



HONORS MENTORSHIP
Forsyth County Schools

**2016-2017
APPLICATION PACKET**

***For more information check out our website:
<http://www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/honorsmentorship>**

***Application Due Friday, February 19th, 2016!**

Student Name:

Which period(s) would you want take this course if chosen:

Grade Level in 2016-2017:

Career Interest:

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this handbook is to provide information and suggested guidelines for students, parents, teachers, guidance counselors, and resource personnel concerning the process and procedures involved in nominating and selecting students for the Forsyth Central High School's Honors Mentorship Program (HMP).

The Honors Mentorship Program is an instructional program designed to provide intellectually gifted or artistically talented high school students challenging and enriching career-oriented opportunities not usually available within the regular classroom. Selected participants understand that this course replaces an otherwise traditional elective credit. Open to honors level juniors and seniors, the program expands the elective curriculum beyond the school site. Students will work and study under the direction of a Community Mentor – a person of recognized ability and success in the community. This internship incorporates the student's individual talents and intellectual abilities. The rigorous curriculum and demands of this course require students to be focused, goal-oriented, self-motivated, mature, determined to pursue enriched learning, and passionate about a particular career field.

Students must complete an application process during their junior or senior year to be considered for the program the following school year. Students must demonstrate a strong desire to experience a program that is both intellectually challenging and career-based. The Honors Mentorship Selection Committee uses written documentation and information gathered to rank nominees and select participants.

Selected students understand that they will need to invest a minimum number of hours per week, depending on your HMP class scheduling, in order to receive full credit for the course. This schedule is flexible and both the student and the mentor determine the weekly meeting times. Other requirements for this course include: providing suggested names and/or specific businesses as potential mentors in the chosen career field; attending all meetings with the Honors Mentorship Teacher and Community Mentor, creating a career portfolio, using technology throughout the course, presenting a culminating capstone project to a panel of community professionals, participating in team-building activities, and working with a Community Mentor Professional in his/her career field.

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NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY: It is the policy of the School Boards participating in the Forsyth County Honors Mentorship Program to offer the opportunity to students to participate in appropriate programs and activities without regard to color, creed, national origin (Title VI of the 1972 Educational Amendments), handicap (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and PL94-142) or sex (Title II of the Educational Amendments of 1976 and PL194-482)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
ABOUT THE HONORS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

- 1. What is the Honors Mentorship Program?** The HMP is an instructional program designed to provide intellectually gifted and artistically talented high school students challenging and enriching career based educational opportunities. The program gives motivated, mature high school students a career mentorship designed around the individual student's interest in a specific field or career. Participants are matched with a Community Mentor and will work with that mentor for the duration of the scheduled class while engaging in a real-life career experience along with the latest information and technology in the field.
- 2. Who can participate?** Rising juniors and seniors in Forsyth Central High School can apply in the spring of their sophomore and junior years respectively.
- 3. How are students selected?** After completing an application, students are selected into the program based on their abilities, aptitudes, and career goals. In addition, students are required to answer essay questions and include teacher and community member references. The selection committee will use all written evidence and data gathered in the application to make their selection.
- 4. When will I know if I am selected for the program?** This will be noted in your student schedule available to you by the end of the first week at the start of the 2016-17 school year. Mr. Walkup will also call you by April 2016 if you are selected for the following school year.
- 5. When and where is the Honors Mentorship Program conducted?** Students spend part of their instructional time with the mentorship teacher at Forsyth Central, as well as meeting via computer. Once matched with their community mentors, students meet at the work site of the mentor. Each student and mentor work out the weekly schedule which may be anything from one hour every day to twice a week or even Saturdays, based on the needs of both the student and mentor. Students must decide how to schedule the HMP class to best fit their schedule.
****It is highly recommended that a student schedule HMP for at least 2 periods to gain the best possible experience with the mentor.***
- 6. How are the Community Mentors chosen?** Community Mentors will be selected based on their career area, personality, and flexibility to work with young adults. We encourage students to suggest mentors they would like to work with as well.
- 7. How will I be matched with my Community Mentor?** After the selection process, students will meet with the Honors Mentorship Teacher and share their desired career experience. Students help by providing suggested names and/or specific businesses as potential mentors in their chosen career fields. Except in rare circumstances, mentors will be located in or near the Forsyth County area. The student, HMP teacher, and mentor will meet to discuss and sign the Honors Mentorship Program Agreement. Parents also sign the agreement and are encouraged to attend the initial meeting whenever possible.

- 8. Is there transportation or do I have to provide it?** Each participant will be responsible for his/her own transportation to the worksite of his/her assigned mentor and to the off-campus classroom.
- 9. What is expected of me in this program?** Each student attends announced classes with the Forsyth Central mentorship Teacher, participates in team-building activities, works with a Community Mentor in a career field of interest for 4 hours per week, utilizes the latest technology, researches a specific career field, provides a career portfolio, and presents a culminating capstone project to a panel of community professionals.
- 10. What schedule will a student typically follow?** The first few weeks will be spent meeting with the Honors Mentorship Teacher at Forsyth Central or via computer conferencing. The student would complete assignments during his/her scheduled class time. These meetings will help the student learn about course expectations, teamwork, and workplace expectations. After a few weeks the student will meet with his/her Community Mentor and develop a schedule best suited for both parties. It could be that some participants will meet with their Community Mentor every day for 1 hour during the week, or they may meet twice a week, or they may meet on Saturdays for 4 hours. It will depend on the flexibility and availability of both the student and Community Mentor.
- 11. Whom should I contact for more information?** Greg Walkup, Honors Mentorship Coordinator at Forsyth Central HS, at gwalkup@forsyth.k12.ga.us (770-887-8151) **or** Contact Dr. Valery L. Lowe, Director of Workforce Development, at vlowe@forsyth.k12.ga.us (770-887-2461)

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Forsyth County Honors Mentorship Program Application Process

Requirements to Apply

- Have an identified career goal and evidence of talent, experience, service, leadership or exploration in field of interest
- Have a Georgia Driver's License and proof of auto insurance in order to *provide own dependable transportation or ability to provide own dependable transportation.*
- Be a rising junior or a senior in good standing with the school system.
- Be on track for graduation and willing to utilize the Honors Mentorship Program as an elective credit
- Be willing to submit to any health-related or security-related screenings and/or training required by the sponsoring mentor
- Have parental support and consent

Application Directions

1. **Complete all sections of Student Application, including short answer essays.**
2. **Give reference link (<http://goo.gl/forms/8bhun2NQM2>) to your 3 references and have them fill out **ASAP, but no later than Friday, February 19th, 2016****

***Reference must be a past teacher, current teacher, and a community member**

Student – Application Checklist

_____ Application can be submitted 2 ways:

*E-mailed to gwalkup@forsyth.k12.ga.us **or**

*Hard copy brought to Mr. Walkup in room #147 by Friday, **February 19th, 2016**

_____ Reference link (<http://goo.gl/forms/8bhun2NQM2>) given to your 3 references (past teacher, current teacher, and community member) and they must be filled out **no later than Friday, February 19th**

**FORSYTH COUNTY HONORS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM
STUDENT APPLICATION**

Date: _____ **Indicate career/job interest:** _____

Student Name: _____ **Student ID#:** _____

I. Student/Parent Information

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Student Cell Phone:** _____

Student Email: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ **Daytime Phone:** _____

Address: _____ **Parent Cell Phone:** _____

II. Recommendation Forms (Very important to give each reference this link (<http://goo.gl/forms/8bhun2NQM2>) for them to fill out. Deadline for them to fill out is Friday, February 19th)

Past Teacher's First & Last Name	Title	Email	School
Current Teacher's First & Last Name	Title	Email	School
Community Member's First & Last Name	Title	Email	Business Phone #

III. Student Information

Computer Experience: **Good** **Fair** **Limited**

Please list any software programs with which you have experience: (Excel, AutoCAD, webpage design, etc.)

Please list any responsibilities or obligations that you have outside of regular school hours (for example: sports, school or community activities, part-time job, family/childcare, early enrollment college classes).

I am available to take this course (choose one)

1 period

2 periods

Which period(s)(i.e.1-7) would you like to take this course? _____

IV. Short Answer Essays.

Please answer the three questions in the space provided below. Please type each response.

What is your career interest for this internship? Why have you chosen this particular career? At what point in your life did you know that this career path was for you?

Why do you feel that you should be chosen to participate in the Forsyth County HMP? What specific traits and/or abilities do you possess that will make you a successful HMP student?

We would like to hear about your experiences managing your own time and learning. Please describe the most challenging personal, artistic or community project in which you have been involved. Why did you initiate or choose this project? What challenges did you face? In what ways were you required to be self-directed as you worked independently to achieve your goals?

V. Additional Information

1. To the best of your knowledge, what courses do you plan to take next year? Identify which are Honors, AP or college early enrollment courses.

2. List any other activities, such as part-time employment, volunteer work, sports, band, drama, etc. that you will have to consider when scheduling your mentorship experience.

3. List the names of potential mentors in your career field and/or the names of any companies in your career field where you would like to mentor.

*Thank you for your interest in this program. Please submit this completed application either e-mailed to gwalkup@forsyth.k12.ga.us or brought to Mr. Walkup in room #147 by **February 19th, 2016.**

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