



MAHWAH HIGH SCHOOL
50 Ridge Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430

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November 10, 2025

Dear Junior Student,

The Governor's School of New Jersey is a unique tuition free summer program committed to meeting the educational needs of academically talented high school students who completed their junior year. The Governor's School is an intensive four-week residential STEM learning experience held at the following two college campuses:

- **Governor's School in the Sciences hosted at Drew University from July 12- August 1, 2026.**

The mission of the Governor's School in the Sciences is to broaden students' appreciation and knowledge of science through exposure to a range of scientific topics and scientists. Students are introduced to scientific research via hands-on research experience in an area of interest with the goal of inspiring young scholars to major in STEM fields in college. The Governor's School introduces scholars to topics not typically covered in high schools. Students are introduced to like-minded peers who enjoy science and math as they do.

- **Governor's School of Engineering & Technology hosted at Rutgers University from July 6 - July 31, 2026.**

The mission of the Governor's School of Engineering & Technology is to provide a comprehensive summer residential enrichment program of study in engineering and technology for high school juniors who are entering their senior year who possess outstanding skills and display unusual abilities and interests in these fields. Its goal is to introduce scholars to college-level topics across engineering disciplines using both coursework and hands-on experience while researching challenging and open-ended problems with peers who share their love for engineering and technology.

Since its inception in 1983, the program has served 6,500 students. There are typically 2,400 applications and the program serves approximately 625 students each year. **A nomination to this program or acceptance to this program is an impressive honor for any student to have on his/her high school record. It may be one of many distinguishing accomplishments on your child's academic portfolio that can set him/her apart from others during the college application process.**

Please take some time to discuss this wonderful opportunity with your parents. Mahwah High School students who have participated in this educational program have spoken very highly of their experiences.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL

Who is eligible to apply for the Governor's School?

All applicants must be in their junior year of high school and a resident of New Jersey. Competitive candidates often rank in first decile, score above 90% academically in honors math and science classes, score above 90% percentile on standardized tests, and demonstrate strong abilities outside the classroom in math and/or science.

MAHWAH TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Main Office 201.762.2300
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Fax 201.529.8038 (Health Office)

Who teaches at the Governor's School?

Faculty members include college professors and high school teachers who have taught in the academic areas, and professionals from business and industry who are conducting research or performing in the various fields.

Will grades or credit be given at the Governor's School?

A unique aspect of the program includes no grades or academic credit. This allows the scholars additional latitude to discover and create. Participants will be expected to show a high level of motivation and achievement both in individual and team settings.

What is a typical day at the Governor's School?

Although each school schedule is varied, the mornings consist of formal college level courses, the afternoon activities include research, integrated subjects, fine arts, community service, field trips, career orientation, etc. The evenings consist of speakers, panel discussions, seminars, performances, rehearsals, and research.

What will be expected of me as a Governor's School Scholar?

Each scholar is required to actively participate in all scheduled classes, discussion groups, labs and evening activities. In addition, you will be required to complete assignments, which may include journals, readings, research, team projects, class presentations, community service, etc. Must students attend the entire four-week program? Yes. If a student accepts the invitation to attend the Governor's School, he/she must make the full four-week commitment.

What is the application process?

Each Governor's School has a different application, and a student may only apply to one Governor's School. Qualified participants need **only** complete the application cover and essay prompts by **December 16, 2025**, and submit them to Mrs. Wright in the Guidance Department. Information is located on the high school website under the Guidance department, select [Governor School Information](#). Applicant essays will then be reviewed, and our school candidates will be selected by the appropriate academic department supervisor and the administrative team. The actual selected school nominees will then be asked to complete the rest of the application process. The guidance department will submit the school's finalists' applications.

What is the cost of the program?

The four-week summer session is a full scholarship program that includes tuition, room and board. The only cost to the scholar will be items of a personal or recreational nature and transportation at the beginning and end of the four weeks.

Please feel free to contact the Director of School Counseling, Mr. Jim O'Hara, at johara@mahwah.k12.nj.us or call him at 201-762-2312 should you have any questions about the application process.

Sincerely,

John P. Pascale
Principal