



HONORS MENTORSHIP

Forsyth County Schools

HMP Website: <https://www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/honorsmentorship>

2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR APPLICATION PACKET

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 9, 2018
[Submit Applications to the School Counseling Office!]

INTRODUCTION

This packet provides information and suggested guidelines for students, parents, teachers, guidance counselors, and resource personnel concerning the process and procedures involved in nominating and selecting students for the Forsyth County Schools Honors Mentorship Program (HMP).

The Honors Mentorship Program is an instructional program designed to provide intellectually gifted or artistically talented high school students challenging and enriching career-oriented opportunities not usually available within the regular classroom. Selected participants understand that this course replaces an otherwise traditional elective credit. Open to juniors and seniors, the program expands the elective curriculum beyond the school site. Students will work and study under the direction of a Community Mentor – a person of recognized ability and success in the community. This internship incorporates the student's individual talents and intellectual abilities. The rigorous curriculum and demands of this course require students to be focused, goal-oriented, self-motivated, mature, determined to pursue enriched learning, and passionate about a particular career field.

Students must complete an application process during their rising junior or senior year to be considered for the program the following school year. Students must demonstrate a strong desire to experience a program that is both intellectually challenging and career-based. The Honors Mentorship Selection Committee uses written documentation and information gathered to rank nominees and select participants.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY: The Forsyth County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Selected students understand that they will need to invest a minimum number of hours per week, depending on HMP class scheduling, in order to receive full credit for the course. This schedule is flexible and both the student and the mentor determine the weekly meeting times. Other requirements for this course include providing suggested names and/or specific businesses as potential mentors in the chosen career field, attending all meetings with the Honors Mentorship Teacher and Community Mentor, creating an electronic portfolio, presenting a culminating capstone project to a panel of community professionals, participating in team-building activities, and working with a Community Mentor Professional in his/her career field.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ABOUT THE HONORS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

- 1. What is the Honors Mentorship Program?** The HMP is an instructional program designed to provide intellectually gifted and artistically talented high school students challenging and enriching career based educational opportunities. The program gives motivated, mature high school students a career mentorship designed around the individual student's interest in a specific field or career. Participants are matched with a Community Mentor and will work with that mentor for the duration of the scheduled class while engaging in a real-life career experience along with the latest information and technology in the field.
- 2. Who can participate?** Rising juniors and seniors at any Forsyth County school.
- 3. How are students selected?** After completing an application, students are selected for the program based on their abilities, aptitudes, and career goals. In addition, students are required to answer essay questions and include teacher and community member references. The selection committee will use all written evidence and data gathered in the application to make their selection.
- 4. When will I know if I am selected for the program?** A Career Development Coordinator assigned to your school will contact you by the end of April 2018 if you are selected for the 2018-2019 school year.
- 5. When and where is the Honors Mentorship Program conducted?** Once matched with their community mentors, students spend most of their instructional time with their community mentors off campus at the work site of the mentors. Some time is spent with a Career Development Coordinator at their school, in monthly face to face meetings. Each student and mentor work out the weekly schedule based on the needs of both the student and mentor. Students must decide how to schedule the HMP class to best fit their schedule.
****It is highly recommended that a student schedule HMP for at least 2 periods to gain the best possible experience with the mentor.***
- 6. How are the community mentors chosen?** Community mentors will be selected based on their career area, personality, and flexibility to work with young adults. We also encourage students to suggest mentors they would like to work with.
- 7. How will I be matched with my Community Mentor?** After the selection process, students will meet with a Career Development Coordinator and share their desired

career experience. Students help by providing suggested names and/or specific businesses as potential mentors in their chosen career fields. Except in rare circumstances, mentors will be located in or near the Forsyth County area. The student, Career Development Coordinator, and mentor will meet to discuss and sign the Honors Mentorship Program Agreement. Parents also sign the agreement and are encouraged to attend the initial meeting whenever possible.

- 8. Is there transportation or do I have to provide it?** Each participant will be responsible for his/her own transportation to the worksite of his/her assigned mentor and to the off-campus classroom.
- 9. What is expected of me in this program?** Each student attends announced monthly meetings with a Career Development Coordinator, participates in team-building activities, works with a community mentor in a career field of interest for 3-4 hours per week per class period, utilizes the latest technology, researches a specific career field, provides a career portfolio, and presents a culminating capstone project to a panel of community professionals.
- 10. What schedule will a student typically follow?** The first few weeks will be spent meeting with a Career Development Coordinator face to face or via computer conferencing. The student will complete assignments during his/her scheduled class time through itslearning. These meetings will help the student learn about course expectations, teamwork, and workplace expectations. The student will then meet with his/her community mentor and develop a schedule best suited for both parties. Scheduled hours will depend on the flexibility and availability of both the student and community mentor.
- 11. Whom should I contact for more information?** Please visit: <https://www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/honorsmentorship> and/or contact Dr. Valery L. Lowe, Director of College and Career Development, at vlowe@forsyth.k12.ga.us (770-887-2461).

Requirements to Apply

- An identified career goal and evidence of talent, experience, service, leadership or exploration in field of interest
- A Georgia Driver's License and proof of auto insurance in order to *provide your own dependable transportation or ability to provide your own dependable transportation.*
- Rising junior or a senior in good standing with the school system
- On track for graduation and willing to utilize the Honors Mentorship Program as an elective credit
- Willing to submit to any health-related or security-related screenings and/or training required by the sponsoring mentor
- Parental support and consent

Application Directions

1. Complete **all sections** of Student Application, including short answer essays.
 - Give recommendation forms to your **3 references** who could provide a recommendation for you and have them completed ASAP. Have your reference return the completed form **in a sealed envelope** to you! You are responsible for submitting the sealed references with your completed application! ***References must include a past teacher, current teacher, and a community member.**



2018–2019 STUDENT APPLICATION

INTERNAL USE ONLY			
Counseling Office:			
Date Received			
Signature:			
HM Selection Committee:			
	Approved		Notified
	Denied		Notified
	Wait List		Notified

I. Student/Parent Information

Student Name: _____ Student ID#: _____

Student E-Mail: _____ Student Cell: _____

Grade During 2018-2019 (Circle): Junior Senior

Career Interest: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

Parent E-Mail: _____ Parent Cell: _____

II. Student Skills/Additional Information

Computer Experience (Circle): Good Fair Limited

Please list any software programs with which you have experience: (Excel, AutoCAD, webpage design, etc.)

Please list any responsibilities or obligations that you have outside of regular school hours (for example: sports, school or community activities, part-time job, family/childcare, early enrollment college classes).

To the best of your knowledge, what courses do you plan to take next year? Identify which are Honors, AP, IB, or MOWR courses.

I am available to take this course (Circle):

1 period 2 periods Which period(s) (i.e.1-7) would you like to take this course? _____

List the names of potential mentors in your career field and/or the names of any companies in your career field where you would like to mentor.

III. Writing Sample and Other Required Information

Attach:

1. a **typed 1-2 paragraph** essay for **each** of the following questions.
 - a. What is your career interest for this internship? Why have you chosen this particular career? At what point in your life did you know that this career path was for you?
 - b. Why do you feel that you should be chosen to participate in the Forsyth County HMP? What specific traits and/or abilities do you possess that will make you a successful HMP student?
 - c. We would like to hear about your experiences managing your own time and learning. Please describe the most challenging personal, artistic, or community project in which you have been involved. Why did you initiate or choose this project? What challenges did you face? In what ways were you required to be self-directed as you worked independently to achieve your goals?
2. Unofficial copy of your transcript (print from portal account).

Recommendation Form

Give recommendation form (attached) to your 3 references and have them complete ASAP. References must include a past teacher, current teacher, and a community member.

IV. Honors Mentorship Application Certification

- I qualify for application to the Honors Mentorship program based on admission requirements.
- I authorize Forsyth County Schools to release information related to my child's academic and attendance records to the Career Development Coordinator and potential employers, and I agree that Forsyth County Schools and its agents will be absolved of any responsibility in connection with such a release.
- I hereby authorize the school or the work site employer to secure emergency medical treatment for my child. I assume all financial responsibility.
- The Career Development Coordinator and/or employer may wish to photograph participants in the program for promotional or education purposes. I consent to be photographed for promotional and education purposes. Parents: You must submit in writing to the Career Development Coordinator should you wish your child NOT be photographed for such purposes.
- I certify that the facts contained in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and understand that, if selected for the Honors Mentorship Program, falsified statements may be grounds for removal. I authorize investigation of all statements contained herein, the references listed in this application, and release all parties from liability for any damage that may result from furnishing the same to a Career Development Coordinator.
- If I am accepted into the Honors Mentorship Program, I will
 - commit to participate for the entire school year.
 - take advantage of every opportunity to improve my knowledge, skills and efficiency in the classroom and my mentorship placement.

Student Signature

Date

I give my child permission to apply for the Honors Mentorship Program.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date



HONORS MENTORSHIP
Forsyth County Schools

Recommendation Form

Student Name: _____ Your Name: _____

In comparison to other young people of his/her age, this student demonstrates:

	No Basis for Judgment	Not as strong as typical student	Similar to other students	Somewhat better than typical students	Exceptional compared to typical students
Behavior that requires little direction from teachers					
The ability to organize and bring structure to his/her own work, situations, etc.					
A positive attitude and cooperative behavior when working with others					
Sustained interest in certain problems or topics					
Ability to state and define goals and priorities					
Little need for external motivation to follow through in work					
A tendency to be respected by peers and adults					
Excellent record of attendance/punctuality					
Tenacity in learning and persistence when pursuing goals					
A preference for situations in which he/she can take responsibility for outcomes of his/her efforts					
Maturity in interactions and decision-making					
Honesty/Integrity					

Please check one:

I strongly recommend this student for the HMP without reservations. I cannot recommend this student for the HMP.

I recommend this student for the HMP with the following reservations: _____

Signature

Date

Please return this form in a SEALED envelope with the student before March 9, 2018.

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