2014 GHA Application Cover Page

Student Name:_____

Do not complete the application before reading this page.

1. The first step to applying to GHA is to be sure you meet the proper qualifications. Please click on the **Qualifications** link on the main GHA page. **NOTE:** Be sure to read about the various test score(s) you may use this year. If you meet the qualifications, the next step is to fill out the Student Application and the Consent Form
2. **Part I of the application is to be submitted online by February 22, 2014.** Part II, the paper copy, must be completed and submitted to your school guidance counselor by the date the school sets. . The first page of the submitted application contains the same information that is submitted online, but you are to complete **both**. Print the verification that you have submitted the online application and make it **Page 1** of this packet.
3. **Part II** is a fillable pdf. You will not be able to save the data when you close it, so you must print before closing. This does not mean you have to do it all at once. You can complete a page and print it and go back to another page at a later time.
4. Write the essay. This applies to all applicants. See **page 8** of the application for examples of topics. You are not to write a personal narrative, a descriptive paper or a piece of fiction.
5. Provide two letters of recommendation from teachers and one from one of your peers. The teachers' letters should be submitted on professional letterhead and are to be typed using a 12-point Roman or Arial font. The use of fancy, italicized fonts is strongly discouraged. Writers should speak candidly about your work, talent, desire, strengths and weaknesses. One letter must be from a high school teacher. Although the other may be, it may also come from a minister, community leader, someone with whom you have worked, etc. The peer recommendation is a letter describing you as a candidate for GHA, written from a friend's point of view.
6. Please pay careful attention to the parent/student signature page. If you have questions about the residency and no-visitation requirements, you may direct them to Sherry.L.Keffer@wv.gov.
7. Type the rest of the application, print it and take it to your counselor **with the pages in order and your essay at the back**. The counselor will complete page 3 of the application and give it to your principal for his/her signature. The counselor will also attach the necessary school records and staple it.. Please remind your counselor that your Social Security number is NOT to be sent with your transcript. **It is your responsibility to meet the school deadline.**

No paper clips, binders, photos or folders. Staple only.

My signature guarantees that I have read the instructions for applying and that I have submitted Part I on line.

Student Signature_____Date:_____

THIS SHOULD BE THE SECOND PAGE OF YOUR APPLICATION. The printed verification page is the first.

Student Application: 2014 Governor's Honors Academy Sunday, June 29-July 19, 2014

APPLICATION MUST BE TYPED. ON PAGE ONE, SIMPLY KEY THE INFORMATION INTO THE EMPTY FIELDS.

PERSONAL INFORMATION					
First Name		**Middle Name**			
Last Name		**Nickname**			
Birth Date		**School &County**			
Home Address		**City**			
State, ZIP Code		**Student's E-Mail**			
Home Phone		**Your Cell Phone**			
Names of Parents					
Father Home Phone if unlike yours		**F. Cell Phone**			
Mother's H.Phone if unlike yours		**M. Cell**			
M. Work Phone		**D. Work Phone**			
Check T-Shirt Size	**S__ M__ L__ XL__ XXL__**	**Gender**		**Race**	

ACADEMIC INFORMATION			
Will you be a Career/Technical Completer? If you are, you'll know.	Yes____ No____	If yes, area of study	
Cumulative GPA (after 5 semesters)		First semester average for 11th grade	
No. of IB/AP courses you have been eligible to take		Number of IB/AP Classes you have taken or are taking	

STUDENT STATEMENT

The decision to apply for the Governor's Honors Academy is my own. I want to participate fully in the program. If selected, I will abide by the rules and expectations of the program and the program director (dean). The responses contained in this application are my own work and are truthfully offered.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Applicant's Name:_____

2014 Governor's Honors Academy – Student Application Page 2

I, the parent/guardian of _____, permit my son/daughter, if selected, to participate in the 2014 Governor's Honors Academy (GHA) at Fairmont State University. I realize that transportation to and from the Honors Academy and spending money for personal expenses must be provided by the family of the participant. I further understand that if selected, he/she must abide by the rules and expectations set forth by the school. I also understand that failure to participate in the programs or unwillingness to abide by the rules and expectations may be just cause for dismissal.

_____

Signature of Parent or Guardian Date

PLEASE READ AND INITIAL		
Student Initials	Parent/ Guardian Initials	Assurances
		I understand that the GHA programs require concerted academic focus and preparation and motivation from all participants Participants are expected to demonstrate emotional maturity, self-discipline, and respect for self, others, the program and the host institution.
		I understand that applicants will receive acceptance letters by the end of March. A list of accepted students will be posted on the website three days after the letters are mailed. Only those selected will be notified.
		I understand that the participants will be expected to follow the rules and expectations outlined in the 2014 Handbook as well as specific onsite instructions provided the GHA dean.
		I understand that possession of tobacco, alcohol, non-prescription drugs and prescription drugs not prescribed for the participant will result in the participant's immediate dismissal from the program. If a student is dismissed, a parent or his/her appointee must pick the student up within 12 hours. A letter will be sent to the county superintendent of any expelled student.
		I certify that I am a resident of the State of West Virginia and that I attend school in West Virginia. This includes home-schooled, private and public-school students.
		I understand that failure to provide complete and accurate medical and prescription information may result in immediate dismissal from the program.
		I give permission to the W.Va. Department of Education and the Arts to release my son/daughter's name, likeness and contact information to institutions recognizing or supporting scholarly efforts.
		I consent to my son/daughter's likeness, name, school, hometown and comments about GHA appearing in the public media, including newspapers, TV, radio and the Internet. Addresses and phone numbers may be printed in the Student Directory.
		I agree to lock in the dates June 29-July 19, 2014, and, if selected, will attend GHA in its entirety. If selected for another honor that would interrupt, GHA, I will choose between the two. (Career/technical students, see the exception in the handbook).
		I understand that GHA is a residential experience and that students will be involved in activities seven days a week. Although I may talk with my child on the telephone, I realize that I am not to visit.
		Student records and applications are kept in the Governor's Schools office at the Department of Education and the Arts except when it is necessary to take them off-site for review. The applications of the selected students and/or the data in an electronic format will be transferred to personnel at the Governor's Honors Academy. Every precaution is taken to safeguard student records, and there has not been an incident breaching student confidentiality. More stringent rules about maintaining privacy necessitate your agreement to this process. I consent to my son/daughter/s application to GHA being transported to another site for data entry and evaluation. In additional to personal statements and references, the application includes personal identity information, teacher and peer evaluations and a transcript of his/her grades. I understand that the selection committee will keep all information confidential.

2014 Governor's Honors Academy – Student Application Page 3

To be completed by the school counselor/principal

Typing not necessary for this page

Applcant's Name _____

1. There are **several options** for qualifying test scores. Student may have achieved at or above the 90th percentile on the ACT, PLAN, PSAT, Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) **OR any** other nationally normed test of academic achievement taken during or after the ninth grade. Other qualifiers may be at least one AP test score of three or higher **OR** a D on **one** subtest of the 10th grade WESTEST

ACT_____ PLAN_____

PSAT_____ SAT_____

WESTEST_____

AP Exam _____

2. GPA of at least 3.5 or a class ranking in the top 10% of the class after five semesters.

2. GPA _____

OR Class Ranking _____

(Check off #3-7)

3. No **final** grade **below** a C during 9th, 10th and 11th grades

3. _____

4. Two (2) Teacher recommendation letters and forms (attached)

4. _____

5. One peer recommendation letter (attached)

5. _____

6. Photocopies of results of ACT, PLAN, PSAT, SAT WESTEST, AP exam and any others you wish to have included

6. _____

7. Photocopy of transcript of grades for grades 9 and 10 and first semester of Grade 11.

7. _____

8. Number of AP or IB classes offered at this juncture of student's academic career; number student has taken or is taking

8. _____ _____

One of the criteria #1, 2 or 3 may be waived at the school level by completing the following:
The selection committee at _____ High School has waived Requirement #___ for _____ (student name). The reasons for our waiving the requirement are attached.
_____ , Counselor

PRINCIPAL MUST COMPLETE AND SIGN THE FOLLOWING:

I recommend the above-named student.

Without reservation_____

With slight reservation _____

Please contact me _____

_____ Signature

Applicant's Name_____

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS: ACTIVITIES, RESEARCH AND HONORS

In the sections that follow, list accomplishments that highlight your positions of leadership or intellectual activities. Higher scores will be awarded to activities/programs in which you hold a position of leadership, and to research, study, presentations and competitions associated with extracurricular activities, community/church groups, national organizations, etc. You may list UP TO six examples.

Activities/Programs

List 3-6 significant activities/programs in which you have participated during the last three years. Include the name of the organization, sponsoring agency or group. Describe the time involved and any leadership position you have held. Under "Year" indicate the calendar year of the training or activity.

Activity and Organization	Position Held	Time Involved	Year
EXAMPLE: Alpha Beta Gamma	Vice President	6 hours/week	2014
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			

Research/Study Experiences.

List succinctly 3-6 of the most significant research/study experiences you have had since entering high school, including notable class projects. Make sure you include the name of any group, organization, or individual with whom you studied. If you need more space, simply continue typing and the font will change size to accommodate the text.

Study/Brief Description	Teacher	Organization	Time
Example: Model UN research project to study birth rates in developing countries	John Doe, History	Sample High	2 semesters; 2007-2008
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			

Applicant's Name _____

Honors/Recognitions

In this section, list the **most significant** honors/recognitions you have received during the last three years. This could include the second semester of the eighth grade. The type size will adjust to a smaller size. Answers, however, should be brief.

Study/Brief Description	Level of Competition	Year
EXAMPLE: Math Field Day Winner—second place	State	2008
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		

Applicant's Name_____

Other personal information and short answers: Type your answers in bold type; the type size will adjust reasonably. Your answers should be thoughtfully brief.

List and discuss your hobbies/special interests.
If you had the power to make a change in the world, what would it be? How would you go about it? Why is the chan important?
Discuss your long-range career plans. How did you come to this decision? Do you have other interests as well?
Are you involved in service projects beyond those required for high school graduation? Why do you think that servic is important in today's world

Applicant's Name _____

On a separate page, develop and write an *essay or editorial* (not a description, piece of fiction or personal narrative) of approximately 450 words on the topic of your choice. Examples of topics you might choose are economic development in the state, international relations, education, community service, the importance of friendships and family, a vision for our state, hate, the Promise Scholarship, etc. This list merely reflects topics you MIGHT choose; it is not limited to these topics. Essays are to be typed in a 12-point font such as Ariel or Times New Roman and double-spaced. **Do not use a fancy, hard-to-read font. Note: Students submitting works of fewer than 400 or more than 500 words will be penalized significantly.** Use the word-count feature on your word processor!

The following rubric will be used to evaluate your writing

Composition	1	2	3	4
Central Idea	Missing	Unclear	Weak	Strong
Elaboration	Unclear	Seldom	Some	Appropriate
Organization	Lacking	Random	Lapses	Logical
Unity	Absent	Many digressions	Some digression	Unified
Mechanics	**0**	**1**	**2**	
Sentence Structure	Weak	Some Variety	Varied	
Usage	Incorrect	Some Incorrect	Consistently correct	
Mechanics	Incorrect	Some incorrect	Consistently correct	

THE ESSAY SHOULD BE THE LAST SECTION IN YOUR PACKET WHEN YOU SUBMIT IT TO YOUR COUNSELOR. TRANSCRIPTS AND TEST SCORES, WHICH THE COUNSELOR WILL INSERT, SHOULD CONSTITUTE THE FINAL PAGES. Your guidance counselor will insert page 3 in *order* and **staple** the packet. NO BINDERS, PAPER CLIPS OR PHOTOGRAPHS.

2014 Governor's Honors Academy – Student Application Page 9
Teacher Evaluation #1

Applicant's Name _____

Student is to type his/her name where required on this form and give it to the teacher he/ she chooses. Information on this form need not be typed.

Teacher Recommendation A

Name of School _____

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL ITEMS AND ATTACH TO LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION. The applicant will not be considered without this completed form. Recommendations may be completed by any teacher who has had the student during 9th, 10th, or 11th grades.

1. What course or program of studies has this student taken under your supervision? In what years?

When compared to other outstanding students you have taught, how do you rank the current applicant?

Circle one (1 being the lowest, and 5 the highest) ___1 ___2 ___3 ___4 ___5

Signature of Teacher _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____

Email address _____ Telephone _____

The student evaluation should be typed in 12-pt. type, preferably on school, business or personal letterhead. It should discuss how the student demonstrates the following qualities: ability to work cooperatively and meaningfully in groups; openness to new and diverse situations; goals for academic growth; creativity; intellectual and social maturity; independence of thought; self-direction; school citizenship and emotional stability. You may return it to the student so that he/she can order it in the application packet, or you may give it to the guidance counselor.

Teacher Evaluation #2

Applicant's Name _____

Student is to type his/her name where required on this form and give it to the teacher he/ she chooses. Information on this form need not be typed.

Teacher Recommendation A

Name of School _____

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL ITEMS AND ATTACH TO LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION. The applicant will not be considered without this completed form. Recommendations may be completed by any teacher who has had the student during 9th, 10th, or 11th grades.

1. What course or program of studies has this student taken under your supervision? In what years?

When compared to other outstanding students you have taught, how do you rank the current applicant?

Circle one (1 being the lowest, and 5 the highest) 1 2 3 4 5

Signature of Teacher _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____

Email address _____ Telephone _____

The student evaluation should be typed in 12-pt. type, preferably on school, business or personal letterhead. It should discuss how the student demonstrates the following qualities: ability to work cooperatively and meaningfully in groups; openness to new and diverse situations; goals for academic growth; creativity; intellectual and social maturity; independence of thought; self-direction; school citizenship and emotional stability. You may return it to the student so that he/she can order it in the application packet, or you may give it to the guidance counselor.