

Anne Arundel County Public Schools Magnet Program Information

Magnet Program— an educational program with a specialized course of study or an emphasis on instruction that is different from the traditional curriculum offered in Anne Arundel County Public Schools.

Centers of Applied Technology (CAT)

Course Information

CAT Career Exploration

An optional course that is highly recommended for 9th & 10th grade students. Successful participation and completion yields a ½ elective credit and may have a positive effect on admission to a Level I course. All qualified students will be enrolled for one semester.

Level I Magnet Courses

Available to students in grades 10–11. Successful completion of a Level I course is a prerequisite for admission into a Level II course. The number of credits earned is based on the courses completed.

Level II Magnet Courses

Available to students in grades 11–12. Admission is based on the quality of performance in the Level I course. Successful completion yields 4 elective credits and recognition as a career completer for high school graduation. All Level II courses meet every day.

Students that complete a CAT program may also qualify for graduation as a dual completer. These students complete a sequence of courses that fulfills both Career and University System of Maryland requirements.

Work Experience

Available to students in grade 12 only. Participation is based on available work sites, academic progress toward graduation, successful completion of Level II courses, teacher recommendation, good attendance record, and student/parent ability for self-transportation. Successful completion yields 4 elective credits.



2016 CAT Center Open Houses

Open Houses will be held
at the following schools:

CAT North October 6 (6:30–8:00)

CAT South November 3 (6:00–8:30)

For more information, contact:



Carrie Ruffo-Miller
School Counselor, CAT North
410-969-3100



Allison Pastine
School Counselor, CAT South
410-956-5900

Which CAT School will the student attend?

If your home high school is:

Annapolis High School
Broadneck High School
Phoenix Center
Severna Park High School
South River High School
Southern High School

Your CAT Center school is
**Center of Applied
Technology South**

211 Central Avenue, East
Edgewater, MD 21037
410-956-5900

If your home high school is:

Arundel High School
Chesapeake High School
Glen Burnie High School
Meade High School
North County High School
Northeast High School
Old Mill High School

Your CAT Center school is
**Center of Applied
Technology North**

800 Stevenson Road
Severn, MD 21144
410-969-3100

What are the requirements for selection into the program?

The student shall:

- be a currently enrolled AACPS 9th or 10th grade student.
- complete the Level 1 magnet application form.
- meet the requirements of one of the application pathways:

Pathway I

*Students that qualify will be evaluated for appropriate placement into courses listed as preference**

- a. 2.5 Grade Point Average (GPA)
- b. Satisfactory progress towards meeting graduation requirements including, but not limited to, behavior, attendance and credits earned
- c. Successful completion of CAT Career Exploration strongly recommended

Pathway II

*Students that qualify will be evaluated for appropriate placement into a course based on available seats**

- a. 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA)
- b. Satisfactory progress towards meeting graduation requirements including, but not limited to, behavior, attendance and credits earned
- c. Successful completion of CAT Career Exploration strongly recommended

Pathway III

Students interested in technical education who demonstrate aptitude but do not meet criteria for Pathway One/Two will be considered for provisional admission on a case by case basis. Admission will only be to a course with seats available.

- a. Successful completion of CAT Career Exploration strongly recommended.
- b. A conference with a CAT School Counselor to evaluate GPA, attendance, and credits earned may be required.

**Should more students qualify than there are available seats in a specific course, a random lottery system will select students*

How do students apply to the program?

- 1** Complete the Online Magnet Application. If unable to complete the online magnet application please contact the appropriate Center. **Application opens October, 2016.**
- 2** ***The Online Magnet Application should be completed by March 15, 2017*** to receive priority consideration. Please print a copy of the application for your records.
- 3** Applicants will be emailed acceptance letters ***by the end of May 2017.*** If the number of eligible students exceeds the number of seats available, a random lottery selection will occur. Mandatory Program Orientations may be required.
- 4** Applications submitted after March 15, 2017 will be evaluated on a space available basis.
- 5** CAT Centers reserve the right to review any and all applications to determine any possible circumstances that might present placement that is detrimental to a student's health, safety, or success.



AACPS · Magnet Program Application Information Sheet—Conditions of Attendance

In order to participate in an Anne Arundel County School Magnet School Program, students and their parents or guardians must understand and agree to the following:

The Application Process & Deadlines

- All information submitted with the application will be maintained in confidence by all members of the screening committee.
- All programs are contingent on fiscal approval of the budget year for which you are applying.
- If the number of eligible students exceeds the number of seats available, a **computerized random lottery selection will occur** for eligible applicants.
- **Eligible applications submitted after the deadline will be wait-listed** in the order they are received. Students will be contacted in the spring, if space is available.

Transportation

- **Bus stops will be consolidated and may not be located within ordinary walking distances.** Almost all consolidated bus stops will be at local elementary schools, middle schools, or libraries. Parent/guardians will be required to transport students to the consolidated bus stop or to the Magnet School. (Exception: CAT North/CAT South students will be picked up from and returned to their home school within the regular school day). Note: A list of consolidated stops is published by the Division of Transportation each August.

Student Expectations

- AACPS Magnet Programs are rigorous programs of study. Student **must meet high standards** of academic achievement.
- If a student withdraws from the program, or is not successful in the program, **he or she will return to his or her home school.** Out-of-Area requests to remain at the school once exited from the Magnet will not be considered. Upon accepting a seat it is understood that an annual commitment is expected—three years in Middle School and four years in High School.

Parent Involvement

- **Students and their parents will be required to participate** in occasional evening and weekend Magnet events/performance associated with their Magnet Program during the school year.

For all Middle School Applicants...

- Acceptance and participation in a middle school Magnet program **does not guarantee placement** in the corresponding high school Magnet program.

For PVA Middle School Applicants...

- Participation in a three day Summer Bridge program, Monthly Arts Experiences (offered on evenings and weekends), and Performance Plus sessions (a weekly extended day session with co-curricular participation) throughout the school year are requirements of being enrolled in the PVA Magnet Program.

For STEM Middle School Applicants...

- Participation in a summer STEM overnight experience and STEM Saturdays sessions (approximately one per month) throughout the school year are requirements of being enrolled in these Magnet Programs.

For all High School Applicants...

- Students accepted into a program must complete 8th grade with a C average (2.5 GPA) in order to enter the program in the fall. (See CAT Magnet booklet for specific Pathway GPA requirements.)
- Successful completion of, and/or receiving credit for Level I of one of the destination school's languages is required for fall Magnet program entrance

For BMAH & STEM

High School Applicants...

- Participation in two-week summer bridge programs, summer reading assignments, job shadowing, research, group/team projects and assignments and internship opportunities are requirements of being enrolled in these Magnet Programs.
- Successful completion of, and receiving credit for, Algebra I with a C or better, or STEMath 8 with a A, is required for fall Magnet program entrance.
- Successful completion of, and receiving credit for, Level I of a World Language is required for fall Magnet program entrance.

For all IB High School Applicants...

- Successful completion of, and receiving credit for, Algebra I with a C or better, or STEMath 8 with a B or better, is required for fall Magnet program entrance.
- Successful completion of, and receiving credit for, Level I of a one of the destination school's languages is required for fall Magnet program entrance.

For PVA High School Applicants...

- Participation in a three day Summer Bridge program, a minimum of 90 hours per year of Extended Day Instruction within the school year (offered from 2:30-4:30 pm) and interdisciplinary arts experiences (evening and weekends possible) are requirements of being enrolled in the PVA Magnet Program.

To remain in a Magnet Program...

- Middle School students must maintain grades of B or above in all subject areas, with two Cs allowable per marking period.
- High School students must maintain a 2.8 or higher GPA through all 4 years of high school.
- CAT students must maintain a 3.0 GPA in a Level I magnet course to be considered for a Level 2 course.
- All students must have appropriate behavior and attendance.



George Arlotto, Ed.D.,
Superintendent of Schools

Anne Arundel County Public Schools prohibits discrimination in matters affecting employment or in providing access to programs on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity, or disability.

For more information, contact: Anne Arundel County Public Schools, Division of Human Resources, 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD 21401. 410-222-5286 TDD 410-222-5000. www.aacps.org