

## Enrichment Programs and Opportunities

**Note:** Not all listed programs are specifically structured for gifted students. Some programs may have a cost associated with participation. This document contains information and content supplied by third parties. Hyperlinks or references to any products, services, or websites of third parties or other information by trade name, trademark, supplier or otherwise does not constitute or imply its endorsement or recommendation by Fairfax County Public Schools.

The VA Association for the Gifted offers summer scholarships to identified gifted students who wish to attend academic or artistic programs during the summer months. The scholarships range from \$100 - \$400 and are available for students K-12. For more information, visit the [VA Gifted Summer Scholarships webpage](#). (Application due dates for 2023 are not yet available; the 2022 due date was April 29, 2022.)

Program	Grade Level	Dates	Description	More Information
Academic Competitions (various)	Various	Various	Academic competitions play an important part in learning for highly gifted students. They are designed to inspire and enlighten and can create enthusiasm and entice students to try their hardest, helping to maximize their abilities. The Davidson Gifted blog provides a list of academic competitions.	<a href="#">Davidson Gifted</a>
Appalachian Regional STEM Academy at Oak Ridge National Lab  Oak Ridge, TN  <b>2023 DEADLINE FEB 10</b>	HS and MS	High School: July 8-21, 2023  Middle School: July 8-23, 2023; July 15-21, 2023	Students will conduct science, math, and computer science technology research and engineering design. Activities include lab time and visits to nearby industries, universities, and museums to experience real-world applications of science, math, and technology. This is a residential program.	<a href="#">Appalachian STEM Academy</a>
Building Leaders for Advancing Science and Technology (BLAST) Summer Residential Camp  Various locations  <b>2023 DEADLINE FEB 1</b>	Grades 8-9	Summer 2023 (dates vary by location)	Participating students stay in a college dorm and see what campus life is like on-site at one of five universities: Old Dominion University, Radford University, the University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, or William & Mary. Students come away from BLAST with a greater sense of curiosity, deeper insight about the variety of careers that exist in STEM fields, and enhanced readiness for advanced programs in science, technology, engineering, and math.	<a href="#">BLAST Summer Program</a>

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College of William & Mary, Center for Gifted Education: Focusing on the Future  Williamsburg, VA	HS and MS	Sept 24, 2022; 2023 date not yet released	Focusing on the Future (FOF) exposes high-ability learners to career opportunities related to the arts, humanities, mathematics, and sciences. The program also informs parents of considerations and guidelines for effective career and academic planning.	<a href="#">Focusing on the Future 2022   W&amp;M School of Education (wm.edu)</a>
College of William and Mary Center for Gifted Education: Saturday Enrichment Classes  Williamsburg, VA	Grades 3-12	2/25/23 3/4/23 3/11/23 (Summer dates not yet available)	SEP is an academically challenging program with an emphasis on inquiry-based learning for students in science, mathematics, humanities, and arts. Course activities are compatible with the expected achievement of talented students at specific grade and age levels.	<a href="#">Saturday Enrichment Programs   W&amp;M School of Education (wm.edu)</a>
College of William and Mary Center for Gifted Education: Camp Launch Summer Residential Camp  Williamsburg, VA	Grades 7-9	7/16/23 – 7/29/23	Camp Launch is a two-week summer camp for rising seventh- through tenth-grade high-ability students from low-income households. Students will have the opportunity to take classes that are based upon science and writing curriculum units.	<a href="#">Camp Launch   W&amp;M School of Education (wm.edu)</a>
College of William and Mary Intro to Law Classes  Virtual	HS	Summer 2023 (dates not yet released)	This program gives students the opportunity to experience classes in the comfort of their homes using an interactive video conferencing platform. Classes are designed for students who are keen to explore what studying law entails, and for those who have a passion for government studies.	<a href="#">Law-Related Education   (legaltechcenter.net)</a>
Emory & Henry College Summer Scholars Institute  Emory, VA	HS and MS	Not held in 2022. No info yet for 2023	The Summer Scholars program offers a unique mix of learning activities designed to broaden students' interests. Summer Scholars attend daily classes in E&H academic buildings and live in a campus residence hall. Scholars collaborate with experienced instructors to complete interactive projects throughout the week. In addition, Summer Scholars also promotes leadership and peer interaction through activities outside the classroom.	<a href="#">Summer Scholars Institute</a>

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George Mason University Summer Programs  Fairfax, VA	K-12	Dates vary by program	Camp options include academics, visual/performing arts, and recreation/sports	<a href="#">GMU Summer Programs</a>
Camp Woods and Wildlife  Appomattox, VA	Ages 13-16	June 19-23, 2023	Camp Woods and Wildlife is an academic, structured, residential camp that focuses on field experiences in forestry and other natural resources. This unique camping experience introduces students to the challenges, unique skills, and knowledge needed for managing forest resources.	<a href="#">Camp Woods and Wildlife</a>
MathScience Innovation Center  Richmond, VA	K-12	Dates vary by program (Summer dates not yet released)	Saturday & Summer lessons and camps are designed to thoroughly explore topics in science, technology, engineering, and math through design and build activities, hands-on experiments, and engaging problem-solving challenges.	<a href="#">MathScience Innovation Center</a>
National Youth Science Camp (NYSCamp)  <b>2023 DEADLINE FEB 28</b>  Elkins, WV	Grades 11-12	June 19-July 12, 2023 (HYBRID; 5 days virtual then in-person)	Programming at NYSCamp will allow delegates to delve deeper into STEM topics with experts and knowledgeable enthusiasts in multi-day mini-courses or interactive seminars, take tours of facilities like the Green Bank Observatory and National Gallery of Art, and attend world-class lectures by STEM professionals. Two delegates per state will be selected by representatives of their governor's office to attend the camp. Housing, meals, transportation, and supplies are provided to participants at no cost. Selected delegates must commit to attending the full camp including both the virtual and in-person portions of camp.	<a href="#">NYSCamp Information</a>
STEM iD Tech Camps  Multiple locations	Ages 7-17	Various dates based on program	Kids and teens discover coding, game development, robotics, and design in an inspiring, collegiate setting.	<a href="#">iD Tech</a>
University of Virginia Young Writers Workshop at Sweetbriar College  Sweet Briar, VA	Grades 8-11 (Session 1)  Grades 9-12 (Session 2)	Dates for 2023 available after Jan. 9	Participants invent, develop, and revise material using the writer's most essential tools—language, imagination, and craft. They conference with instructors and peer writers, examine contemporary artists' work beyond the high school canon, and become more discerning readers. Six studio workshops are offered.	<a href="#">UVA Young Writers Workshop</a>

Program	Grade Level	Dates	Description	More Information
VA Aerospace Science and Technology Scholars (VASTS)  Virtual (summer program: Hampton, VA)  <b>2022-23 DEADLINE OCT. 24</b>	Grades 11-12	Online modules (fall) then summer academy (Various weeks)	The Virginia Aerospace Science and Technology Scholars (VASTS) program is an interactive on-line science, technology, engineering, and mathematics learning experience, highlighted by a seven-day residential summer academy at NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton, VA. Students selected to participate in the program are immersed in NASA-related research through interaction with scientists, engineers, and technologists.	<a href="#">VASTS</a>
VA Earth System Science Scholars (VESSS)  Virtual (summer program: Hampton, VA)  <b>2022-23 DEADLINE OCT 24</b>	Grades 11-12	Online modules (fall) then summer academy (Various weeks)	The Virginia Earth System Science Scholars (VESSS) program challenges students to become part of the solution to climate change and its global impacts. Students selected to participate in the program are immersed in NASA-related research and satellite mission design through interaction with NASA scientists, engineers, and technologists. Successful completion of the course is highlighted by a seven-day residential summer academy at NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia. Students can earn up to FIVE free, transferable, dual-enrolled college credits through Virginia Peninsula Community College (VPCC).	<a href="#">VESSS</a>
VA Space Coast Scholars  Virtual (summer program: Wallops Island, VA)  <b>2022-23 DEADLINE OCT 16</b>	Grade 10	Online modules (fall) then summer academy (Various weeks)	Virginia Space Coast Scholars (VSCS) is a program for high school sophomores focusing on the science, engineering, and technology integral to current missions at NASA Wallops Flight Facility and the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport. The program features two key elements. The first is a dynamic online science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) learning experience featuring five modules. Upon completion of the online program, top-performing scholars may be invited to attend a seven-day residential Summer Academy at NASA Wallops Flight Facility on Wallops Island, VA, where scholars will learn firsthand from NASA professionals and their partners about the latest innovative technologies and missions.	<a href="#">VA Space Coast Scholars</a>

Program	Grade Level	Dates	Description	More Information
VA Space Flight Academy  Virtual (academy) Wallops Island, VA (adventure camp)	Grades 2-8 (academy)  Ages 11-16 (adventure camp)	Academy: various based on course  Adventure camp: Various based on selected week	Academy: The STEM Academy provides year-round, high-quality learning experiences; it features live & on-demand instruction, a specialized materials kit, and ongoing access to STEM professionals. Open your STEM explorer's eyes to a world of possibilities!  Adventure Camp: Space Adventure Camp is an annual week-long camp featuring aerospace, coding, and robotics held at Wallops Island, Virginia. Through this residential camp experience, students learn essential 21 <sup>st</sup> -century STEM skills to become the innovators of tomorrow!	<a href="#">VA Space Flight Academy</a>
VA Summer Regional Governor's Schools  Various locations	Various	Various	Twenty Summer Regional Governor's Schools are available throughout the state. The Summer Regional Governor's Schools exist in a variety of formats. Most often, groups of school divisions design these programs to meet the needs of their local gifted elementary and middle school students. These schools provide exciting opportunities in the arts, sciences, and humanities. (Specific program information not currently available.)	<a href="#">Summer Regional Governor's Schools</a>
VA Summer Residential Governor's Schools  Various locations	Grades 10-11	Summer 2023 (various dates based on location)	Summer Residential Governor's Schools provide high school juniors and seniors with intensive educational experiences in visual and performing arts; humanities; mathematics, science, and technology; or through mentorships in marine science, or engineering.	<a href="#">Summer Residential Governor's Schools</a>
VA Tech C-Tech <sup>2</sup>  Blacksburg, VA  2023 DEADLINE MAR 14	GIRLS Grades 10-11	June 25–July 8, 2023	C-Tech <sup>2</sup> is designed to help girls explore all the engineering options at Virginia Tech. Students will participate in hands-on activities presented by faculty and graduate students from a wide variety of engineering departments and attend informational sessions on topics such as college admissions/scholarships and the engineering majors offered at Virginia Tech. Attendees will also complete a General Electric-sponsored design project culminating in a showcase on the final afternoon.	<a href="#">C-Tech<sup>2</sup></a>
VA Tech Imagination Camp  Blacksburg, VA  2023 DEADLINE APR 3	Grades 6-7	Jun 19-23, 2023 July 9-15, 2023 July 17-21, 2023	Engineers, scientists, and college students help participants explore the world of science, technology and engineering . . . Not by watching, but by DOING! Students will spend half of the day completing an engineering design project and the other half participating in hands-on sessions exploring the many different aspects of engineering.	<a href="#">Imagination Camp</a>

Program	Grade Level	Dates	Description	More Information
VA Tech Pathways for Future Engineers  Blacksburg, VA  <b>2023 DEADLINE APR 1</b>	FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE Grades 9-11	July 16-29, 2023	Pathways for Future Engineers is a multi-year Virginia Tech College of Engineering program designed to support first-generation students and their families on the pathway from high school to an engineering degree. The program includes pre-college activities (while students are still in high school) as well as additional support as students pursue their undergraduate degree.	<a href="#">Pathways for Future Engineers</a>
VA Tech Black Engineering Excellence (BEE VT)  Blacksburg, VA  <b>2023 DEADLINE MAR 25</b>	BLACK STUDENTS Grades 10-11	July 16-29, 2023	Black Engineering Excellence at Virginia Tech (BEE VT) is a two-week summer, residential, program on campus in Blacksburg. It offers an opportunity to explore engineering while also learning about college life. While this program is designed to attract underrepresented students, we welcome the participation of any student who has a potential interest in engineering at Virginia Tech. Program activities are planned using a multicultural perspective though we place special emphasis on the African-American identity.	<a href="#">VA Tech BEE VT</a>
VA Tech Kids' Tech University (KTU)  Virtual or Blacksburg, VA  <b>2023 DEADLINE JAN 14</b>	Ages 9-12	Jan 28, Feb 18, March 18, and April 1	Kids' Tech University is a semester-long event. Four sessions are held in the Winter/Spring. Each session is an all-day event that consists of an interactive morning session centered on answering a question about the world around us, a break for lunch, and an afternoon hands-on component featuring the Virginia Tech professors, students, clubs, and community. The program is now offered in person and virtually.	<a href="#">VA Tech KTU</a>
VCU Diversity Promoting Access to Health Sciences (P.A.T.H.S.)  MS: Virtual HS: Richmond, VA  <b>2023 DEADLINES: VARIOUS</b>	HS and MS	MS: June 26-30, 2023 (virtual)  HS: July 10-July 14, 2023 (pharmacy), July 17-23, 2023 (dental); June 12-23, 2023 (AHCE)	MS: VCU Pharmacy Explorers is a half-day, week-long camp where students learn about the role of a pharmacist, explore various career pathways in pharmacy, and interact with professional students and pharmacists.  HS: Pharmacy Summer Scholars provides participants with hands-on activities, interactions with health professionals, and tours. Dental Careers Exploration provides information about the educational requirements and job duties of each dental professional (dental hygienist, general dentist, and dental specialists) as well as lab activities. Allied Health Career Exploration is a two-week residential summer program for seniors interested in the health career programs offered by the VCU College of Health Professions. Participants meet weekdays for full-day department/degree program admissions information, hands-on and interactive activities, workshops on current healthcare topics, interviewing skills, resume development and more.	<a href="#">VCU P.A.T.H.S.</a>

Program	Grade Level	Dates	Description	More Information
VCUArts Summer Pre-College Program  Richmond, VA	Grades 10-11	July 9-28, 2023	The Summer Pre-College Program at VCUArts is a three-week residency program that offers rising high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to explore Richmond and their interests in the visual and performing arts. Students take classes with VCUArts faculty while developing their portfolios or preparing for an audition.	<a href="#">VCUArts</a>
Washington Journalism and Media Conference (WJMC) at George Mason University  Fairfax, VA	Grades 10-11	July 9-14, 2023, or July 16-21, 2023	WJMC is a week-long experiential learning program for highly engaged high school students. Students will experience an integrated and forward-thinking approach to journalism and media while acquiring valuable “in-the-trenches” knowledge. The curriculum includes hands-on learning with industry leaders, award-winning journalists, international media outlets, and Washington insiders.	<a href="#">WJMC</a>
Washington Youth Summit on the Environment (WYSE) at George Mason University  Fairfax, VA	Grades 10-11	June 25-30, 2023	The Summit is a hands-on, interactive program that provides America’s highest-achieving high school students with an interest in the environment, conservation, and sustainability, and with the desire to explore careers in the fields of environmental science, conservation, policy, law, and engineering, with a remarkable opportunity. Students take an active role in the curriculum through explorations of the Smithsonian’s National Zoo, and through exclusive field visits, special access to, and activities with, researchers, scientists, directors, and staff. Students will receive one college credit for their successful completion of the Summit.	<a href="#">WYSE</a>