
Junior Commonwealth's Attorney Program (JCAP) FAQs

What is JCAP?

The Junior Commonwealth's Attorney Program is a week-long educational program designed for high school students in grades 9-11. It introduces students to the criminal justice system, legal and public safety careers, and the role of a Commonwealth's Attorney through interactive workshops, field trips, and hands-on activities.

Who can apply to JCAP?

JCAP is open to rising 9th -11th grade students with an interest in law, public service, or criminal justice, or those exploring potential career paths. Applicants should exhibit a strong willingness to learn and a dedication to actively engaging in all aspects of the program.

When and where will JCAP take place?

JCAP 2026 will run from **June 22nd through June 26th** from **8:00 AM to 5:00 PM daily**, at **The Hampton Police Training Academy**, with various offsite activities. Transportation to and from the academy is required daily.

How can I apply?

Applications are accepted online until **January 31st**. Spots are limited. Applicants will be notified of acceptance by mid-March.

Is there a cost to participate?

No, JCAP is a **FREE** program with breakfast, lunch, snack, and apparel provided at no cost. Participants are responsible for their transportation to and from the program site daily. Students must be on-time each day.

What should I include in my application?

Applications should include:

1. A completed application form.
2. A well-organized essay of **at least three paragraphs**, explaining why you are interested in attending the Junior Commonwealth's Attorney Program (JCAP), what you hope to learn, and how you plan to use this experience to make a positive impact on your community. Be specific about your goals, personal values, and any experiences that have shaped your interest in law, leadership, justice, or public service. (**Any submission less than three paragraphs will NOT be considered**).

I have attended the JCAP program in the past, am I able to attend again?

Unfortunately, students who have participated in the program cannot attend the program more than once. However, if opportunities arise and space is available previous students may support a new cohort by serving as an ambassador.

I applied, now what?

Applications will be reviewed after the submission deadline of January 31st. Due to the program's competitive nature and limited spots, the selection process will prioritize the evaluation of student-written essays. Shortlisted applicants will then participate in an in-person or virtual interview for further consideration. Notifications of acceptance will be sent to students and parents by mid-March. Accepted participants will receive details about a mandatory orientation and blazer fitting, which will be scheduled shortly after acceptance letters are issued.

Who can I contact with further questions?

For additional information, please contact Nicolette Brown the Program Coordinator via email at Nicolette.Brown@hampton.gov.