



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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TO Superintendents High School Principals and Counselors
Charter School Administrators EC Program Directors
Headmasters of Non-Public Schools AIG Coordinators

FROM Maria Pitre-Martin, Ph.D. *MPM*
William J. Hussey, Director *WJH*
Exceptional Children Division

THE 2019 SESSION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction is pleased to announce plans for the 2019 North Carolina Governor's School. Administered by the Exceptional Children Division, Governor's School has provided a unique and innovative residential educational experience for some of our state's brightest and most talented high school students each summer since 1963. The Nomination Packet will be posted soon at www.ncgovschool.org. All information will be available to download and print; specific forms will allow for electronic completion, saving and printing. **Please direct all interested students to the Nomination Packet.**

The person in your school/school system responsible for working with the Governor's School program should coordinate all nominations. Follow the procedures carefully, screen closely, and nominate students who can handle the freedom and responsibility of a residential school and will **commit to attending the entire session**. Please strive to adequately and fairly reflect the racial, ethnic, gender and socioeconomic diversity of your tenth and eleventh grade population.

Important Dates/Events

- **September/October 2018:** Informational Meetings – see below for details.
- **Friday, November 16, 2018:** Deadline (postmark) to submit nominations.
- **February 2019:** Auditions in all Performing/Visual Arts areas; specifics to be announced.
- **March 2019:** Selection/non-selection notices are sent to schools/school systems and nominees.
- **Friday, April 5, 2019:** Deadline for schools/school systems to accept/decline selection.
- **Sunday, June 16, 2019:** Opening Day of 2019 Governor's School.
- **Thursday, July 4 – Sunday, July 7, 2019:** Mid-session break.
- **Wednesday, July 24, 2019:** Closing Day of 2019 Governor's School.

Informational Meetings

The Exceptional Children Division will hold informational meetings throughout the state in September and October to inform and answer questions about Governor's School. More information soon will be sent to local Governor's School contacts and posted on the website.

Selection/Acceptance

Teams of professionals select students during winter 2019. Students in academics are selected according to their applications; those in performing/visual arts are selected by a combined process of application review and audition. In March 2019, all nominees and their nominating school/school system will be notified of their selection/non-selection to attend Governor's School. **The school/school system is**

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

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required to reply by April 6 with the names of accepting students. At that point, the school/school system is obligated to pay those students' tuition charges.

Tuition

The North Carolina Governor's School has relied primarily on public funds, but these have remained static and partial over the past several years, addressing a smaller budget percentage as expenses have increased. To augment this, as in prior years, a \$500 per student tuition is charged.

The school/school system must submit the tuition for each of its students that attend Governor's School. Schools/school systems may choose how to access and collect tuition-related funds. They may use any appropriate, compliant strategies, including utilizing local funding sources (e.g., internal operating budget, local civic and charitable organizations, etc.). They may also request families to contribute all or some tuition charges. Governor's School has a long history of seeking out and welcoming students from every county, population and income level. Working with schools, families and other entities, the aim is to ensure that no student is dissuaded from nomination or selection due to finances.

Scholarships

Scholarships again will be available through the North Carolina Governor's School Foundation. The application process will begin after selected students are notified in March. Information about the scholarship program will be available at www.ncgsfoundation.org/apply/. All selected students who may need financial assistance are encouraged to apply.

Tuition Payment Procedures

- Tuition will be collected by **direct payment**. Each school/school system submits a check to the Department of Public Instruction. More specific instructions will be sent in March 2019.
- Full tuition payments for all initially accepting students are due **Friday, April 26, 2019**. No student may attend Governor's School unless his/her tuition is paid in full.
- If alternate students are selected as the spring progresses, tuition payment for those students will be due **Friday, July 12, 2019**.

Refunds

Tuition for the North Carolina Governor's School, like a conference registration fee, is non-refundable. If tuition has been submitted and then, even with advance notice, the student does not attend Governor's School, the tuition will not be refunded, except under extreme circumstances.

Contact Information

The State Board of Education, the Department of Public Instruction and the Board of Governors for the North Carolina Governor's School express to you their sincere appreciation for the interest and support that you have shown for Governor's School. If you have any questions, please contact: Tom Winton, Coordinator, at 919/807-3319 or tom.winton@dpi.nc.gov; or Tish Bynum, Special Assistant, at 919/807-3986 or tish.bynum@dpi.nc.gov.