



2026-2027 School Profile

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The Governor's School at Innovation Park (GS@IP) is a specialized regional center for the advanced study of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, serving students in grades 11 and 12 from the Manassas Park City Public School, Manassas City Public School, and Prince William County Public School Divisions. The vision shared by GS@IP faculty and participating school divisions is to allow students to encounter a range of opportunities encouraging intellectual and academic excellence. GS@IP is a member of the National Consortium of Secondary STEM Schools (NCSSS).

Mission Statement

The mission of GS@IP is to engage students in rigorous academic study, challenge them to acquire knowledge, develop understanding, think reflectively, and take intellectual and creative risks in problem solving for the benefit of the Earth.

About GS@IP

- Established in 2010 as Virginia's 19th Academic-Year Governor's School, GS@IP is governed by a Joint Board comprised of representatives from Manassas City Public Schools (MCPS), Manassas Park City Public Schools (MPCS), Prince William County Public Schools (PWCS) and George Mason University (GMU).
- Our school is housed on George Mason University's SciTech (Manassas) Campus, located in the western portion of Prince William County, Virginia. All courses (except Innovations) are offered for college credit through dual enrollment with GMU.
- GS@IP provides a two-year shared-day program to 166 gifted and academically motivated students from three participating school divisions, which consists of fifteen high schools.
- Students attend morning classes at The Governor's School, then return to their home school for their other required courses, electives, and extracurricular activities. This allows students to remain active at their base high schools while our program provides them with like-minded colleagues and rigorous academic courses.

Admissions

In order to attend The Governor's School, students undergo a rigorous and competitive application process. We seek college-bound students in the top 15 percent their class who are creative, self-motivated, high-achievers looking for a level of challenge in STEM-related fields beyond what is offered at most high schools.

Curriculum

All courses are taught at the AP, post-AP, or dual enrollment level. The rigorous instructional design of the program focuses on learning styles of gifted and talented students and integrates strands in biology, chemistry, engineering, and physics with mathematics, additional concepts from engineering and technology, and laboratory research. Learning experiences focus on real-world research with mentorship opportunities in business, industry, government, and university settings. Principles of Technology and Engineering allows students to experience the engineering design process, work collaboratively and collectively with peers, as well as learn core skills utilized in all engineering disciplines.

Mentorship/Internship

The GS@IP mentorship/internship program allows students to conduct inquiry-based research and/or project development working with the support of experts from corporate, university, and government institutions throughout the metropolitan Washington D.C. area. Students are guided by mentors who are accomplished scientists, engineers or other technical professionals working at these agencies. The mentorship program provides a collaborative option for dedicated students to fulfill their required research projects. Agencies supporting student project development or research by providing mentors and/or funding have included: BAE; George Mason University College of Science and Volgenau School of Engineering; Jewell Technology Consultants; Novant Health/PW Hospital; ECS; Aerojet; Aurora Flight Sciences; Dominion Power; Lockheed Martin; Micron; Dewberry; ECS Mid-Atlantic; PWC Government; Pangea-Global; Assett, Inc.; Dewberry; SAI Engineering; AVER Technologies and Progeny Systems.

Student Research and Product Development

Student research and product development are required components of coursework at GS@IP. Students display and discuss their work at an Annual Research Symposium. The Symposium is held in May at the George Mason University SciTech Campus.

Project categories include:

Animal Sciences (AS)
Behavioral and Social Sciences (BEHA)
Biochemistry (BI)
Biomedical and Health Sciences (BMED)
Biomedical Engineering (ENBM)
Cellular and Molecular Biology (CELL)
Chemistry (CH)
Computational Biology and Bioinformatics (CBIO)
Earth and Environmental Sciences (EAEV)
Embedded Systems (EBED)
Energy: Sustainable Materials and Design (EGSD)
Environmental Engineering (ENEV)
Materials Science (MATS)
Mathematics (MATH)
Microbiology (MICRO)
Physics and Astronomy (PHYS)
Plant Sciences (PLNT)
Robotics and Intelligent Machines (ROBO)
Systems Software (SOFT)
Technology Enhances the Arts (TECA)
Translational Medical Science (TMED)

GS@IP student work has been awarded recognition at local, state, national and international levels including: Regional, Virginia State, and International Science and Engineering Fairs; Regeneron Science Talent Search, Virginia CyberChallenge; VA Junior Academy of Science, National Merit, Ocean Bowl Challenge; Real World Design Challenge, International Space Olympics, NASA Real World-In World Engineering Challenge, Verizon App Challenge, and Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge, among others.

Coursework

Junior Courses

Pre-Calculus*; Calculus I/II*
Biology I/II*; Chemistry I/II*; College Physics I/II*
Principles of Technology and Engineering – options include:
Computer Science*; Introduction to Engineering*,**;
Inventions and Innovations

Mentorship or Independent Research*

Practicum in Engineering*,**

Senior Courses

Calculus I/II*; Multivariable Calculus* / Linear Algebra*
Microbiology* / Anatomy & Physiology*
Organic Chemistry* / Environmental Chemistry*
University Physics I/ II*,**
Statics*,**; Mechanics, Thermodynamics or Dynamics*,**
Principles of Technology and Engineering – options include
Computer Science*; Geomatics and Engineering Graphics*;
Inventions and Innovations; Forensics*; Statistics*;
Computing for Scientists*

Mentorship or Independent Research*

*Course offered for dual enrollment through George Mason University.

**Engineering Thread

Grading Scale

The Governor's School @ Innovation Park and GMU use the following grading scale:

- A - Excellent (90-100)
- B - Above average (80-89)
- C - Average (70-79)
- D - Below average (60-69)
- F - Failure (0-59)
- I - Incomplete

Students at The Governor's School @ Innovation Park must pledge to abide by both the public school systems' Honor Codes as well as George Mason University's Honor Code.

Class Rank/Percentile

Class rank and percentile is not computed or estimated at the GS@IP.

Average SAT Scores (GS@IP Class of 2025)

	MATHEMATICS	READING & WRITING
GS@IP	674	653
Virginia	544	567
National	508	521

GS@IP College & University Acceptance Data (Class of 2026 Data)

American University – Washington, D.C.
Arizona State University – Tempe, AZ
Auburn University – Auburn, AL
Boston University – Boston, MA
Brandeis University – Waltham, MA
Bridgewater College – Bridgewater, VA
Carnegie Mellon University – Pittsburgh, PA
Case Western Reserve University – Cleveland, OH
Cedarville University – Cedarville, OH
Christopher Newport University (CNU) – Newport News, VA
Clemson University – Clemson, SC
Colorado School of Mines – Golden, CO
Cornell College – Mount Vernon, IA
Cornell University – Ithaca, NY
Drexel University – Philadelphia, PA
Duke University – Durham, NC
Duquesne University – Pittsburgh, PA
Elon University – Elon, NC
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University – Daytona Beach, FL
Emory University – Atlanta, GA
George Mason University (GM) – Fairfax, VA
George Washington University (GW) – Washington, D.C.
Georgetown University – Washington, D.C.
Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) – Atlanta, GA
Hampden-Sydney College – Hampden Sydney, VA
Harvard University – Cambridge, MA
High Point University – High Point, NC
Hofstra University – Hempstead, NY
Howard University – Washington, D.C.
James Madison University (JMU) – Harrisonburg, VA
Le Moyne College – Syracuse, NY
Liberty University – Lynchburg, VA
Lockheed Martin Apprenticeship (to UVA)
Marshall University – Huntington, WV
Meredith College – Raleigh, NC
Michigan State University – East Lansing, MI
New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) – Newark, NJ
New York Institute of Technology – Old Westbury, NY

North Carolina A&T State University (NCAT) – Greensboro, NC
North Carolina State University (NC State) – Raleigh, NC
Northeastern University – Boston, MA
Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA)
Old Dominion University (ODU) – Norfolk, VA
Oregon State University – Corvallis, OR
Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) – University Park, PA
Princeton University – Princeton, NJ
Purdue University – West Lafayette, IN
Randolph College – Lynchburg, VA
Randolph Macon College – Ashland, VA
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) – Troy, NY
Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) – Rochester, NY
Rutgers University - Camden – Camden, NJ
Rutgers University - New Brunswick – New Brunswick, NJ
Rutgers University - Newark – Newark, NJ
State University of New York – Stony Brook (Stony Brook University) – Stony Brook, NY
Stevens Institute of Technology – Hoboken, NJ
Syracuse University – Syracuse, NY
Temple University – Philadelphia, PA
The College of William & Mary – Williamsburg, VA
The Ohio State University (Ohio State) – Columbus, OH
University of Alabama – Birmingham – Birmingham, AL
University of Alabama – Tuscaloosa – Tuscaloosa, AL
University of California – Los Angeles (UCLA) – Los Angeles, CA
University of California – San Diego (UCSD) – San Diego, CA
University of Colorado - Boulder – Boulder, CO
University of Connecticut (UConn) – Storrs, CT
University of Delaware – Newark, DE
University of Florida – Gainesville, FL
University of Georgia (UGA) – Athens, GA
University of Illinois - Urbana Champaign – Champaign, IL
University of Louisville – Louisville, KY
University of Lynchburg – Lynchburg, VA
University of Mary Washington – Fredericksburg, VA
University of Maryland - College Park – College Park, MD
University of Massachusetts – Amherst – Amherst, MA
University of Massachusetts – Lowell – Lowell, MA
University of Miami – Miami, FL
University of Michigan - Ann Arbor – Ann Arbor, MI
University of New Mexico – Albuquerque, NM
University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill (UNC) – Chapel Hill, NC
University of Pittsburgh (Pitt) – Pittsburgh, PA
University of South Carolina – Columbia, SC
University of Southern California (USC) – Los Angeles, CA
University of Tennessee – Knoxville – Knoxville, TN
University of Texas – Austin – Austin, TX
University of Texas – Dallas – Dallas, TX
University of the Pacific – Stockton, CA
University of Virginia (UVA) – Charlottesville, VA
University of Wisconsin – Madison – Madison, WI
Utah State University – Logan, UT
Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) – Richmond, VA
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (VA Tech) – Blacksburg, VA
Virginia Wesleyan University – Virginia Beach, VA
Wake Forest University – Winston-Salem, NC
Washington and Lee University (Wash Lee) – Lexington, VA
Washington University in St. Louis (Wash U) – St. Louis, MO
West Virginia University (WVU) – Morgantown, WV
Wingate University – Wingate, NC
Xavier University – Cincinnati, OH
York College of Pennsylvania – York, PA