Grades 4 & 5 Application
University of Virginia
2017 Summer Enrichment Program

*SEP offers an online application available through our website at http://curry.virginia.edu/sep. We strongly encourage you to apply online, though we will gladly accept paper applications.

Each applicant should read all directions carefully and fill out the application completely. This application form is for students who are currently in grades four and five. We are also offering programs for students who are currently in grades 6-10. If you are interested in another program, please return to the appropriate application on the website at: http://curry.virginia.edu/sep or request one by e-mailing curry-sep@virginia.edu or calling the program office at 434-924-3182. Tuition for 2017 is $1300 and there is an application fee of $25. However, pay only the application fee now. Limited financial aid is offered based on need. The financial aid form is attached.

DEADLINE: Please note that the deadline for applying is (postmarked) February 15, 2017. Qualifying applications postmarked after February 15 will automatically be placed on our waiting list. Acceptances will be e-mailed on or before April 15, 2017.

DIRECTIONS: 1) This information page is to be completed by the student and a parent/guardian. 2) The student should review the prompt and prepare their response. Attach the completed response to this form. 3) There is a $25 application fee which can be paid by check or money order made payable to University of Virginia. Please write the name of the student on the check or money order. 4) The Teacher Recommendation Form must be completed by school personnel. Please include it with your application in a sealed envelope signed by the teacher across the flap. ALL parts of this application MUST be submitted by February 15, 2017 for the application to be considered for acceptance.

Mailing address:
Summer Enrichment Program
University of Virginia Curry School of Education
P.O. Box 400264
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4264

INFORMATION PAGE:

Student’s Name ____________________________________________
First MI Last
Nickname ___________________ Gender _____ DOB __/__/____

Street __________________________________________________________________________
City State Zip

Parent/Guardian Name: ___________________ e-mail address _______________________

Parent/Guardian Name: ___________________ e-mail address _______________________

Parent/Guardian: (_____) _____-_______ Primary contact number (_____) _____-_______ Alternate contact number

Parent/Guardian: (_____) _____-_______ Primary contact number (_____) _____-_______ Alternate contact number

How did you hear about SEP? ___________________________________________________________________________________________

Grade student is CURRENTLY in: (Circle one): 4 5

Name and grade of sibling who is also applying, if any: ______________________________________________________________________________

Rank the following sessions by placing a 1 beside your first choice, a 2 beside your second choice, and a 3 beside your third choice. If you cannot attend a session, draw a line through those dates. Students will only be accepted to attend one session.

_____ Session I June 18 –29, 2017
_____ Session II July 2 –13, 2017
_____ Session III July 16 –27, 2017

Rank the following classes by placing a 1 beside your first choice, a 2 beside your second, and so on. Each class is described on the next page.

( ) Citizen Science
( ) Designing Your Dwelling
( ) Explorations in Neuroscience
( ) Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Ethics
Citizen Science: How Everyone Can Contribute to Research

When you think of research, do you picture a scientist in a white lab coat with goggles on? This may be a common visual, but research is a diverse field. In fact, all of us can participate in research! This course will explore the rapidly developing field of citizen science, where any individual can report their findings and observations for scientists to use in their studies. Students will evaluate these projects compared to traditional research and also participate in a variety of projects themselves, where they will work with technology, explore the environment, and think about research on a global scale. Individuals will enter as students and leave as researchers!

Designing Your Dwelling

Would you like to live in a mansion or ultra-modern cliff-dwelling? Perhaps a cabin in the woods is more your style? Join us to examine the intersection of taste, design, and budget. In this class we will explore the decisions that are necessary to make when designing and building a dwelling. We will learn the different types and required elements of house design, draw specific floor plans, construct models, and make decisions considering the costs of construction, materials, and loans. We will complete every detail (including appliances and furnishings!) to create an affordable dwelling that would be ready to inhabit.

Explorations in Neuroscience

In *Explorations in Neuroscience*, we will investigate the form and function of the human brain, such as how the parts of the brain work together. We will also examine what happens when the brain does not work properly. We will delve into our five senses and dissect cow eyes (an optional activity) to further examine how the human eye works. Visiting neurologists will teach us about the latest brain research. We will investigate latest neuroscience findings, teach each other by creating our own brain research lesson, and share our presentations in a culminating research conference. Join us as we play synapse tag, explore the nervous system, and create model neurons in our quest to understand the brain!

Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Ethics

Have you ever wondered what makes a hero heroic and a villain villainous? How can we really tell which actions are right and which actions are wrong? Philosophers have been trying to answer these questions for thousands of years, and they have developed an array of theories to try and figure it out. In this course, we use the *Harry Potter* series to help us learn some of the most influential strategies for understanding ethical questions. By focusing on concepts like character and virtue, duty and the moral law, and the consequences of actions, we will have tools we can use to look at the tough decisions people make. Classes will focus on different scenarios from the *Harry Potter* books in which the characters face difficult ethical decisions and students will learn to apply ethical theories in order to better understand what it means for people to act rightly or wrongly. Both muggles and wizards are welcome!
Grades 4 & 5 Prompt

As part of a plan to create different institutes that deal with the difficult challenges faced by our society, the University of Virginia recently created the UVA Brain Institute. The pan-University initiative will allow for collaboration between faculty from different disciplines. Having scholars with a variety of areas of expertise is crucial, as challenging problems cannot be solved within the constraints of a single discipline.

Your multi-step task is inspired by this initiative.

Step 1: Choose a neurological disease, disorder, or injury that you want to explore. Examples include Alzheimer’s, autism, concussion, and epilepsy—you can access a thorough list at www.brainfacts.org/diseases-disorders/diseases-a-to-z-from-ninds/

Step 2: Choose at least two different disciplines that you think can work together to address the challenges created by the disease, disorder, or injury. Possible STEM disciplines include science, technology, engineering, and math; possible humanities subjects include visual and performing arts, English/reading, and social studies/history.

Step 3: Choose a format that will best allow you to explain how your chosen disciplines can work together to address the challenges created by the disease, disorder, or injury. Potential formats include advertisements, articles, artwork, brochures, comic strips, commercials, essays, letters, podcasts, and speeches.

To get a high score on this task, you must make sure that the rater can clearly identify your disease/disorder/injury of focus, the disciplines through which you are investigating it, and how you believe the disciplines can address the challenges created by the disease, disorder, or injury. The steps should be integrated into one cohesive response. Make sure to include an explanation if you create a response (e.g., painting) where the connections between these steps may not be as clear.

Sometimes applicants have questions about what outside help is allowed when working on an SEP application prompt. Part of adequately responding to this prompt may require talking with people, listening to their ideas and input, and discussing your own ideas with other people. Responding to this prompt also requires you to spend a substantial amount of time thinking, researching, and writing on your own. It is a good idea to have someone proofread your response before you submit it.

The final product that you submit to us should be the result of your own work to synthesize the information and ideas you have researched and discussed with other people.

Please note the SEP online application system will only accept ONE uploaded file, so please consider this when responding to the prompt. Suggested formats are .doc/.docx, .ppt/pptx, .pub, .jpg, and .pdf. If you submit another file format, we may not be able to open your response and it may delay the process.

If you choose a non-traditional format (e.g., artwork with an explanation, video), we have some potential solutions:

• Take a picture of artworks/dioramas and upload the picture (or picture in a Word/PDF document)
• Post a video/podcast on YouTube (or a similar site) and upload a Word document with the link and any password information necessary to access the video (just make sure the links work properly before you submit!)
• Combine multiple files in Adobe PDF (usually you can select each file, right click it, and you get an option to combine the files in Adobe) to upload a multi-part response
• Mail the response and upload a Word document with the tracking number/date it was sent. Mailed responses should be postmarked by February 15.

Please call us at 434-924-3182 or e-mail us at curry-sep@virginia.edu prior to February 15 if you need assistance.
**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**How are students selected for the program?**
The application has been designed to give us as complete a picture as possible of each applicant. Each application is rated by two independent raters who are experienced educators. All rated parts of the application are reviewed: the student’s response to the prompt, test results, and the teacher’s recommendation. The student’s response to the prompt is the most important part of the rating process and should reflect the applicant’s best effort. Please make sure that the work is entirely the student’s own. The prompt is directed toward the goals of our program: problem solving, critical inquiry, task commitment and creativity. The test information is a good indicator of a child’s exceptional ability in a variety of areas and the teacher’s recommendation gives us insight into how the child performs in a classroom setting. The teacher’s recommendation is confidential and will not be shared with the applicant. The ratings are computed and the selection process begins by placing the highest rated students in their first choices of session and class. Sometimes it is necessary to use a second or third choice of session or class in order to place qualifying students. Therefore, the more flexibility you can give us the better the chance a qualified student may be placed. We start with a clean slate each year in our rating process (i.e., no consideration given to previous acceptance) so that every student has the same opportunity to be accepted.

**What test scores should be submitted with my application?**
Please list scores of ONE of the following below (do not mail in actual documents and records please).
1) Nationally normed achievement test data within the past two years reported in national percentiles (Stanford 9; ITBS/Iowa Assessment).
2) Aptitude test scores (Cognitive Abilities Test, OLSAT, WISC, PSAT/SAT, etc.). Please submit the most recent test scores.
3) Most recent achievement scores on a state standardized test (SOL for Virginia).

**What are the chances that siblings will be accepted to the same session?**
If siblings have received ratings that qualify them for the program, we make every effort to place them in the same session if requested on the application. However, it sometimes happens that one sibling is accepted and the other is either placed on the waiting list or not accepted. We understand that this may be a problem for some families, but our rating process is blind to this issue as well as to previous application to or attendance in the program.

**After submitting the application, can I change my choices of session or class?**
The electronic application allows you to change your preference of session and class until our admission process begins in the middle of March. Once we receive your paper application, we will create an electronic record for you. After April 15, if you are accepted and wish to attend, but must attend a different session, please contact our office with your request and we will make every effort to make the requested change. You cannot make changes between the middle of March and April 15.

**How many students apply relative to the number accepted?**
We have a total capacity of around 800 students across all three sessions and all age groups. Our selection process is competitive. For the past several years we have had approximately 500 more students apply as we have spaces available. We generally receive more applications from girls than boys.

**Will I automatically receive an application for the next summer?**
You will receive notification from us in December that applications are available on our website for the following year’s Summer Enrichment Program. This year we will mail a postcard and send an e-mail.

Additional information regarding our program can be viewed at our website at: [http://curry.virginia.edu/sep](http://curry.virginia.edu/sep)
PART I:  To be completed by a parent/guardian

Parents/Guardians: you must PROVIDE one test score below, and SIGN the form giving your child’s school permission to answer the questions on the back of this form:

________________________________________________________________________
Child’s full name

________________________________________________________________________
Child’s current grade

________________________________________________________________________
Full name of school

1. Parents, please enter the score of ONE of the following:
   • Nationally normed achievement test data within the past two years reported in national percentiles (Stanford 9; ITBS/Iowa Assessment) OR
   • Most recent aptitude test scores (Cognitive Abilities Test, OLSAT, WISC, PSAT/SAT, etc.) OR
   • Most recent achievement scores on a state standardized test (SOL for Virginia)

________________________________________________________________________
Name of Test

________________________________________________________________________
Date of Test

________________________________________________________________________
Score

2. I hereby authorize my child’s teacher or other school official to submit a confidential recommendation for my child in support of his/her application to the UVa Summer Enrichment Program.

________________________________________________________________________
Parent/Guardian signature

Date
PART II: To be completed by a teacher or another school official

B) TEACHER RECOMMENDATION: Your comments are always confidential, so please give us your honest assessment of this student. Thank you.

Please rank the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>Superior</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enjoys the challenge of new tasks and experiences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pursues interests to understand or satisfy curiosity; wants to know the “how and why”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generates questions of his/her own; questions the common, ordinary, or unusual</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehends in-depth and complex ideas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enjoys self-directed learning; highly motivated to pursue own goals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sees a problem through in assigned tasks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divergent thinking; preference for the unusual, original, and creative responses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please give examples or comment on the following:

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT/MATURITY:

TASK COMMITMENT:

ABILITY TO WORK INDEPENDENTLY:

ABILITY TO WORK COOPERATIVELY:

INTELLECTUAL RISK TAKING:

___Highly recommend     ___Recommend     ___Recommend with reservations     ___Do not recommend

____________________________________________________________________________________

School Personnel Signature                                                                 In what capacity have you worked with this student?
This is an application for financial assistance if accepted to the program not an application for admission to the Summer Enrichment Program.

The distribution of financial aid for this program will be based solely on need. Anyone at any income level may apply for financial aid, but due to limited funds, financial assistance has often not been available for families earning over $50,000 per year. The information requested below will be used to help us make judgments about the relative need of accepted students. All information will be considered strictly confidential. Do not wait until notification of acceptance to submit this form. In order to be considered for financial aid, THIS FORM MUST BE PRINTED, filled out, signed and postmarked no later than March 1, 2017. Mail this form AND a copy of your 2016 W-2 Form(s) to:

Summer Enrichment Program
University of Virginia
P.O. Box 400264
Charlottesville, VA. 22904-4264

Child’s Name ___________________________________________ Current Grade level __________________

Parent/Guardian Name ___________________________________ Profession ______________________________

Parent/Guardian Name ___________________________________ Profession ______________________________

Address ____________________________________________________________ ________________
Street City State Zip

INCOME STATEMENT FOR 2016: Total family income $________________ (BEFORE DEDUCTIONS) including welfare payments, wages of all working members, social security, dividends, child support payments, interest, veterans benefits, and all other income for 2016. You must indicate your total yearly income in the space at the right and attach a COPY of your W-2 form in order to be considered for financial aid.

SAVINGS: $________________

NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS (Please use IRS guidelines i.e., children, persons over 65 for whom you are financially responsible not including yourself) _____________

EXTRAORDINARY COSTS/CIRCUMSTANCES FOR 2016: YES NO

On an additional sheet please list and explain any extraordinary costs/circumstances you have occurred.

CHECK ONE:

_____ It would be impossible for my child to attend without financial aid. We would need $_________ in support.

_____ It would be possible for us to pay full tuition, but it would be a great financial hardship.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY: I hereby certify that all of the above information is true and correct to the best of my information and belief. I understand that submitting this form does not guarantee financial aid.

_________________________________________ ______________________________
Signature of Parent/Guardian Date

Please consider contacting your local school’s PTA / PTO, local church organizations, civic or philanthropic groups, local businesses, or private donations for additional financial assistance.