



**Dates: July 14 - 18, 2025**

*We serve identified gifted and high-achieving high school students who are currently freshmen, sophomores, or juniors in Bland, Carroll, Grayson, Smyth, Wythe Counties, and the city of Galax schools.*

*Funded and coordinated jointly by these areas' Public Schools, Wytheville Community College and the Virginia Department of Education*

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*Governor's School Location:*

*Wytheville Community College*

*1000 East Main Street*

*Wytheville, Virginia 24382*

**APPALACHIAN SUMMER REGIONAL GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL**

**PURPOSE:** To provide local gifted and high-achieving high school students with a unique and academically enriching opportunity to earn college credits in a small classroom environment.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Students currently enrolled in 9th, 10th, or 11th grade during the 2024-2025 school year who are either identified as gifted or academically high achieving or recommended by their high school counselor. Governor's school slots will be awarded first to students identified as gifted by their school system. The remaining spots will be awarded based on the student's high school's recommendation.

**COURSES:** At the start of each program day, SDV 100, students will participate in a one-credit college course. They will then rotate through a series of hands-on, interactive sessions from the following areas: sciences (including social sciences), arts (including Humanities), and technology (including computer technology, mathematics, and language courses). The rotation of courses is listed on this application, and applicants will rank the courses listed in this brochure in order of first through sixth choice.

**CREDIT:** **One-semester college credits** will be awarded for successful course completion of the program in SDV 100 (College Success Skills). These credits may count as transfer credit at the discretion of the transferring colleges and can be applied towards a certificate or degree program at Wytheville Community College. Students may need to complete some assignments online for the SDV 100 course the week following the in-person program.

**COST:** Tuition is provided at no cost.

**LUNCH:** The program provides lunch at no cost to students, and it will be from local restaurants such as Chick-fil-A and Peking.

**APPLICATION:** Applications are due by **March 21, 2025, to your high school counselor's office.** Each school is allotted spots for students for the program. Schools will rank students for acceptance based on their academic giftedness. Spaces will be filled with students identified as gifted and talented first. High-achieving students who are not identified as gifted and talented may fill the remaining spots. Students will be notified of their acceptance by April 11, 2025.

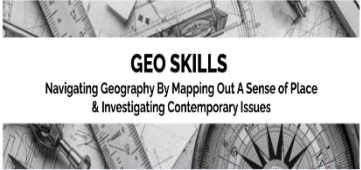
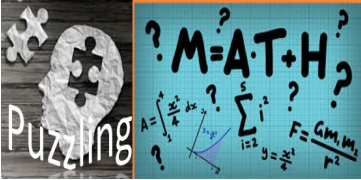

**SELECTION:** The application does not guarantee acceptance. The Governor's School does not discriminate based on race, creed, gender, or color.

**DATES:** Students are required to attend in person from July 14-18, 2025, at Wytheville Community College's main campus from 8:30 to 3:15 PM daily. A final program may also be required on the evening of July 18, 2025. If this is required, more details will be provided before the start of the program.

**TRANSPORTATION:** Students from Carroll, Galax, Grayson, and Smyth Counties may be able to take buses; students may also provide transportation at their own expense. If you need transportation and do not attend these high schools, please contact your school counselor for further assistance.

**VIDEO:** Check out this short video to learn more about the program: [https://youtu.be/bFHGUvE\\_FEE](https://youtu.be/bFHGUvE_FEE)

## 2025 GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

<p>1.</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>GEO SKILLS</b>  <small>Navigating Geography By Mapping Out A Sense of Place          &amp; Investigating Contemporary Issues</small></p>	<p>This course offers an Innovative approach to studying geography and maps by integrating modern online mapping software and interactive activities such as hands-on cartography, geocaching, virtual 81CF) locations, and collaborative mapping projects. It challenges students to move beyond the traditional high school world geography course by incorporating hands-on Learning experiences, problem-solving exercises, and real-world applications of geographic principles. Students will analyze spatial patterns. Investigate human-environment interactions and develop technical skills In Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and related technologies. The course fosters critical thinking, teamwork, and creativity while allowing students to develop technical skills for future careers. All jobs use data, and one of the best ways to understand data is visual. This course is designed to inspire curiosity, analytical thinking, and technical expertise.</p>
<p>2.</p> 	<p>This course is designed to bring excitement and curiosity back to the subject of mathematics where it should always be. This course will focus more on the discovery aspect, where mathematics' beauty is revealed. We will sharpen our problem-solving abilities, working as a group to solve interesting, brain-twisting situations. We also explore some of math's more interesting and advanced questions and discover new ideas about our current reality or speculation thereof. Finally, we will research the past of mathematics and uncover some genuinely puzzling histories of mathematicians who came before us.</p>
<p>3.</p> 	<p>Students will learn how the history of quilting in the mountains of Southwest Virginia has influenced and shaped the culture and creation of barn quilts. They will learn how barn quilts reflect the culture and traditions of Southwest Virginia and how the patterns used are significant to Southwest Virginia. Students will then make a barn quilt using what they learned about the history of barn quilts to create their work of art.</p>

<p>4.</p>  <p><b>The Labyrinth of Imagination: Strategies for Paying Attention and Developing Your Creative Self</b></p>	<p>This humanities class will explore ways students can appreciate the importance of creativity in every area of their lives and in any profession they choose. Students will consider how to get out of the rut of the usual and see the world anew. “Make it new,” as Ezra Pound said, or feel “like some watcher of the skies/when a new plant swims into this ken,” as John Keats said. The world is more significant than we know. We will ask how we express ourselves and why that is important. We will explore various expressive arts activities individually and in groups, including writing and drawing. First, we want to explore strategies for “digging deeper” and then consider the best ways to express what we find with increasing precision and originality (eschewing clichés). Students will have the opportunity to encourage, advise, and collaborate. We will explore the history and mythology of the ancient labyrinth to take an inner journey and cultivate mindfulness (“The awareness that arises out of paying attention on purpose, in the Present Moment, without judgment.”- Jon Kabat Zin).</p>
<p>5.</p>  <p><b>Introduction to Political Theory and International Relations</b></p>	<p>This course is designed to be an introduction to Political Theory and International Relations. Students will be presented with several competing theories concerning political structure and its relation to international affairs. The course begins in Ancient Greece and provides a sweeping view of how political theories have changed and grown since then. Students will investigate these competing theories and participate in active and open discussions concerning each theory's perceived pros and cons. They will also be asked to consider the term “theory” scientifically and determine whether any propositions concerning international politics can be viewed as a theory. Finally, they will be asked to apply several theories to contemporary issues that personally impact their nation and them. This course surpasses the typical curriculum offered by high school courses due to its focus on theory and its intense use of primary sources. The course will encourage students to conduct metacognition; in other words, students will be forced to think deeply about what they believe about government, human beings, and how they interact. They will also have the opportunity to interact with the ideas of some of the greatest thinkers in history each day. Social skills and communication will be key factors as much of the course will be based on discussion and sometimes debate concerning these theories. Students must be able to present their ideas respectfully and publicly to their peers.</p>
<p>6.</p> 	<p>Keep calm is a course that will focus on managing stress and anxiety. Students will learn to recognize it and use techniques to calm their mind and body. Guided meditations will be taught, focusing on breathing techniques and other calming strategies. Students will learn how to identify when their body is in Fight/Flight/Freeze mode and how to accept and manage it. Students will learn how to calm the chaos that is in our minds.</p>

## 2025 Appalachian Summer Regional Governor's School Application

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Student Cell Phone : \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

High School:

Student's email address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(most communication from the program will be sent via email; therefore, students are expected to check this email often through the end of the program)*

Parent's email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Current grade level:

Have you attended the Appalachian Regional Summer Governor's School before?

Will you need bus transportation to attend the on-campus classes?

T-Shirt Size:

**Rank order course selection, 1 being the first choice and 3 being the last choice.**

Class option 1:

Class option 2:

Class option 3:

Class option 4:

Class option 5:

Class option 6:

**Permission of Parent or Guardian**

\_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to apply and attend the 2025 Appalachian Summer  
student name

Regional Governor's School.

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Applications are due by March 21, 2025, to your high school counselor's office.**