale	North County	
Central	Annapolis	Annapolis	Bates	Central	South River	
Chesapeake Bay	Old Mill North	Old Mill	Brooklyn Park	Old Mill South	North County	
Corkran	MacArthur	Meade	Brooklyn Park	Lindale	North County	
Crofton	Annapolis	Annapolis	Bates	Central	South River	
Northeast	Old Mill North	Old Mill	Brooklyn Park	Old Mill South	North County	
Lindale	MacArthur	Meade	Brooklyn Park	Lindale	North County	
MacArthur	MacArthur	Meade	Brooklyn Park	Lindale	North County	
Magothy River	Annapolis	Annapolis	Bates	Central	South River	
Marley	MacArthur	Meade	Brooklyn Park	Lindale	North County	
Meade	MacArthur	Meade	Brooklyn Park	Lindale	North County	
Old Mill North	Old Mill North	Old Mill	Brooklyn Park	Old Mill South	North County	
Old Mill South	Old Mill North	Old Mill	Brooklyn Park	Old Mill South	North County	
Severn River	Annapolis	Annapolis	Bates	Central	South River	
Severna Park	Old Mill North	Old Mill	Bates	Old Mill South	South River	
Southern	Annapolis	Annapolis	Bates	Central	South River	




*A Student's Apex Arts High School is determined by the Arts Major:

If your Prime Arts Major is...	Your Apex Arts High School is...
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative Writing • Dance • Film and New Media • Theatre Design and Production 	Annapolis High School
High Schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instrumental Music: Orchestra • Instrumental Music: Band • Guitar • Piano • Vocal Music 	Broadneck High School

If you attend a CAT Program:

If your Home High School is...	Your CAT Center is...
  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arundel • Chesapeake • Glen Burnie • Meade • North County • Northeast • Old Mill • Severn Run 	CAT North
CAT Centers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annapolis • Broadneck • Crofton • Phoenix Academy • Severna Park • South River • Southern 	CAT South

If you attend a JROTC Program:

If your Home High School is...	Your JROTC Program is...
   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annapolis • Broadneck • Crofton • Southern • South River 	Navy JROTC
JROTC Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arundel • Chesapeake • Glen Burnie • Old Mill • North County • Meade • Severna Park • Severn Run 	Army JROTC
	Marine JROTC

Calculating a Grade Average

A=4 B=3 C=2 D=1 E=0

- 1. Look at your final report card.**
(Example: A, A, B, C, B, B)
- 2. Assign numbers (above) to each final letter grade.**
(4, 4, 3, 2, 3, 3)
- 3. Add up all numbers.**
(4+4+3+2+3+3=19)
- 4. Divide the total by the number of classes.**
(19 ÷ 6 = 3.16667)
- 5. Round to one decimal place.**
(Grade Average=3.2)



ANNE ARUNDEL
COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Mark T. Bedell, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

ELEVATING ALL STUDENTS... ELIMINATING ALL GAPS

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