



## *Governor's School for Global & International Studies*

University of Pittsburgh Global Studies Center  
4100 Wesley W. Posvar Hall, 230 South Bouquet Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Website: [www.govschool.pitt.edu](http://www.govschool.pitt.edu)

Phone: 412-648-5085

Email: [global@pitt.edu](mailto:global@pitt.edu)

**June 22 - July 20, 2024**

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## **2024 Governor's School Application Form**

**Deadline:** Applications must be postmarked by **January 30th, 2024**.

**Notification:** Applicants will be notified of their final status via email by **February 28, 2024**.

### **Program Overview**

The Governor's School for Global and International Studies ("Governor's School") will help tomorrow's business, political, and intellectual leaders think critically about our world and the dynamic issues, connections, and perspectives within it. The Governor's School accepts rising juniors and seniors from across the nation who are highly motivated, thoughtful, hard-working, and committed to helping others for a four-week residential program at the University of Pittsburgh from **June 22 - July 20, 2024**.

Pitt's [Global Studies Center](http://www.globalstudiescenter.org), in partnership with the University Center for International Studies, proudly brings the program's prestigious 25-year legacy to a new generation. Through problem-solving activities and discussions with experts, participants will tackle overarching global issues while building intellectual confidence, cross-cultural understanding and critical language proficiency – key skills to successfully navigate college and prepare them for the broader global knowledge economy.

Participants will live and learn together in a pre-college community focused on issues of human rights and human security, global health, the environment, and inequality. Morning classes in less commonly taught languages such as Chinese, Arabic, or Portuguese will help ground these topics in specific contexts. A core Global Studies course delves into thematic issues and provides students with an intellectual framework for making sense of our complex and interdependent world. Afternoons are dedicated to experiential learning activities ranging from team projects and simulation games to discussions with Pitt faculty, guest authors, and policy experts.

Evening cultural immersion programs highlight topical films and literature and expose students to food, music, and dance from around the world. Each week will conclude with a capstone symposium to provide broader regional perspectives on the central themes of the Governor's School (led by Pitt's renowned area-studies centers). On the weekends, students will take field trips to partner organizations and participate in outdoor activities that illustrate Pittsburgh's own progress towards sustainable development.

Participants in the Governor's School will gain essential knowledge about our world. Perhaps more importantly, they will learn a rigorous approach to thinking globally and acquire the analytic tools to understand processes shaping the globe and the communication skills to convey those insights to others.

**Student Life:** Students will be housed in dormitories on the University of Pittsburgh campus (with a ratio of one live-in staff member for approximately ten students) and eat in the university dining halls during the program. Accommodations and roommates are by assignment. Members of the opposite sex are not allowed in the sleeping room areas at any time, with the exception of the program staff. Social activities will primarily be held in the common areas of the dorm and in other campus locations. Residence Life staff also offer a variety of field trips during the weekends to support the program curriculum and to encourage participant interaction. *The University of Pittsburgh campus is urban; curfew and other program rules are strictly enforced for the well-being of participants.*

**Fees and Expenses:** The cost of the 2024 Governor's School program is \$4,000, with scholarships available.

**Facilities and Faculty:** The University of Pittsburgh's Global Studies Center is one of seven nationally recognized centers in international studies, as designated by the U.S. Department of Education. The Governor's School has been designed by Global Studies staff and affiliated Pitt faculty; the instructional team also includes expert secondary school teachers, along with Pitt graduate students as learning facilitators.

**Student Eligibility:**

- The applicant must be a current sophomore or junior (rising junior or senior by time of program) in secondary school or homeschooled and will be between 16-17 years old by the time of the program.
- Applicants who accept an invitation to attend the program must commit to being in residence for the entire program, which does not allow trips home or other absences. Invited applicants must submit a **\$500 non-refundable deposit** upon their acceptance to the program.
- Completed application must be submitted in a single package, mailed and postmarked by January 30, 2024.

*Failure to meet these criteria, incomplete applications, plagiarism, or falsification of information are grounds for disqualification.*

**Application Information:** Application to the Governor's School is a competitive process: Not all applicants will be accepted. A selection committee comprised of global professionals, educators and other officials read the applications. All information provided in an application is considered, with emphasis on the student's essays, activities resume, and academic transcript. The panel looks for a commitment to service and excellence in written expression in the essays. Students are asked to select a current issue related to global studies, discuss the problems and possible approaches or solutions they recommend, and explain their interest in the issue. The panel reviews the extracurricular resume for evidence of volunteerism, involvement in community activities and leadership. Teacher references are read for evidence of scholarship, maturity, responsibility, initiative, and positive reaction to criticism.

**Contents:**

- Program and Application Information (pages 1 and 2) – *please keep for your records*
- Personal Data Form and Authorizations (pages 3 and 4)
- Application Essays – *please attach to pages 3 and 4*
- Resume or C.V. – *please attach to pages 3 and 4*
- World Language Teacher Reference Form (pages 5 and 6)
- Other Teacher or Activity Advisor Reference Form (pages 7 and 8)
- Guidance Counselor Reference Form (pages 9 and 10)
- Copy of Secondary School Transcript – *counselor to attach to pages 9 and 10*

*You should retain a copy of the completed application for your records (excluding recommendations, which should be submitted in sealed envelopes from the teachers, etc.).*

# 2024 Governor's School Personal Data Form

## PROCEDURES CHECKLIST

- ☐ TYPE OR CLEARLY PRINT ALL INFORMATION REQUESTED ON THIS PAGE IN DARK INK.
- ☐ COMPLETE Parts I, II, III and IV. Read and sign Part III. The parent/legal guardian must read and sign Part IV.
- ☐ Applications must be postmarked by **January 30, 2024**.
- ☐ Information: (412-648-5085) Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., except holidays.

## PART I: Student Information

Intermediate Unit (PA only) \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant's Current Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sex ☐ Female ☐ Male  
*First Middle Last*

Permanent Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
*street or box number street or route city state zip*

Home Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Name of High School \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Public ☐ Non-Public

Name of School District in which you reside (even if you do not attend the public school)

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent's or Legal Guardian's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's or Legal Guardian's Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(If different from above) *street or box # street or route city state zip*

Student's Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
*month day year*

Student email \_\_\_\_\_

Parent email \_\_\_\_\_

### A. How did you learn about the Governor's School for Global & International Studies?

☐ Counselor/teacher ☐ Program Alumni ☐ Newspaper Article ☐ Website ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

B. Describe your Community: \_\_\_\_\_ Rural/Small Town \_\_\_\_\_ Urban \_\_\_\_\_ Suburban

C. OPTIONAL: How do you identify yourself? Please check all boxes that apply. This information is confidential and will be used for statistical accounting only.

☐ African American ☐ Asian ☐ Caucasian/White ☐ Hispanic/Latino  
☐ Indian (Asian) ☐ Middle Eastern ☐ Native American Indian/Alaskan/Hawaiian  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## PART II: Governor's School Application

*The following responses are required. An application missing any part may be disqualified for incompleteness. These responses receive emphasis in the selection process.*

### A. NARRATIVE STATEMENT

- **Format:** Essay format, 2 page maximum, typed/word-processed, double-spaced, letter quality font no smaller than 12 points. Your name should appear at the top of the page. Title the essay "Narrative Statement."
- **Prompt:** Introduce yourself to the selection committee. This statement should reveal your personality, work style, unique experiences, and interest in global issues.

### B. EXTRACURRICULAR RESUME

- **Format:** Resume format, 2 page maximum, typed/word-processed, single or double-spaced, letter quality font no smaller than 12 points. Your name should appear at the top of each page.
- **Prompt:** List extracurricular activities, special study projects or activities in which you have been involved since entering high school, including school activities, community groups, service activities, employment, personal pursuits, special honors and awards. Indicate dates of involvement, your role in the activity, and for what the honors/awards were bestowed.

### C. CHIEF ESSAY

- **Format:** Essay format, 2 pages maximum, typed/word-processed, double-spaced, letter quality font no smaller than 12 points. Your name should appear at the top of each page. Title the first page with the theme of the essay.
- **Sources:** Cite sources used to back up discussion of your topic.
- **Prompt:** Choose ONE of the following essay themes, checking the box beside the theme selected.

- ☐ (1) Select a current issue related to transnational themes. Explain your interest in the issue, identify a specific aspect or problem, and discuss possible approaches or solutions you recommend. Suggested options include:

◆ Human rights / human security ◆ Global health ◆ Environmental sustainability ◆ Economic inequality

- ☐ (2) Select and discuss a global concern that also affects your local community. Provide evidence that this is a legitimate concern and propose a solution to address the problem.

## PART III: Applicant's Statement and Signature

- *I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all information I have provided is accurate and that the work submitted is my own.*
- *I acknowledge that information about my selection to the Governor's School for Global & International Studies and the projects I may develop there may be shared with the public.*
- *I understand that it is **my responsibility** to return this form and the required attachments, by mail, **directly to the University of Pittsburgh Global Studies Center**, postmarked by the **January 30, 2024** deadline.*

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## PART IV: Parent/Guardian's Statement and Signature

- *I have reviewed the information on this form and give my permission for my child to proceed with the application procedures. I authorize my child's school and its employees to release any information necessary for this application.*
- *If my child is selected to attend the Governor's School for Global & International Studies, **I understand that I am responsible for the full tuition that covers housing, transportation, course materials and meals.** Transportation to and from the University is not covered.*

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

# 2024 Governor's School World Language Teacher Reference

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Counselor \_\_\_\_\_  
High School \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Subject \_\_\_\_\_

## PROCEDURES

- 1. WHO MAY COMPLETE THIS FORM:** A teacher in any language course who has had the applicant in class or as an advisee may complete this form. The choice of the reference is the applicant's. The applicant need not be studying with the reference at present; however, the student should be careful to choose someone who can best and most completely answer all questions on both sides of this form. *Parents or legal guardians may not complete forms for their children.*
- 2. BOTH SIDES OF THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED FROM PARTS I THROUGH IV.** Using the criteria below, and on the next page (page 6), please evaluate the applicant in detail. The Governor's School program is seeking evidence of mature and conscientious study; a commitment to examining complex issues related to global themes; the ability to apply analytical processes; and the flexibility to work both independently and in cooperation with culturally diverse peers and adults.
- 3. Please complete, sign, and date this form and return it immediately to the student in a sealed/signed envelope. Students are required to submit the application in its entirety in one packet. The application is due to the Global Studies Center, mailed/postmarked by January 30, 2024.** Late or incomplete applications will be disqualified. Recommendations received without the application will not be accepted.

## Part I

For each item below, please assess the applicant by assigning one of the following values:

A = Exceptional   B = Above Average   C = Average   D = Below Average   E = No Opportunity to Observe

____ Interest in global issues	____ Reaction to and use of criticism
____ Initiative and independence	____ Responsibility
____ Written communication skills	____ Active participation in class
____ Oral expression	____ Organizational skills
____ Listening skills	____ Ability to work in a team
____ Tolerance of others	____ Service to school & community

## Part II

How does the applicant compare in overall promise with other students with whom you have had contact in the last three years? **Please check one statement below:**

- ☐ Among the very best I have known  
☐ Very good, but not the very best  
☐ Average  
☐ Below average

**COMPLETE PARTS III AND IV ON PAGE 6.**

## PART III: Summary Comments

Please write a statement about this applicant's strengths and weaknesses, explaining why you rated the applicant as you did in Parts I and II. Please cite examples of outstanding contributions, achievements or challenges. Your response is important and will assist the selection committee in understanding if this student is ready for a sustained, intensive living/learning experience.

*You may use the space below or attach a letter to this form. Please check here if you are attaching a letter:* ☐

## PART IV: Recommendation

Please check one selection below to indicate your recommendation for the applicant for the Governor's School for Global & International Studies:

☐ Highly recommended    ☐ Recommended    ☐ Recommended with reservations    ☐ Not recommended

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ (print clearly)

How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# 2024 Governor's School Activity Advisor/ Teacher Reference

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Counselor \_\_\_\_\_  
High School \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Subject \_\_\_\_\_

## PROCEDURES

- WHO MAY COMPLETE THIS FORM:** (a) A history, literature, or social studies teacher; (b) the applicant's supervisor in a service or volunteer activity; (c) a school advisor for an extracurricular activity in which the applicant is involved. The choice of the reference is the applicant's. The applicant need not be studying with the reference at present; however, the student should be careful to choose someone who can best and most completely answer all questions on both sides of this form. *Parents or legal guardians may not complete forms for their children.*
- BOTH SIDES OF THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED FROM PARTS I THROUGH IV.** Using the criteria below, and on the next page (page 8) please evaluate the applicant in detail. The Governor's School program is seeking evidence of mature and conscientious study; a commitment to examining complex issues related to global themes; the ability to apply analytical processes; and the flexibility to work both independently and in cooperation with culturally diverse peers and adults.
- Please complete, sign, and date this form and return it immediately to the student in a sealed/signed envelope. Students are required to submit the application in its entirety in one packet. The application is due to the Global Studies Center, mailed/postmarked by January 30, 2024.** Late or incomplete applications will be disqualified. Recommendations received without the application will not be accepted.

## Part I

For each item below, please assess the applicant by assigning one of the following values:

**A** = Exceptional    **B** = Above Average    **C** = Average    **D** = Below Average    **E** = No Opportunity to Observe

____ Interest in global issues	____ Reaction to and use of criticism
____ Initiative and independence	____ Responsibility
____ Written communication skills	____ Active participation in class
____ Oral expression	____ Organizational skills
____ Listening skills	____ Ability to work in a team
____ Tolerance of others	____ Service to school & community

## Part II

How does the applicant compare in overall promise with other students with whom you have had contact in the last three years? **Please check one statement below:**

- ☐ Among the very best I have known  
☐ Very good, but not the very best  
☐ Average  
☐ Below average

**COMPLETE PARTS III AND IV ON PAGE 8.**

## PART III: Summary Comments

Please write a statement about this applicant's strengths and weaknesses, explaining why you rated the applicant as you did in Parts I and II. Please cite examples of outstanding contributions, achievements or challenges. Your response is important and will assist the selection committee in understanding if this student is ready for a sustained, intensive living/learning experience.

*You may use the space below or attach a letter to this form. Please check here if you are attaching a letter:* ☐

## PART IV: Recommendation

Please check one selection below to indicate your recommendation for the applicant for the Governor's School for Global & International Studies:

☐ Highly recommended    ☐ Recommended    ☐ Recommended with reservations    ☐ Not recommended

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_ (print clearly)

**How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant?** \_\_\_\_\_



# 2024 Governor's School Counselor Recommendation Form

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Intermediate Unit (PA only) \_\_\_\_\_  
High School \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant's Current Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_  
Counselor's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
School Address \_\_\_\_\_

INFORMATION: 412-648-5085

## PART I: Procedures Checklist

- ☐ **Required:** This applicant must be a **current sophomore or junior**. No other grade levels are eligible. *The applicant must also be 16 or 17 years of age at the start of the program.*
- ☐ **Required:** Complete all sections of this form, Parts II – VII, filling in all information requested in Parts III and IV, even if it appears on the transcript. *Applications missing information may be disqualified.*
- ☐ **Required:** Attach the applicant's **TRANSCRIPT and current grades** as requested in Part II.
- ☐ **Optional but recommended:** Attach a LETTER, if you wish, in response to Part VII. Otherwise write in space provided.
- ☐ **The application must be mailed/postmarked by January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.** Student is responsible for gathering all recommendations and mailing their application to the Governor's School. Please provide this recommendation form, transcript and current report card to the student in a sealed envelope. **Students are required to submit the application in its entirety in one packet, including letters of recommendation.** Further applications can be downloaded from [www.govschool.pitt.edu](http://www.govschool.pitt.edu).

## PART II: Transcript

- ☐ Attach the applicant's **transcript and current report card** to this form.

## PART III: Attendance Record

- ☐ Number of absences in the last full academic year: \_\_\_\_\_  
**IMPORTANT:** *If the number exceeds 10, please state reason(s) and whether the number has remained high this year.*
- ☐ Number of tardies in the last full academic year: \_\_\_\_\_  
**IMPORTANT:** *If the number exceeds 5, please state reason(s) and whether the pattern of tardiness has changed in the current year.*

## PART IV: Academic Scores and Standing

- ☐ Please complete the following information as thoroughly as possible, even if it appears on the transcript. *If there are no PSAT or SAT scores to report, please explain why:*

**Required:** Class size \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Point Average \_\_\_\_\_ Scale \_\_\_\_\_

PSAT Scores: Verbal/Critical Reading \_\_\_\_\_ Writing \_\_\_\_\_ Math \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

SATs: Verbal/Critical Reading \_\_\_\_\_ Writing \_\_\_\_\_ Math \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Other Tests (Please define acronyms):

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Test \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Test \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Test \_\_\_\_\_

## PART V: Counselor's Recommendation

Please check one selection below to indicate your recommendation for the applicant for the Governor's School of Global & International Studies:

☐ Highly recommended    ☐ Recommended    ☐ Recommended with reservations    ☐ Not recommended

## PART VI: Counselor's Statement

Please comment on the applicant's special qualities, challenges or problems of which the selection committee should be aware. *You may use the space below or attach a letter to this form. Please check here if you are attaching a letter:* ☐

## PART VII: Counselor's Signature

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Office Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

## APPLICANT RESPONSIBILITIES AND UNDERSTANDINGS

- ◆ **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST WEEK TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION.**
- ◆ **RETAIN A COPY OF THE APPLICATION FOR YOUR FILES.**
- ◆ **NOTIFY COUNSELOR AND TWO TEACHER REFERENCES OF INTENTION TO FILE APPLICATION WELL IN ADVANCE OF DEADLINE.** Discuss "pre" deadlines for completing work in order to send off completed application on time. Please ask your guidance counselor to attach a copy of your academic record in high school/secondary school to date. This should list the classes you have taken and your final grades.
- ◆ **REVIEW ALL FORMS BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH THE APPLICATION PROCESS.**
- ◆ **SUPERVISE COMPLETION:** The applicant is responsible for staying in communication with the counselor and teacher references to make sure the application is completed appropriately and sent off to the University of Pittsburgh Global Studies Center by the postmark deadline.
- ◆ **REFRAIN FROM ADDING UNSOLICITED REFERENCES, RECOMMENDATIONS OR MATERIALS.** Send only those requested. Do not add newspaper clippings, photographs, research papers, certificates or other unsolicited materials. Extraneous letters of recommendation other than the two teacher references and the counselor's recommendation and other unsolicited materials will be removed from applications. The selection panel will not see them.
- ◆ **UNDERSTANDINGS:** The Global Studies Center cannot provide individual assessments or grant appeals to the selection process. Furthermore, Governor's School and the University of Pittsburgh are not responsible for late, lost, incorrectly addressed, incomplete or damaged applications.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURES

- **TEACHER REFERENCES:** Select one world language teacher and one activity advisor/other teacher, as per guidelines on the respective forms, pages 5 – 6 and 7 – 8 of the application, to serve as references. Fill out the information lines on the tops of the forms and give them to teachers. After completing forms, teachers place references in sealed envelopes and return to student.
- **GUIDANCE COUNSELOR RECOMMENDATION:** Fill out the information lines on the top of the form (page 9) and give the full form (pages 9 - 10) to the counselor. Counselor - please return pages 9-10 in sealed envelope to student.
- **PERSONAL DATA FORM:** Complete the information lines on page 3 of the application and respond to the prompts on page 4 (resume of extracurricular activities, narrative statement and essay). Staple these responses to page 4 of the application.
- **STUDENT SUBMISSION:** Student is responsible for submitting the entire application (Personal Data Form, essays, resume, the two teacher references, the counselor's information, the applicant's transcript and current report card) in one packet by the deadline.

**Application must be mailed/postmarked no later than January 30, 2024.**

Our mailing address is:

**University of Pittsburgh Global Studies Center  
4100 Wesley W. Posvar Hall  
230 South Bouquet Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15260**