



Governor's School of North Carolina



*A Summer Program for Gifted and
Talented High School Students*



Nomination Packet

- Governor's School East
- Meredith College – Raleigh
- Governor's School West
- To Be Determined

A Guidebook for Students, Families, and School Representatives



North Carolina Department of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Division of Advanced Learning & Gifted Education
Governor's School of North Carolina
www.ncgovschool.org | 984-236-2577 or 984-236-2576

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION 2

 Introduction 2

 Program Description 2

 ? *What Is Governor's School? Why Should I Be Interested?* 2

 Area I Descriptors 2

 ? *Is That All? How Is This Different From Other Summer Programs?* 4

 ? *Does It Cost Anything?* 4

 ? *When Is Governor's School? What Are Other Important Dates?* 4

 ? *What Else Can You Tell Me About Governor's School?* 5

 ? *Okay, I'm Interested. Am I Eligible To Be Nominated?* 6

 ? *How Are Students Nominated/Selected?* 7

 Audition Details 7

SECTION 2: STUDENT NOMINATION 9

 ? *So, What Are My Next Steps?* 9

 Helpful Tips For A Better Nomination 9

SECTION 3: SCHOOL/SYSTEM INFORMATION 10

 ? *How Do Schools/School Systems Nominate Students* 10

 Nomination Chart 11



SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Introduction

Thank you for considering the North Carolina Governor's School. This packet is intended to be informative and helpful to those exploring this unique program. While perusing the following pages, know that Governor's School is an inquiry-based learning community that explores contemporary topics. To model this approach, program information is presented in response to a series of basic questions. These are, by no means, the only questions to ask in learning about the North Carolina Governor's School, but it is hoped they will increase readers' knowledge and pique their curiosity to learn more and possibly apply to attend and be a part of this vibrant learning community.

Program Description

The Governor's School of North Carolina is the oldest statewide summer residential program for gifted and talented high school students in the nation. The program, which is open to rising seniors only, with exceptions made for rising juniors in selected performing/visual arts areas, is located on two college campuses: Governor's School West at a site to be determined and Governor's School East at Meredith College in Raleigh. The program is administered by the State Board of Education and North Carolina Department of Public Instruction through the Division of Advanced Learning & Gifted Education. A Board of Governors, appointed by the State Board of Education, acts as an advisory body.

Each summer, selected students are invited to Governor's School to help build a learning community. Students are encouraged to explore and ask questions, with the purpose of learning for its own sake and discovering new possibilities that complement their high school instruction, without the regular pressures of tests, scores and grade point averages. While individual achievement and growth are always addressed, Governor's School emphasizes corporate and collective efforts, ranging from orchestral and choral music to partnered experiments and whole-class projects.

The academic disciplines include:

- English
- World Languages (*Spanish* at Governor's School West)
- Mathematics
- Natural Science
- Social Science

The performing/visual arts disciplines include:

- Art
- Choral Music
- Instrumental Music
- Dance
- Theater



What Is Governor's School? Why Should I Be Interested?

The Governor's School program offers a non-credit curriculum for selected students in three areas:

- **AREA I** – Area I is the discipline/subject of the student's special interest and the basis on which that student is chosen to attend Governor's School. Below is a summary description of the ten Area I disciplines so that students can envision how they will spend the majority of their class time at the Governor's School. The emphasis in all disciplines is on contemporary texts, compositions, artistic expressions, issues, and ideas and the theories that flow from them.
 - **ART** – In the visual arts curriculum, students study and practice visual expression consistent with current concepts and styles. Emphasis is placed on creative expression as students investigate and examine movements and theories in contemporary art.
 - **CHORAL MUSIC (Mixed Choir at Governor's School West; Treble Choir at Governor's School East)** – The choral music program explores the expression of the human experience and the connection to other arts and world events through choral music. The curriculum concentrates on music of 20th and 21st century composers. Students also learn the finer points of choral singing – blend, diction, tone quality – and vocal technique in rehearsals and performances.
 - **DANCE** – The dance curriculum embraces and expresses 20th and 21st century theories through daily modern technique classes, a survey of recent pioneers, and the integration of self-expression and abstraction through improvisation, composition, and choreography.

- **ENGLISH** – The English curriculum focuses on modern and post-modern fiction, poetry, and drama. The students are encouraged to read closely, imaginatively, analytically, and empathetically. Teachers incorporate creative and analytical writing workshops and immerse students in writing throughout the session.
- **WORLD LANGUAGE – SPANISH (WEST)** – The goal of Spanish is to expose students to contemporary thought, literature, music, art, and political trends coming from Spain and Hispanic America. Spanish is the primary language spoken in class. *NOTE: There is not a French program for the 2022 Governor's School.*
- **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC (Orchestra at Governor's School West; Wind Ensemble/Band at Governor's School East)** – The instrumental music program is designed to extend the boundaries of the gifted student beyond the limits of the standard high school curriculum. The focus is the study and performance of significant 20th and 21st century repertoire for orchestra (West) or wind ensemble (East), and the creation and performance of student works. These are all chosen to "open windows onto the future," the goal of the Governor's School curriculum as a whole.
- **MATHEMATICS** – The mathematics program strives to provide an atmosphere for students to independently contemplate and investigate problems that arise in contemporary mathematical fields. In addition, the program provides many opportunities through student-faculty interaction, seminars, and invited lecturers, for students to gain an appreciation for both mathematics and the work of mathematicians.
- **NATURAL SCIENCE** – The natural science curriculum investigates contemporary theories and topics of modern science by the use of interactive seminars, discussions, experiments, and group and individual problem solving. Biology, chemistry, and physics are all addressed through intriguing and engaging lessons and projects.
- **SOCIAL SCIENCE** – The social science curriculum examines major political, sociological, psychological, and anthropological concepts which have influenced the 20th and 21st centuries from theoretical and applied perspectives. Students are encouraged to see themselves as both individuals and participants in society, and combine classroom discussion with their personal experience in meaningful and analytical ways.
- **THEATER** – The goal of the theater curriculum is to introduce young theater artists to contemporary and progressive theory, literature, and technique. The approach is holistic, encouraging the actor to become a well-rounded, life-long student of the theater.

Study in each Area I discipline emphasizes theory and application over the memorization of fact, particularly contemporary theories that stimulate innovative thought in a rapidly changing culture. Courses and activities are designed to evoke student creativity, move students to question assumptions, explore unanswered questions, and develop an acceptance of the process of change. Classes meet twice per day, Monday through Friday, and once on Saturday. Students spend 70% of their instructional week in Area I.

In addition to their Area I classes, every student attends Area II and Area III. These courses differentiate Governor's School from other subject-specific enrichment programs and contribute toward a unique and rewarding experience. Also, each course comprises a diverse group of students from nearly every Area I discipline, promoting a perspective richness that helps in collaborative topic exploration. Each Area II and Area III class meets three times per week.

- **AREA II** is a course in critical, creative, philosophical thinking and inquiry. Students are asked to reflect and pursue their own learning, pay attention to the functioning of language in the development of ideas and societies, and investigate the very nature of thought and of the mind. A typical class might be a reading and discussion section, a sensory exercise, a game, a film, or a walk around campus—wherever the imaginations of the instructor and students lead. Ultimately, Area II provides the students with a set of intellectual tools with which they may consider their academic and artistic endeavors, as well as their personal ideas, in a more thoughtful light. Area II accounts for ~15% of a student's instructional week.
- In **AREA III**, often referred to as 'Self and Society,' students learn to examine and articulate their opinions and listen to those of others, and examine their personal lives and convictions in relation to their communities and the world at large. Integrating ideas and discussions from Areas I and II and throughout the campus environment, Area III classes mirror the honest, non-defensive, and generous encounters with different perspectives that Governor's School prizes, and typically are guided by a general topic. Area III discussions add to the Governor's School learning process by relating the overall curriculum to students' lives. Area III also accounts for ~15% of a student's instructional week.

Is That All? How Is This Different From Other Summer Programs?

Governor's School thrives upon the intellectual curiosity of students and faculty alike. In addition to Areas I, II and III, this pursuit takes place via optional seminars, film series, visiting speakers, student presentations/performances, exhibitions, and more. Faculty expect students to aspire to be "producers of knowledge, problem solvers, and problem finders" (James Gallagher, 1994), with classes and activities that blend intellectual discussion with practical theory application. There is also a lot of fun, with daily recreational activities, organizations, and considerable free time when students can hang out with new friends, take a nap, or create their own club or group activity. The possibilities are almost endless.

Does It Cost Anything?

The North Carolina Governor's School is mostly funded by the North Carolina General Assembly. To supplement this, a \$500 tuition per attending student has been charged. Tuition submission is the responsibility of the public school units and non-public schools that nominate the students. However, they have great flexibility on how they choose to access and collect tuition funds. This may include requesting families to cover some or all the tuition costs. Details on tuition payment options and procedures will be sent to schools and school systems.

The North Carolina Governor's School Foundation (NCGSF), a generous partner, is committed to ensuring that every selected student can attend Governor's School. The NCGSF will make scholarship opportunities available at www.ncgfsfoundation.org/apply/ after selections are announced in March 2022.

Funds from the General Assembly and student tuition cover all lodging, meals, and educational programs. Families are responsible for transportation costs to and from the campuses and typically provide for their children's spending money.

When Is Governor's School? What Are Other Important Dates?

September/October 2021 – Information regarding the 2021 session of Governor's School is sent to superintendents, headmasters of non-public schools, charter school directors, AIG coordinators, high school principals, high school counselors, and other Governor's School contacts. General information and all necessary forms are posted on the Governor's School website at www.ncgovschool.org. Also, informational meetings will be held throughout the state in the fall, offering official presentations on this unique program.

December 13, 2021 – The official Governor's School Contact for the school system (or federal school, special school, charter school or non-public school) must submit all nominations electronically to the Office of the North Carolina Governor's School. NOTE: Students, parents and other individuals may not submit nominations directly to the State level.

January/February 2022* – Online Governor's School auditions in Art, Choral Music, Dance, Instrumental Music, and Theater; specific dates to be determined. All students who are nominated in these areas and who meet the eligibility requirements for Governor's School will be notified individually and invited to audition.

March 14, 2022 – Lists of selected/non-selected students will be sent electronically to school/school system officials.

March 18, 2022 – Letters of selection/non-selection will be sent to students.

April 14, 2022 – Deadline for nominating schools/systems to submit acceptance forms on selected students. Submission of an acceptance form obligates the school/system to pay a non-refundable tuition per accepting student. Details on tuition payment options and procedures will be sent to schools and school systems.

June 19, 2022** – Opening Day of the 2022 session of Governor's School

July 17, 2022** – Closing Day of the 2022 session of Governor's School

* Specific audition dates will be available on the Governor's School website (www.ncgovschool.org) in late fall 2021.

** Tentative dates; a finalized schedule to be confirmed by host campuses. A finalized schedule will be posted in early 2022.



What Else Can You Tell Me About Governor's School?

- 1. HOW WILL GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL 2022 BE CONDUCTED IN LIGHT OF COVID-19?** The COVID-19 pandemic has caused considerable upheaval, but everyone worked together to create a robust and safe environment for an in-person summer 2021 session with zero COVID outbreaks or individual cases. Emphasis was placed on establishing and enforcing many layers of risk mitigation (e.g., vaccinations, testing, mask-wearing, hygienic practices, physical distancing, limited travel, etc.). Specific decisions for 2022 will be made with regard to updated conditions in the spring and through consultation with host institutions and public health officials.
- 2. WHERE IS THE GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL LOCATED?** The North Carolina Governor's School has two college campus sites. Governor's School East is being hosted by Meredith College in Raleigh. The site for Governor's School West is being determined and will be announced in early 2022.
- 3. ARE THE PROGRAMS THE SAME AT GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL EAST AND WEST?** Generally yes; Governor's School is one program operating on two campuses. The exceptions are that West offers Spanish and an orchestra and East offers a wind ensemble. Also, West will have a mixed chorus (i.e., sopranos, altos, tenors and basses) for 2022; the East chorus will include only sopranos and altos. Otherwise the curriculum of both campuses is the same.
- 4. HOW IS A TYPICAL GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL CLASS CONDUCTED?** Highly energized and committed teachers invite students to explore new and significant ideas, not principally through lecture but through discussion. Teachers may use an occasional mini-lecture to present a formula in math or physics, demonstrate a new movement in art or music, or explain a recent theory of social groups or literary texts. The hallmark of our intellectual work, however, is the interplay between theory and students' responses, between the abstract and the personal. Students and teachers forge a safe, non-competitive intellectual environment where ideas from many disciplines are entertained and all active learners are taken seriously.
- 5. WHAT OPTIONS ARE THERE AFTER REGULAR CLASSES END IN THE AFTERNOON?** Governor's School provides many optional and required activities in the late afternoon and evening hours that complement and extend the classes. Invited speakers who are active contributors to current knowledge in their fields address students throughout the session. Daily optional seminars or electives can range from whimsical to serious and offer students the opportunity to explore both familiar and brand-new topics. Presentations/performances electrify both campuses and allow every student to share what they have been learning. Students can also simply rest or participate in unstructured activities. Every day after class is rich with possibilities!
- 6. WHAT KINDS OF RECREATIONAL AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES ARE OFFERED?** Each afternoon and evening, numerous facilities are open for individual and group recreation. Later in the evening, students can choose social events such as swing dance instruction, ultimate frisbee tournaments, capture the flag competitions, and scavenger hunts. For many, the high social moments are the weekend and end-of-session community events. Others say that their best free moments are spent in the spontaneous conversations, gatherings, and activities that students initiate on the courtyard benches and by fountains, at meals and on dormitory halls.
- 7. HOW STRICT ARE THE RULES AT THE GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL?** Governor's School is clearly situated between high school and college – an ambitious residential school for high school students. It grants students many freedoms associated with university study, especially the freedom of choice between many different intellectual and community experiences. It is also governed by a number of rules and regulations associated with residential life for high school students. These are enumerated in an honor code and the Student Handbook (available for download in the spring upon selection) so students will know what is expected of them before they decide to attend. Governor's School is not a rule-bound place, but those few rules that exist are taken seriously. Strict adherence to them exercises student self-discipline and responsibility, ensures student safety, and frees the community to focus on vital and essential new ideas and experiences.

- 8. DO STUDENTS HAVE TO ATTEND GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL THE ENTIRE FOUR WEEKS?** Yes. Being selected actually means being invited to contribute to the construction of a learning community, so full attendance and participation is required, not just requested. (NOTE: Any student who does not stay until the closing session on the last day will not receive a Governor's School certificate.) Students are not excused to attend school, family, or community events (e.g., camps, competitions, reunions, etc.). On rare occasions students may be excused for events of great urgency that cannot be rescheduled. Such requests may only be submitted after the student selection process. Also, students should not enroll in or expect to participate in online courses during the Governor's School session. Experience has shown that online course enrollment leads to students completing neither Governor's School nor their online course with fidelity. Any student who cannot make this full commitment is kindly asked to decline the invitation and allow another student the opportunity to fully participate.
- 9. MAY STUDENTS GO HOME ON WEEKENDS?** No. Students must remain at the Governor's School through the weekends.
- 10. IS THERE A LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF NOMINATIONS A SCHOOL/SYSTEM CAN SUBMIT?** Yes. Each school system, charter school, non-public school and special school is allotted a certain number of nominations based on its tenth and eleventh grade student population, with exceptions in certain performing arts areas. See the School/System Information section for details of this allocation.
- 11. MAY A STUDENT BE NOMINATED IN MULTIPLE DISCIPLINES?** No. Though a student may express interest in many disciplines (e.g., multiple academic areas, different musical instruments, etc.) at the local level, the nomination to the state level can only be in one discipline (one academic/arts field, one vocal part, one instrument).
- 12. WHAT ARE THE ODDS OF BEING SELECTED?** Due to limited enrollment, around 40% of nominees are selected each year. This selection rate tends to vary across disciplines, according to the number of nominations received in a particular discipline in a given year. For the 2021 Governor's School, a total of 680 students attended out of 1,701 received nominations.
- 13. MAY STUDENTS REQUEST WHICH CAMPUS THEY WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND AND REQUEST ROOMMATES?** No, students must attend their assigned campus and with their assigned roommate.
- 14. MAY STUDENTS ATTEND GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL MORE THAN ONE TIME?** No, students may attend Governor's School for one session only.
- 15. IS TUITION REFUNDABLE?** No.
- 16. WHERE CAN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL BE FOUND?** For statewide information, visit the Governor's School website at www.ncgovschool.org or email ncgovschool@dpi.nc.gov. For local information, contact a school counselor at the local high school.



Okay, I'm Interested. Am I Eligible to be Nominated?

There are two main eligibility requirements: residency and enrollment. For 2022, the achievement/aptitude test score requirement has been suspended.

- **RESIDENCY** – You must be a North Carolina resident; exchange students are not eligible. Any student attending a North Carolina federal high school (e.g., Lejeune High School), regardless of residency, is eligible.
- **ENROLLMENT** – You must be:
 - Attending a North Carolina public or non-public school, and
 - Enrolled in the eleventh grade at the time of nomination (exceptions are made to allow for students in tenth and eleventh grades in Dance, Choral Music and Instrumental Music).

Again, there is no achievement/aptitude test score requirement to be nominated to the State level. However, local schools/school systems may use test scores along with other measures (e.g., interviews, essays, auditions, etc.) to determine which of their students are most eligible of their limited nominations to the State level.



How Are Students Nominated/Selected?

Students are only nominated by schools/school systems; they cannot be nominated by their families or themselves. The number of nominations a school/school system can submit to the state level is limited in most disciplines. See the School/School System Information section for more details.

A North Carolina Governor's School nomination is a robust collection of information from multiple sources. It comprises:

1. A student-completed **Student Application** which includes contact information, essays and reflections on personal readiness for Governor's School.
2. A school-produced **high school transcript** which lists the student's classes, grades and other official achievement data.
3. **Two recommendations** using the official *Recommendation Form*, completed by those who can attest to a student's qualities and readiness.

See the "*So, What Are My Next Steps?*" section for more details.

LOCAL PROCESSES: To determine which local nominations will proceed to the state level, schools/school systems may have a local selection process of their own design. This could include additional tests, auditions, interviews, etc. These decisions are reserved for those at the local level (who know their students best) and the Office of the North Carolina Governor's School generally does not intervene in these matters.

STATE PROCESSES: When nominations are submitted by December 13, 2021, the NCDPI Office of the North Carolina Governor's School screens them to ensure completeness and student eligibility. After this, the state selection processes are as follows:

- **ACADEMIC/WORLD LANGUAGE NOMINEES** – Selection committees with specialists in each academic and world language discipline review and score each student nomination, ranking all nominees in that particular discipline. Only the submitted nomination information is used in these selection processes; there are no auditions or use of additional materials.
- **PERFORMING/VISUAL ARTS NOMINEES** – Specialists in each discipline review and score each nomination. Also, students in these disciplines audition before judges (see below). Nomination scores complement the audition findings to determine rankings in each artistic discipline, instrument, and vocal part.

AUDITIONS in all performing/visual arts areas will be recorded and submitted in January/February 2022; the exact dates and other details will be posted to the Governor's School website in late fall 2021. Student-specific details (technology, time, preparations, etc.) will be sent directly to each student several weeks prior to audition day. Students may audition in only one discipline, instrument or vocal part.

- **Art** – The video for a student auditioning in Visual Art shows their three best works of art in any medium that show **drawing, painting, sculpting, ceramic, or printmaking** skills. The three pieces may be in the same or different media. (Photography and digital art are not typically taught during the summer program; if a student wishes to use these in their audition, they should show an understanding of design and the creative and skillful handling of visual elements and concepts found in all visual art forms, and will be evaluated accordingly.) Students will also respond in the video to a series of questions that will be provided.
- **Dance** – The Dance program focuses on **modern dance** and the audition video will comprise four parts (i.e., introduction, warm-up, movement through space, and composition work) in response to specific instructions. Guidance videos will be provided after a student is nominated.
- **Theater** – The Theater audition video has three parts. The first is an original one-minute monologue of the student's own creation. The second is a memorized performance from a set of generic monologues. The final part is an interview to answer a series of questions. NOTE: Some years prior, a tech theater option was available for a small number of students seeking to specialize in set design and other non-acting theater aspects. That option is not available for 2022.
- **Choral Music** – The Choral Music audition video consists of two tasks: *Range-finding* and a *Solo Performance*.
 - Range-finding includes singing ascending and descending major scales to the top and bottom of a student's comfortable singing range.
 - The Solo Performance requires a student to sing a 90-second to 2-minute excerpt of a song (any genre is allowed) from a 20th or 21st-century composer, with or without accompaniment. Additional guidance will be provided after a student is nominated.

- **Instrumental Music** – The Instrumental Music audition video consists of two tasks: a *Solo Performance* and a *Prepared Excerpt*.
 - The Solo Performance will be 90 seconds to 2 minutes in length and must be chosen from a list of prescribed selections.
 - The Prepared Excerpt will be a brief instrument-specific piece provided for the student to download from the Governor's School website and study to perform. More details on both tasks will be provided in December 2021 after students are nominated.
 - Nominees are expected to perform unaccompanied.
 - The following instruments will be auditioned: Flute/Piccolo, Oboe/English Horn, Clarinet (E-flat, B-flat, Alto, Bass, Contralto, and Contrabass), Saxophone (Alto, Tenor, and Baritone), Bassoon, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Percussion, Violin, Viola, Cello, and Bass.
 - No other instruments (e.g., guitar, piano, harp, etc.) will be auditioned.

Once all State selection processes are complete, the Office of the North Carolina Governor's School notifies schools/school systems and then students about selection/non-selection in mid-March 2022. Selected students then must declare if they accept their selection by mid-April 2022.



SECTION 2: STUDENT NOMINATION

? *So, What Are My Next Steps?*

- **STEP ONE: Contact your school/school counselor.** Ask about eligibility and local application/nomination processes.
- **STEP TWO: Complete and turn in the Student Application at your local school, not to the State office.** Download and electronically complete the form from the Governor's School website (www.ncgovschool.org). There are three sections to complete:
 - **Basic Information & Nomination Discipline**
 - **Essays** – You will have two essays to complete, each in response to a prompt. Essay #1 is for every student, regardless of nomination area. Essay #2 is specific to your nomination area, so make sure you use the correct prompt.
 1. **FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS.** Exceeding the character limit, writing to an incorrect prompt, and other errors will result in a reduced rating.
 2. **UNDERSTAND THE PROMPTS.** If you are not sure what a prompt means, ask a trusted educator.
 3. **DO YOUR OWN WORK BUT HAVE OTHERS REVIEW.** Essays must be your own product, not someone else's ideas, but it is fine for others to guide you and offer helpful edits.
 - **Personal Readiness** – This form is where you list your recent school/community activities and awards and your thoughts on those that are most important to you. It is also where you describe what makes you ready for a summer residential experience in a learning community.
- **STEP THREE: Get Two Recommendations.** Review the official Recommendation Form (from the Governor's School website) and ask adults who can attest to your academic/arts strengths, personal character, and readiness for the Governor's School experience. These adults will need to electronically complete and submit the recommendation form.
 - Family members may not complete/submit recommendations.
 - At least one recommendation must be from one of your high school teachers, preferably in your nominated discipline. If a nomination-discipline teacher is not available, choose another teacher. The second can be from: another teacher; a school counselor or administrator; an out-of-school instructor, coach or community leader; or anyone else who can knowledgeably complete the form.
 - Recommenders should download the Recommendation Form and complete it electronically.
 - Upon completion, the recommender should send it electronically directly to the appropriate local school official, NOT to the State office. Neither you nor your parent should receive or review the recommendation.
 - Only two Recommendation Forms will be accepted. No other documents (e.g., substitute letters, additional recommendations, etc.) will be accepted.
- **STEP FOUR: Follow up with your local school official (e.g., school counselor) to ensure all materials are submitted.** The school will complement these materials with your official high school transcript.

HELPFUL TIPS FOR A BETTER NOMINATION

1. **NOMINATION DISCIPLINE** – Most students are accomplished in more than one thing. In choosing your nomination discipline, decide on one of which you are both capable and passionate. Having both qualities is usually required for selection in this highly competitive process.
2. **ESSAYS** – Start working on your essays long before they are due; last-minute efforts usually are not fruitful. Also, there is not a 'correct answer' to the essay prompts. Readers are wanting to gain insight into how you think about these topics, not just what you think.
3. **PERSONAL READINESS** – List those activities, awards and experiences that demonstrate your readiness and fitness for the Governor's School experience. Leadership, dedication and a willingness to take on challenges are good qualities.
4. **RECOMMENDATIONS** – Find those who can 1) *be honest* and 2) *speak well of you*. Also, high ratings alone are usually insufficient; additional input in the free-response sections help support the ratings. Our readers often have more confidence in well-supported 'Very Good' marks than unsupported 'Superior' marks.

SECTION 3: SCHOOL/SYSTEM INFORMATION



How Do Schools/School Systems Nominate Students?

THIS SECTION IS DESIGNED FOR LOCAL SCHOOL PERSONNEL. The information in this section is open and available to students and families, but it is directly applicable to those local school/system professionals who participate in the nomination process.

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL CONTACT PERSON: There is one designated official Governor's School Contact Person for each public school unit and non-public school. The Contact develops and communicates the local nominations and selection processes to students, families, and school personnel.

OTHER SCHOOL/SYSTEM PERSONNEL: Know who your official Contact is and go to that person with any questions about student eligibility, local nomination, tuition responsibilities, etc. Please thoroughly review the GENERAL INFORMATION and STUDENT APPLICATION sections of this document. You should be able to use it and your knowledge of local nomination processes to answer most questions.

Suggested Step-by-Step Nomination Procedures for Local Schools/Systems *(Schools/systems may vary these procedures to fit their local needs.)*

1. STUDENT

- a. Fully completes a Governor's School Student Application and submits it to appropriate local school personnel.

2. RECOMMENDERS

- a. Fully complete a Recommendation Form and electronically send it directly to the appropriate local school official. They are NOT to share the recommendation with the student or family.

3. SCHOOL PERSONNEL

- a. **High School Staff** (often in coordination with the local Governor's School Contact Person):

- i. Confirms the student meets all eligibility criteria and demonstrates the maturity/readiness for Governor's School.
- ii. Assembles a complete nomination (Student Application, official transcript, and Recommendation Forms) on each nominee and submits it to the Principal/Director/Headmaster.

- b. **High School Principal/School Director/Headmaster** (often in coordination with the local Governor's School Contact Person):

- i. Reviews all complete nominations.
- ii. Approves (often through a school-based committee) and submits complete nominations to the Governor's School Contact Person, affirming student readiness.

- c. **Governor's School Contact Person** (involving the local Superintendent/Director/Headmaster):

- i. Reviews the **Nomination Chart** to determine the total number of nominees allowed. See the following notes.
 1. World Languages – In prior years, Spanish nominations were included within the Academics limits. This year, Spanish nominations are assigned to a separate World Languages category with a specific enrollment-based limit. Relatively few students in Spanish are selected, so consider only nominating students who are strong in this language and can speak it fluently. **NOTE: There is not a French program for the 2022 Governor's School.**
 2. Instrumental Music and Choral Music – Nominations are unlimited for students who play double-reed instruments (oboe and bassoon), brass instruments (trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, and tuba), percussion instruments, or string instruments (violin, viola, cello, and bass), or whose vocal ranges are alto, tenor or bass. These will not count against the number of performing/visual arts nominations.
- ii. Documents the best candidates from the school/system for nomination to the Governor's School, as agreed upon by the Superintendent/Director/Headmaster. NOTE: Strive to reflect the diversity of the school/system.
- iii. Completes the *State Nomination Form* with the included assurances.
 1. Superintendent Choice – Public school system and federal school (not charter, special or non-public schools) Superintendents indicate their one academic choice. This student will automatically be invited to attend provided he/she meets all eligibility requirements. The Office of the North Carolina Governor's

School recommends that this student is one of the top academic nominees. NOTE: A nominee in Spanish or the performing/visual arts cannot be a Superintendent Choice.

2. PLEASE REFRAIN FROM PUBLICLY OR PRIVATELY DISCLOSING THE NAME OF THE SUPERINTENDENT CHOICE.

iv. **Notifies all interested students whether their nomination is advancing to the state level.**

v. Uploads all materials to the assigned electronic folder, including: the *State Nomination Form* for the entire school/system and a complete nomination (i.e., *Student Application*, transcript and two recommendations) for each listed student. Due date: **December 13, 2021.**

Nomination Chart

- The Nominating Entity (i.e., school system, charter school, federal school, special school or non-public school) can nominate eligible students according to the chart below.
- The allotted number of academic nominations should include the one Superintendent Choice (public school systems and federal schools only).

10th+11th Grade Total Student Population (Excluding Extended Day Enrollment)	# of Limited Academic Nominations	# of World Language Nominations	# of Limited Performing/ Visual Arts Nominations*
Up to 125	1	1	2
126-250	2	1	4
251-500	3	1	6
501-800	4	1	8
801-1100	5	1	10
1101-1400	6	2	12
1401-1800	8	2	16
1801-2100	10	2	20
2101-2500	12	2	22
2501-3000	14	2	24
3001-3500	17	3	26
3501-4000	20	3	28
4001-5000	23	3	30
5001-6000	26	4	32
6001-8000	32	4	34
8001-10000	38	4	36
10001-15000	47	5	38
OVER 15000	56	5	40

* Limits on performing/visual arts nominations only pertain to Dance, Theater, Visual Art, soprano 1 or 2 in Choral Music, and flute/piccolo, clarinet and saxophone in Instrumental Music. Nominations are unlimited in: double-reed instruments (oboe and bassoon); brass instruments (trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, and tuba); percussion instruments; string instruments (violin, viola, cello, and bass); and Choral Music parts of alto, tenor, or bass. Instrumental Music has only the instruments listed above; other instruments (e.g., harp, guitar, piano, etc.) are not allowed.

Upload all completed nominations to the electronic folder by **Monday, December 13, 2021.**

Questions? Contact the Office of the North Carolina Governor's School at 984.236.2576, 984.236.2577, or ncgovschool@dpi.nc.gov.