

Eastern Middle School

Humanities and Communications Magnet Program

for Grades 6 through 8



**Eastern Middle School
300 University Boulevard, East
Silver Spring, MD 20901**

*Applications available at
www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms*



Rockville, Maryland



Program

The Humanities and Communication Magnet Program provides unique and challenging learning opportunities in a three-year program for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students. Designed around a strong interdisciplinary humanities program, this center focuses on developing students' ability to use language and media effectively to present results of their academic inquiry.

← Writing

The program offers students intensive courses in writing as well as opportunities for their finest writing products to be published and broadcast. Students incorporate their writing skills with skills learned in other classes to create pieces such as position papers, plays, brochures, magazine articles, and academic research papers.

← World Studies

Students make cross-cultural connections by working as part of a group to develop an understanding of historical events, leading up to problem-solving tasks regarding real-world issues.

← Media Production

Students have hands-on opportunities to work as members of production teams in a variety of multimedia projects. Students gain skills as performers, cinematographers, producers, directors, audio engineers, editors, and graphic artists. Students work with television, film, radio, and computer technology.

Course Offerings

The Eastern program offers the following:

← Interdisciplinary humanities instruction

Students are encouraged to make connections among ideas presented in their courses, study selected topics in depth, and develop critical and creative thinking skills.

← Creative and technical writing

Students produce written work (scripts, research, historical fiction, essays) across selected subject areas, with frequent opportunities for publication and broadcast. Students develop the skills to—

- ← acquire information from a variety of sources,
- ← analyze and evaluate information,
- ← develop a point of view or perspective,
- ← select the most effective medium for conveying this perspective to the audience, and
- ← present that perspective clearly and effectively.

In addition, Eastern offers a broad range of courses, which include the following:

- ← Accelerated classes in science, math, and foreign language.
- ← Strong visual and performing arts classes in instrumental and choral music, drama, painting, and other fine arts.
- ← Elective courses (open to all interested students) in print and visual media, law, and the study of other cultures.

Unique Opportunities

Eastern Middle School provides unique opportunities in the humanities. Students receive behind-the-scenes tours of museums, galleries, and other facilities in the Washington, D.C., area. They also participate in publication and broadcasting activities, including a five-day program in New York City.

Admission

Admission to the Humanities and Communication magnet program at Eastern Middle School is very competitive. Highly motivated, gifted, and talented students are encouraged to apply. Criteria used to evaluate candidates include teacher recommendations, written statements from candidates and their parents, previous grades and course work, test scores, and cocurricular interests and achievements.

Applicants who are not invited to attend the program may request a review of the decision.

Transportation

School bus transportation to and from Eastern Middle School is provided for students in Grades 6–8. Currently, students are picked up at designated sites throughout Montgomery County. Activity buses are provided an hour later than the regular dismissal time on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

Transfers

Students who are accepted into the program and do not live in the Eastern Middle School attendance area will receive MCPS Form 335-45: *Request for a Student Transfer from an Assigned Home School*, with their acceptance materials.

Directions to Eastern Middle School

Route 495 to University Boulevard (Langley Park), straight on University Boulevard to left on Franklin Avenue, to the school on the right.

Application Packets

Applications are due in the late fall of Grade 5.

Application packets are available in the local elementary schools and on the MCPS and Eastern Web sites in the fall.

Grade 5 students interested in applying to the Eastern Middle School magnet program may obtain the application packet in the following ways:

← Visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms.

← Contact your local school principal.

← Call or write to
Magnet Coordinator
Eastern Middle School Magnet Program
300 University Blvd. East
Silver Spring, MD 20901
Phone: 301-650-6654

Timeline

Information Meeting

October Parent Meeting
Eastern Middle
School Gymnasium
300 University Boulevard, East
Silver Spring, MD 20901

Application Deadlines

November Applications due
December Teacher recommendations due

Testing

December Takoma Park and Eastern Magnet
Programs test together at
Takoma Park Middle School
7611 Piney Branch Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Notification

Late February Students are notified of selection
decisions by mail



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