



Gaston County Schools  
**Public Service**  
Academy

**Public Service Academy at John Chavis Middle School**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**

**1. What is the purpose of the Public Service Academy at John Chavis Middle School?**

The Public Service Academy introduces students to career options in public service and education. Students will learn how to apply what they learn in all classes to 21st Century work skills. It will help students explore different career options which will inform their high school courses. The Public Service Academy creates a strong foundation for future education and work opportunities.

**2. What are the requirements for admissions to the Academy at John Chavis Middle School?**

Students must be in good standing at their home school including academically, as well as attendance and behavior. Parents/legal guardians must be residents of Gaston County.

**3. Who can apply to the Public Service Academy at John Chavis Middle School?**

Incoming sixth grade students may apply.

**4. What are the requirements for continued enrollment?**

Parent/legal guardian must maintain residency in Gaston County. Students must be in good standing including appropriate attendance, behavior, and academics.

**5. What will my child gain from this program?**

Students will learn through classes, programs, modules and other learning opportunities that will allow exploration of public service careers.

**6. What happens after I complete the Public Service Academy at John Chavis Middle School?**

You may apply to the Public Service Academy at Cherryville High School, which offers these programs: Education and Training, Emergency Medical Technician, Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security, Government and Public Administration. These pathways include opportunities to take Gaston College courses that may lead to a specific credential, diploma, or can be transferred to a four year college or university.



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**7. What options are available at the middle school level for the Public Service Academy at John Chavis Middle School?**

Students will learn about what it takes to become a police officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, lawyer/judge, teacher, and leader in municipal/county government. Students will be given the opportunity to learn about and have hands-on experience in various career paths.

**8. What opportunities will be available because of my enrollment in the Public Service Academy at John Chavis Middle School?**

Students will be exposed to the different jobs that are available in the field of Public Service. Students will be exposed to different jobs in the sixth grade through research, attend assemblies in the seventh grade, and get hands-on experience in the Eighth grade.

**9. Are there any additional requirements for students in the Public Service Academy at John Chavis Middle School?**

Students must be willing to commit to the Academy's objectives and extra curricular activities as well as all other school expectations.

**10. What is the earliest I can drop my child off and the latest I can pick up my child?**

7:45 a.m. Drop Off and 4:00 p.m. Pick Up