How to Apply to the Academies of Hampton

Hampton City Schools prepares students for college, careers, and life in the 21st century by engaging them in dynamic learning environments. The Academies of Hampton provides students an opportunity to choose a thematic course of study such as health care, engineering, information technology or aerospace engineering, and learn in a relevant, hands-on environment with real-world application.

Students have an opportunity to enroll in one of the four unique Academies. For more detailed information on course offerings, dual credit and enrollment courses, and industry certification alignment, please view the HCS Course Description Guide or talk to your school counselor.

Architecture & Applied Arts Governor’s STEM Academy
Located at Kecoughtan High School

Governor’s Health Science Academy
Located at Bethel High School

Information Design and Engineering Academy (IDEA) STEM Academy
Located at Phoebus High School

Aerospace and Information Technology Academy/Greater Peninsula Governor’s Academy
Located at Hampton High School,

Application Process

Attendance at a High School Parent Information meeting is highly recommended. Information about high school and academy choices will be presented at the meetings as well as an opportunity to visit a high school/academy of your choice. Parents and students are encouraged to ask questions prior to selecting a high school or academy. Eighth grade students will have an opportunity to learn about all Academies before making their high school choice selection.

Before completing and submitting an application, students and parents should review the HCS Course Description Guide for course descriptions and sequences for all academies.

Completed application packages are due to the school counselor no later than March 1.

Application Package: The application must be signed by student and parent, and must include the following:

☑ Completed Academies of Hampton application form.

☑ Written personal statement answering the following questions: Why do you wish to attend this particular Academy? How could this program help your future?

☑ Commitment statement (included on the application) signed by the student and parent, that acknowledges the following academy participation requirements:

- Student will maintain a cumulative minimum GPA of 2.5 or agree to an academic improvement plan.
- Student will adhere to HCS Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook and Academy standards and understands that failure to meet those standards because of academic performance, behavior or
attendance, may result in the student being required to withdraw from the Academy or enroll in alternate course of study.

- Students withdrawing from the Academy for any reason will be required to return to their zoned high school, and according to Virginia High School League rules, will not be eligible to participate in VHSL activities for 365 days unless granted a waiver under VHSL rule 28-6-2(14).

- Students understand if their zoned school does offer an Academy in which they are interested, they may apply to the school that offers a program that more accurately aligns with their college and career interests. Students understand that transportation to an Academy that is not at their zoned school is NOT provided.

- Students make the commitment of time and effort outside of normal classroom hours. This may include attending after school/weekend events, gaining experiences in the career field of interest through exploration activities and internships, and/or completing a Capstone project prior to graduation.

- School Counselor Recommendation Form (required form found online), copy of Student Profile, and Student Log entries, which includes the student’s academic performance, behavior, and attendance data.

- Two Teacher Recommendations Forms (required form found online). Recommendations must be from current teachers and at least one must be from a math or science teacher.