



DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION

Division of Learning Services 2022-2024 Arkansas Governor’s School (AGS) Site Selection Proposal

Submission Guidelines:

1. Save a copy of this proposal as a Google Doc named “AGS 2022-2024 Proposal <Institution Name>.” Adjust the share settings to add Krystal.Nail@arkansas.gov as a viewer. The proposal will be saved and shared with the site selection committee.
2. Respond to all prompts in the white spaces provided. Refer to parenthetical citations of [Rules Governing Arkansas Governor’s School Site Selection](#) for additional information about specific requirements.
3. Email a link to the completed proposal to Krystal.Nail@arkansas.gov by **March 26, 2021**. Title the subject of the email "AGS 2022-2024 Proposal (Institution Name)."
4. Proposals will be reviewed by a committee as defined in Rules Governing Arkansas Governor’s School Site Selection. The committee members will utilize [this rubric](#) to assist them in collecting information to inform their votes for the host site.

Institution Name:	Arkansas State University
Contact Person:	Dr. Lisa Rice
Position of Contact Person:	Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics & Statistics
Email:	lrice@astate.edu
Phone Number:	(870) 680-8124
Link to President’s Letter Supporting the Application:	Chancellor's Letter of Support

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

General Information Regarding AGS

The Governor's School is a four or six week residential summer program for approximately 400 rising high school seniors in Arkansas (3.01).

The Governor's School is under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education and the State Department of Education and falls under the immediate supervision of the Administrator of Programs for the Gifted and Talented, State Department of Education (1.03). A director will be named to oversee the operation and management for the duration of the school. The director will be a staff member of the college or university chosen as the site of the Governor's School (3.02).

PURPOSE OF THE GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL

The intent of the Governor's School is to give selected students a challenging opportunity to experience concepts and theories for the interpretation of facts. The emphasis of the school will be placed on conceptual or abstract intelligence in contrast with the practical or concrete intelligence. The program will offer students the opportunity to develop and/or expand their power to abstract, to conceptualize, to theorize, and explore the latest progress and problems of various fields of the arts and the sciences. Because this emphasis is not a frequent component of the regular high school curriculum, it provides the foundation, rationale, and support for the Arkansas Governor's School. The curriculum is not intended to be an acceleration of high school nor the anticipation of college curricula (4.00).

Rules Governing Arkansas Governor's School Site Selection

Proposals must be in accordance with the [Rules Governing Arkansas Governor's School Site Selection](#). Rules are cited within each section.

SITE SELECTION PROPOSAL CRITERIA

A. Program Director (3.02, 13.08)

The director will be a staff member of the college or university chosen as the site of the Governor's School. The director will oversee the operation and management for the duration of the school (3.02). Provide the following information for the proposed program director (13.08).

Name: Dr. Lisa Rice

Title: Associate Professor of Mathematics

Email Address: lrice@astate.edu

Phone Number: (870) 680-8124

Link to Vita: [Rice_TwoPageCV_03_19_2021](#)

Background, Vision, Leadership:

Dr. Rice is an associate professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Arkansas State University. She has experience working with students with diverse backgrounds through her research, teaching, and service. Her two research areas relate to student mathematical thinking in proof and argumentation and to diversity and women in STEM fields. She teaches a variety of mathematics and mathematics education courses that incorporate projects involving technology to enhance mathematical understanding and to explore issues of access, equity, and diversity in mathematics education. Dr. Rice has experience as a co-PI on a grant spanning several months including summer two-week long workshops, that include organizing workshops, conducting research, and teaching. She has a track record of taking on different roles in a variety of programs aimed at increasing junior high and high school students' engagement in STEM, particularly girls at these grade levels.

B. Proposed Dates (3.03, 13.01, 13.08)

The campus must be available for a four or six week period (3.03, 13.01, 13.08). A four week program will run four consecutive weeks (28 calendar days), without a break. A six week program will run six consecutive weeks (42 calendar days), with a four day break in the middle of the program (3.03). Include the dates the campus will host Governor's School during the summers of 2022, 2023, and 2024 and a written plan guaranteeing no other campus activity or its participants will interfere with any Governor's School activity or student (13.01).

Summer 2022 Dates: **4 Week**: June 5 - July 2; **6 Week**: June 5 - July 16

Summer 2023 Tentative Dates: **4 Week**: June 4 - July 1; **6 Week**: June 4 - July 15

Summer 2024 Tentative Dates: **4 Week**: June 2 - July 29; **6 Week**: June 2 - July 13

Written plan guaranteeing no other campus activity or its participants will interfere with any Arkansas Governor's School student activity or student:

Arkansas State University is committed to ensuring that no other campus activities will interfere with the activities of the Governor's School. New Student Registration, summer camps and summer school courses will be scheduled around the Arkansas Governor's School's activities. The needs of the Arkansas Governor's School students will take priority in regards to food service, lodging, academic and recreational facilities and health services.

C. Curriculum (4.04, 5.00, 9.00)

The curriculum of the school will be designed in accordance with 4.01-4.04, 5.01-5.07, and 9.00 of Site Selection Rules.

The curriculum is not intended to be an acceleration of high school nor the anticipation of college curricula (4.04).

The curriculum will be designed to (1) focus on contemporary and futuristic topics and issues, and (2) provoke curiosity and inquiry from the students (5.01).

Investigation into current thought will be accomplished through suggested readings, lectures, individual studies, and small group discussions. In addition, great lectures, concerts, dramatic productions, exhibits, forums, films, and events in the school site community will expose students to contemporary culture (5.02).

The curriculum for the school will be divided into three areas of study and will maintain continuity through concerted efforts of all staff persons (5.03).

No credit or grades are given. Work at the Governor's School will supplement, not supplant the general high school curriculum (9.00).

Area I - Academic and Arts Areas will include those fields of special talent whereby the student was chosen to attend Governor's School. Visual Art, Choral Music, Drama, Instrumental Music, English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Natural Science, Social Science, Computer Science, and a Speciality Area if desired. The speciality area is for individual institutions applying for site selection to

be able to offer an additional course unique to that institution and its resources (5.04). Materials will be chosen to acquaint students with the latest advances in each of these specialized fields (5.05).

Specific topics in each area will vary dependent upon the faculty selected for each AGS session. Share a general curriculum plan for the nine required fields. If desired, describe the general curriculum plan for an additional specialty area.

The curriculum of the Arkansas Governor's School is designed to inform, enhance, and extend student's knowledge in different areas and to provide them with a rich variety of experiences in alignment with AGS governing rules 5.01-5.07. Throughout the curriculum four non-academic areas are integrated: (1) fostering critical thinking and problem solving in students, (2) providing leadership experiences, and (3) developing soft skills and (4) ethical practices. Technology is a powerful tool that is integrated in the curriculum and supports the development of critical thinking, problems solving, leadership, soft skills, and ethics. The goal of "Closing the Skills Gap" is a driving force in guiding course topics and for adopting approaches to address the four non-academic areas above.

Area I will consist of nine fields of special talent for which students are selected to attend Governor's School. The fields are Visual Art, Choral Music, Drama, Instrumental Music, English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Social Science, and a Specialty Area. Elements of Arkansas' rich and unique history, culture, and diversity are foundations for several courses.

Visual Art

The Visual Arts program of the Arkansas Governor's School will provide students with a variety of opportunities to inform, enhance, and extend their knowledge and creativity in the visual arts. An environment that fosters creativity, feedback, and risk-taking are part of the program in the Visual Arts area. A variety of art mediums will be included in the program such as drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, and graphic design. Digital tools to explore the visual arts will be incorporated in the program.

English/Language Arts

The area of English/Language Arts will engage students in literature and language arts experiences to explore different forms of writing and perspectives, enhance their creativity, and provide them with opportunities to critically explore issues of race and gender. A variety of writing forms will be explored with opportunities to cross disciplines, such as with playwriting. Some of these writing forms include poetry, fiction, nonfiction, creative nonfiction, screenwriting, and illustrated narrative. Writers with connections to Arkansas, such as Ernest Hemingway will be explored.

Choral Music

The choral music program will focus on vocal techniques, practice habits, self-management, group-building skills, and critical thinking in the area of aural and sight singing. To experience the full range of music opportunities we can offer, arrangements of instrumental and choral music will be explored. Connections to Arkansas' rich history of music in jazz, blues, folk, rock, and others will be discussed, as well as artists associated with Arkansas, such as Johnny Cash.

Drama

The drama program explores techniques and theories of the 20th and 21st century to craft plays. The goal is engage students as artists, critical thinkers, and leaders to learn about the different phases of producing plays. This includes discussions of the different elements of play such as plot, language, and themes, acting, directing, and managing a production. In this program students will have opportunities to be collaborative artistic leaders who merge language, imagery, and action.

Instrumental Music

Instrumental music contains a wide range of forms not only in terms of instruments, but styles. Arkansas has a rich history of different forms of music from folk to rock with many artists merging

styles. Different styles of music will be explored, with connections made to artists from Arkansas, along with focuses on technical elements. Areas of technical focus include volume, tone, melody, texture, and rhythm. Performances with students in choral music and drama afford opportunities for students to experience music as a performance to engage audiences.

Social Science

The area of Social Science events and issues faced by people in the 20th and 21st centuries. A particular focus is on the heritage of Arkansas and the Delta region. Arkansas is home to a range of places and events of historical significance and the breadth that the social science domain offers affords opportunities to explore the heritage of Arkansas, but also how Arkansas was situated in events during the 20th and 21st centuries. Domains that are relevant to this area include history, political science, heritage studies, and agriculture, though not limited to these. The Southern Tenant Farmers Museum and the Rohwer Japanese American Relocation Center are two places in the Northeast Arkansas region that would be two opportunities for students to learn some of the significant events in Arkansas.

STEM Disciplines

The STEM disciplines emphasize critical thinking, problem-solving, ethical practices, and leadership opportunities. Frequently in STEM field collaboration to solve novel problems is a must. This means students need opportunities to explore various roles of working in groups, different stages of the problem-solving process, and to evaluate the choices and implications of their work.

Mathematics

Mathematics is an ever-growing field with a diverse set of sub-domains and focuses on patterns, rigorous reasoning and development of conjectures, and establishing true through deducting reasoning. Mathematical biology and cryptography are two domains that have recently received attention because of their practical uses.

Natural Science

To celebrate Arkansas' nickname as "The Natural State" the disciplines that make up the Natural Science area will focus on the ecology and geography of Arkansas, as well as the disciplines of chemistry, physics, and astronomy. Ecology studies the relationships between living organisms and their physical environment. Arkansas is diverse in terms of wildlife and plant life and there are many opportunities to explore the interactions between different forms of life and their environment. Geography is a natural accompaniment to the program as it is the study of the earth and its features, including inhabitants and the links between places, communities, and the natural environment. Chemistry is sometimes called the "central science" because it brings together other branches of science including environmental science, biology, physics, and mathematics. Having an understanding of chemical characteristics and processes gives one insight into the physical world we live in and biological phenomena. Studying physics and mathematics can enhance quantitative reasoning and problem solving skills that extend beyond these two disciplines. The area of physics focuses on understanding how things work (matter, motion, and energy) using principles, experiments, measurements, and mathematics.

Computer Science

The study of computer science centers on the computers and computational systems. Computer science focuses on the development of new technologies and how they can solve problems. Arkansas State University is home to the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Group and the Center for No-Boundary Thinking (CNBT).

Area II - General Conceptual Development will focus on thinking; on the ways we think; the assumptions that underlie our own thinking and the thinking that takes place within the various disciplines, on the twentieth century developments that have influenced our thinking about truth and

knowledge and on means of thinking more effectively (5.06). Share a general curriculum plan for Area II.

General Conceptual Development

This curriculum is focused on the world in which students reside, and their own impact and self-efficacy will be explored. Students will evaluate ethics by examining specific problems in society, science, business, and interpersonal dynamics. Students will be asked to use values, facts and logic to decide the best course of action for each situation. Some ethical problems are fairly straightforward, such as determining right from wrong. Students will then be asked to delve into the gray area of ethics, challenging them to decipher best outcomes and to defend their opinions with fact and substance. The Area II curriculum will be activity and discussion based focusing on student exploration in discovering, analyzing, and communicating their thoughts and experiences related to ethics, critical thinking and problem solving. Various tests (e.g., the grit test) may be used to motivate discussion about these topics. The goal of pairing activities and theories together is to broaden students' knowledge base about the world, offer practical application of learned skills in the process. By the end of the course, students will have enhanced tools to reason through complex issues and know how to seek out information and research to make informed decisions.

Area III - Personal and Social Development will be designed to foster the personal and social development necessary for the students to fully benefit from their Area I and Area II classes and the comprehensive cultural and social events of the AGS program (5.07). Share a general curriculum plan for Area III.

Personal & Social Development

Students will bring information and application together in Area III. Students will be required to demonstrate the skills and knowledge they have achieved in Areas I & II. Communication, Problem Solving, Emotional Intelligence, Grit, Resilience, Leadership and Soft Skill Development will be the focus of Area III. Programs and speakers addressing topics such as Personal Branding and Financial Literacy will be working toward the theme of "Closing the Skills Gap" and preparing students for their last year of high school as well as providing the skills to succeed after graduation. Area III curriculum is where it all comes together; each student will apply or demonstrate their newly learned knowledge and skills in action. Ethics, leadership, and soft skills are three sub-areas that are the foundation of this course. The course will entail deep self-reflection and analysis on their beliefs, attitudes, biases, strengths, and weaknesses. These activities are situated in the social and political world in which students reside, and their own impact on the world and self-efficacy are explored. Critical thinking and problem solving are integrated throughout the course.

The three sub-areas above were chosen because of their role in being successful in school, the workforce, and life. Aspects of the three sub-areas cross over one another and we are mindful that these three sub-areas are relevant for college success. For example, we want leaders to demonstrate ethical behavior. The complexity of ethics means students need opportunities to reflect and analyze mixed messages around ethical issues, think about the responsibilities of living ethically, and explore what it means to be an ethical thinker. Research has shown teenagers have a sense of the nuances surrounding ethical behavior. Exploring ethical issues is important for students in terms of building their character, a sense of self, and personal values. Collaboration and leadership are two areas students need to experience in a safe environment to help them grow as individuals. Strong leaders not only help themselves, but those around them as well, and help navigate a road to success. Communication, risk taking, and goal setting are just three characteristics of good leaders and will be the focus of activities to help foster leadership skills in students. Soft skills encompass problem solving and critical thinking, ethics and personal values, collaboration, accountability, and other important qualities to being a good leader.

The course will be activity and discussion based to actively engage students in discovering, analyzing, and communicating their thoughts and experiences related to ethical issues, leadership experiences, and practicing soft skills. To explore the three sub-areas students will engage in activities focused on activities time-management, communication, team work, active listening, and problem solving. Discussions surrounding these activities will focus on what students have learned about the three sub-areas, but also about themselves. Social, political, and other relevant theoretical perspectives will be threaded throughout the course and connected to the activities.

Share general plans for **comprehensive cultural and social events** (great lectures, concerts, dramatic productions, exhibits, forums, films, events, etc.) (5.02, 5.07).

Students will visit the A-State Heritage sites such as, Hemingway-Pfeiffer Museum & Educational Center, Southern Tenant Farmers Museum, Rohwer Japanese American Relocation Center, Arkansas Delta Byways, Historic Dyess Colony: Johnny Cash Boyhood Home, Lakeport Plantation and the Historic V.C. Kay's House. These sites will support curriculum based in Arkansas culture, history and preservation. The speaker series, which will include Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson, will seek to contribute to the intellectual growth and development of the Arkansas Governor's school.

Social events will range from a Human Scavenger Hunt, to the A-State Climbing Wall to a Murder Mystery Game. Students will choose where they prefer to engage and/or relax. Activities will vary from sporting to relaxation.

Weekly Schedule: [A-State AGS Proposed Weekly Schedule - 4 and 6 Week](#)

Share general plans for **events in the school site community** (5.02, 5.07) (e.g. Opening Ceremony, Educators' Day, Legislators' Day, Ask the Governor, Family Day, Alumni Day, Closing Ceremony).

Opening Ceremony, Legislator's Day, Ask the Governor, Family Day, Area III Community Projects, AGS Olympics and other planned events that will include A-State Campus Community and/or Jonesboro/Craighead County Community.

D. Office Operations (13.08)

Describe staff, facilities, and services that will be utilized for a minimum of part-time office operations (13.08). (e.g. maintaining a year-round Governor's School identity, recruiting students and faculty for AGS, hosting an online student application system, and delivering data to the DESE)

The Arkansas State University Program Director will have funding for a 12 month graduate assistant and part-time worker/s to insure the AGS administrative responsibilities, coordination and implementation will be fulfilled. The Information & Technology Services, at A-State, to insure application systems are implemented and functioning at top performance. The A-State website, under the direction of the A-State Marketing & Communications Department, will ensure all information for AGS is delivered in an easily navigated and professional website.

E. Staff Development (11.00, 13.08)

Describe the faculty/staff development activities planned for all faculty/staff members (13.08). (e.g. philosophy and intent of AGS, characteristics and needs of gifted students, curriculum and teaching strategies for high ability learners, curriculum planning and collaboration, AGS procedures, and expectations of AGS faculty, students, and staff)

*A representative of the Department will participate in faculty/staff training activities (11.00).

A-State will utilize the Learning Management System Blackboard Learn to deliver all pre-orientation training and information for AGS faculty and staff. This will be available each spring before the AGS session. There will also be on-campus orientation held for all faculty/staff as well as specified sessions for administrative staff, resident hall staff and faculty.

F. Food Services (13.02, 13.08, 14.03)

Describe the plan to provide food services. This must include food services for 400 students (including three meals a day, seven days a week for the duration of the school). Food services may also include guests, faculty, staff, and special meals (13.02, 13.08, 14.03).

The Acansa Dining Hall or "Caf" will provide meals service, seven days a week, three meals a day (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner) for students, faculty and staff. Sodexo, food service vendor for A-State, will cater the "Family Meal" (Family, Faculty & Staff) scheduled for the first day/Check-In day of the AGS. Sodexo is aware of the ever-growing needs of our customers with special dietary needs and food allergies. Sodexo has consistently and successfully satisfied the needs of students with dietary needs based on religion or other ethnic circumstances, as well as vegan/vegetarian customers, and those with lactose intolerance, nut allergies, and gluten intolerance. Also, a professional dietitian, a food nutrition expert, available for consultation regarding Sodexo food options.

G. Library (13.04, 13.08)

Describe how the institution plans to employ librarians and library assistants as needed to provide adequate services and make its total library collection available for the duration of the school (13.04, 13.08).

The A-State Dean B. Ellis Library is fully staffed, twelve months a year with administrative, research and educational support, library technology, collection management, metadata and discovery services, access and delivery services and archives/special collections staff members. There are also work-study college student positions supplying support for students, twelve months a year to aid in research and resource management. AGS students and faculty will have full access to this incredible staff and library. The Dean B. Ellis Library also offers access to computer technology, study rooms, team/group work space and electronic and physical collections.

H. Dormitories (13.03, 13.08)

Provide details regarding the separate air-conditioned dormitory spaces being made available for male and female students plus appropriate space for dormitory counselors and faculty (13.03, 13.08).

Student Housing: Northpark Quads (NPQ)

- Accommodates 836 students in five separate residential buildings.
- Students live in four bedroom two bath suites.
- AGS students will be assigned suites/buildings with respect to gender.

- Each suite includes a living room and kitchenette.
- Each bedroom includes a twin size bed, night stand, study desk, chair, dresser, and wireless internet.
- Living rooms are furnished with a couch and coffee table.

NPQ also includes a Community Building with:

- Laundry
- Kitchen
- Meeting rooms (Group Work/Common Area)
- Administrative Offices.

NPQ is located between the Baptist Campus Ministry and First National Bank Arena.

Northpark Quads will have assigned staff with:

- One Residence Director
- Two Assistant Hall Directors
- Twenty Resident Assistants

Faculty/Staff Housing:

Collegiate Park is nestled within the landscaped beauty of the north side of campus, this peaceful community contains two bedroom/two bathroom, two bedroom/one bathroom, and four bedroom/two bathroom flats and townhouses configurations.

- Bedrooms are furnished with a full size bed, nightstand, desk, chair, and dresser.
- Living room furniture includes a coffee table, either a loveseat or couch, and chair.
- Kitchens are furnished with a refrigerator and electric stove.
- All utilities, cable, and wireless internet are included in the rent.
- A centrally located clubhouse with a multi-purpose room, laundry, sand volleyball court and a barbecue pavilion make our 334 bedroom complex complete.
- Collegiate Park is located north of the Student Union/Parking Garage.

I. General Facilities (13.05, 13.08)

Describe the facilities being provided and made available by the institution during Governor's School including classrooms, laboratories, art and music studios, an auditorium, a theater, offices and other instructional and administrative facilities (13.05, 13.08).

Arkansas Governor's School will be prioritized, regarding classroom/facility/lab/performance/office space assignments for AGS curriculum, administrative and housing necessities. The following campus buildings will be available for AGS classes, lectures and activities:

- Humanities & Social Sciences
- Computer Science & Math
- Lab Science East
- Lab Science West
- Arkansas Biosciences Institute
- Dean B. Ellis Library
- Reng Student Union
- Fine Arts Building
- Fowler Center for Performing Arts
- Art Annex Building
- Wingate Center for Three Dimensional Arts Building - Expected Completion April 2021

J. Recreational Facilities (7.00, 13.06, 13.08)

A well-rounded program of athletic activities will be planned as a part of the total school program. Participation will be on a volunteer basis (7.00).

Provide a description of recreational facilities (tennis courts, gymnasium, playing fields, etc.) that will be made available to students (13.06, 13.08). Outline planned recreational activities (7.00).

Recreational Facilities available to Governor's School students:

Red Wolf Center: Gymnasium, Free Weight Area, Cardiovascular Area, Athletic Training, Club Sports, Indoor Walking/Running Track, Group Fitness Studio & Cycling Studio, Intramural Soccer & Tennis Facilities.

Planned Recreational Activities:

[A-State AGS Proposed Weekly Schedule - 4 and 6 Week](#)

K. Maintenance and Security (13.06, 13.08)

Explain the plan for maintenance (including custodians) and security (13.06, 13.08).

Maintenance

Arkansas State University's Facilities Management is committed to excellence in customer service, safety and integrity. Providing an environment that promotes quality learning through effective leadership and innovative development of A-State Facilities.

Security

Safety is a shared responsibility at Arkansas State University, which is reflected in an organizational structure with multiple departments responsible for interconnected pieces of campus safety. From protecting the public to protecting the rights of all members of the campus community.

Emergency Phones:

Emergency phones are located all across campus. Many of them can be identified by the soft glow blue light that is housed above the phone. When the phone is activated, these lights will strobe. There are some emergency phones located inside some of the residential facilities that are wall mounted and do not have blue lights. Also every elevator on campus has an emergency phone inside the cab of the elevator. These phones may be used for any type of emergency as well as to request the service of the University Police Department, such as to request an escort or a vehicle boost.

Escorts:

Arkansas State University Police Department will provide a safety escort for students 24 hours a day. Anytime a student feels unsafe walking through campus, they can call the University Police Department and request an escort. Both starting and ending locations must remain on campus.

L. Health Services (13.08)

Describe the health services being made available to participants (13.08). (Mental and physical health should be addressed. Include procedures for monitoring and follow up when students present health related concerns.)

The A-State Student Health Center (Student Health Center) is now operated by NYIT College of Osteopathic Medicine at A-State, and is known as the NYITCOM (New York Institute of Technology – College of Osteopathic Medicine) at Arkansas State Medical Clinic. Arkansas Governor’s School participants will have access to this premium health facility during the entire program.

M. Student Rules of Conduct (13.08)

Include the detailed rules of conduct (13.08). (Disciplinary procedures should be included.)

Visiting Procedures: Visitors must sign in at the dorm of the student they are visiting. They must wear a visitor’s badge and remain with the student they are visiting at all times. Visitors may not use campus computers or recreation equipment or facilities. Before departing, visitors must return their visitors’ badges to the dorm and sign out. These are important security measures—visitors who violate these policies may cause the student they are visiting to be dismissed from the program.

Sunday Leave: Students may sign out of the dormitory and leave the campus on Sundays between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. with a parent or a person listed on the “List of Approved Persons Allowed to Check Student Out of AGS” from the student forms previously signed by parents. Additional names may be added after the session begins. However, the AGS office must be notified by **4:00 p.m. on Thursday prior to that Sunday** or the new names cannot be added to the student’s list for that weekend. **Email/Fax requests must include a scanned driver’s license of the parent or guardian.**

Parent’s Day and Mid-Session Break: Parents are invited to attend their child’s class at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 2, prior to checking him/her out for the mid-session break. Students may be checked out between 2:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on that day. Dinner will **NOT** be served that day. **Residence halls will close at 5:00 p.m.** AGS reopens on Wednesday, July 6. Students should check-in at their residence halls between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. on that day. Dinner will **NOT** be served that day.

Closing Day: Students will be dismissed from AGS at 10:30 a.m. on the final day, Saturday, July 2/July 16. Parents should meet their student at his/her residence hall between 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Students will **NOT** be released before 10:30 a.m. Lunch will **NOT** be served that day. **Residence halls will close at 12:00 p.m.**

Guidelines for Living: The following rules govern and partly define the AGS community. Please be sure that you fully understand them in letter and spirit.

A. Alcoholic Beverages/Tobacco/Illegal Drugs

Possession or use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or other illegal drugs will result in immediate dismissal. Please note that medical cannabis is prohibited on the grounds of any school; therefore, any student with a valid medical marijuana ID card may not possess or use medical cannabis while on AGS campus.

Visitor Smoking Policy

Tobacco products are prohibited from use on the A-State campus including parking lots, grounds adjacent to buildings, and athletic fields. AGS students are responsible for the behavior of their guests.

B. Avoiding Fire Safety Hazards and Unsafe Practices Policy Statement

- Fireworks, explosives, candles, incense, and items constituting an open flame, burning element hazard, or an unsupervised flammable object hazard are prohibited from campus. Unsafe usage of materials is also prohibited.

C. Materials and items that are acceptable in residence hall rooms unless specifically misused include:

- Electrical cords, connectors, or outlets containing a circuit breaker; hair dryers, and other personal hygiene items. "UL" approval on an item does not guarantee that the item will be allowed in residence hall rooms. Questions about the acceptability of a specific item should be directed to residence hall staff.
- Towels should never be hung over A/C unit vents to dry. Obstructing vents may cause damage to the unit.

D. Materials and items that are prohibited from residence hall rooms include:

- Flammable liquids and chemicals;
- Lighted or unlighted candles, incense, and combustible fluid lamps;
- All appliances employing open burning coils, toasters, toaster ovens, and pizza ovens;
- Halogen or quartz light bulbs and lamps requiring such bulbs;
- Extension cords, connectors or outlets that contain multiple outlets, are frayed, or overloaded.
- Extension cords, power strips or extension boxes that are not connected to a surge protector.

E. Fire Safety Hazards—prohibited practices include the following:

- Any modification of existing electrical equipment, such as outlets, light fixtures wiring, etc;
- Running electrical cords under carpeting, a doorway, or window;
- Connecting high wattage appliances or other electronic equipment to outlets by extension cords that do not contain breaker switches;
- Decorating a student room by hanging tapestries, flags or posters on the ceiling, or in a way that covers vents on appliances or electronic equipment;
- Tampering with fire safety equipment, including smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, or fire alarms;
- Any other practice which constitutes a fire hazard.

F. Bicycles, Unicycles, Hoverboards, Skateboards, Scooters, Roller blades, Skates.

No bicycles, unicycles, hoverboards, skateboards, scooters of any variety, roller blades, or skates are permitted at any time.

G. Bullying and Cyberbullying

At all times, students are expected to treat each other and all AGS personnel with respect and contribute to the wellbeing of the AGS community. All forms of bullying (written, verbal, electronic, physical) will not be tolerated.

H. College Property

Damage to college property will be replaced or repaired at the participant's expense. Window screens must not be removed. Nothing should be tacked or glued to walls or windows. Students may not post notes, announcements, or pictures in private or public spaces without permission from the Director. **Furniture in residence rooms must not be moved or altered in any way.**

I. Computers/Tablets

- Students can bring their own laptops/tablets with the understanding that:
 - Students do so at their own risk of device/s being lost, damaged or stolen.
 - Students must participate in AGS activities – in and out of the classroom.
 - Use of devices during AGS activities requires approval of course instructors.
 - There is a zero tolerance for online bullying and/or the taking and distribution of pictures or film without consent.

- Electronic devices must not be used to violate AGS conduct rules, harass/bully students or staff, or for unlawful purposes.

J. Dress

In general, students should always dress and groom in a manner that does not pose a threat to the safety and health of self or others.

AGS generally enforces the following guidelines noting that exceptions may be needed in certain cases (religious requirements, accommodations for disability, etc.).

General Campus:

All students who attend Arkansas Governor's School are expected to respect the school community by dressing appropriately for an educational (K-12) environment. Student attire should facilitate participation in learning as well as the health and safety of students and the adults that supervise them. This policy is intended to provide guidance for students, staff, and parents.

Minimum Requirements:

- Clothing must cover areas from one armpit across to the other armpit, down to approximately 3 to 4 inches in length on the upper thighs (see image below). Tops must have shoulder straps. Rips or tears in clothing should be lower than the 3 to 4 inches in length.
- Shoes must be worn at all times and should be safe for the school environment (pajamas, bedroom shoes or slippers shall not be worn), unless permitted for religious, medical or other reasons by Arkansas Governor's School administration.
- See-through or mesh garments must not be worn without appropriate coverage underneath that meet the minimum requirements of dress code.
- Headgear including hats, hoodies, and caps are not allowed unless permitted for religious, medical or other reasons by Arkansas Governor's School administration.
- In some classes, such as technology, science, and physical education:
 - Particular types (not brands) of footwear may be required for safety reasons.
 - Footwear that is a safety hazard or has the potential to damage property will not be allowed, i.e., cleats, shoes with spikes on the soles.
 - No open-back shoes will be permitted in the classes/activities listed above.

Additional Requirements:

- Clothing may not depict, imply, advertise, or advocate illegal, violent, or lewd conduct, weapons, or the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana or other controlled substances.
- Clothing may not depict or imply pornography, nudity, or sexual acts.
- Clothing may not display or imply vulgar, discriminatory, or obscene language or images.
- Clothing may not state, imply, or depict hate speech/imagery targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, or any other protected classification.

K. Residence Halls:

1. Dress in residence halls is more relaxed than other areas of campus; however, students are still expected to choose attire that is modest and appropriate. The general campus dress code guidelines must be followed in hall lobbies.
2. As a general rule, clothing should cover students' lower chests, upper thighs, and buttocks.
3. No undergarments should be visible at any time including underwear, boxer shorts, and bras (excluding the strap).
4. Students should be clothed when they leave their rooms including short trips to the bathroom or shower. It is not appropriate for students to appear outside of their room

or in the bathroom in underwear, a towel, shirtless, or without pants or shorts. Robes or loungewear should be used between the shower and room.

5. Sleepwear or loungewear such as pajamas may be worn as long as they adhere to all other residential hall guidelines.
6. Shoes are not required although it is recommended that students cover their feet with shoes, sandals, flip-flops, socks, etc.

L. Recreational Areas (Red Wolf Center, Intramural Fields, Tennis Courts, etc...):

1. Appropriate athletic or gym shoes must be worn by all students past the WAC lobby. Street shoes, sandals, flip-flops, or bare feet are not allowed, even for spectators.
2. Proper exercise attire must be worn when using the WAC. Non-exercise attire such as jeans will not be allowed in the gym or strength/cardio areas.
3. Shirts must be worn at all times excluding the pool.
4. Swimwear is allowed at the pool or at water-related recreational activities such as slip and slides. All swimwear should be modest. String bikinis, thongs, speedos, or other suits that are intended to provide minimal covering are not permitted. Students should change into their swimsuits at the pool (locker rooms are available), or if wearing their swimsuits when walking to the pool, students should wear cover-ups over suits or shirts with swim shorts. Towels are not appropriate cover-ups.
5. Jewelry and other valuables should be left in your residential hall.

M. Fines

The fine for lost room keys is \$50 (It is strongly recommended that students bring a lanyard or keychain for their room keys. Lanyards are available for purchase in the AGS Store). The fine for a lost library book is \$100, and the fine for a lost ID is \$25.

N. Honor

Stealing, lying, or cheating under any circumstances will result in immediate dismissal. Failure to inform AGS staff about others' rule violations, or to cooperate with AGS staff investigating suspected rule violations, will result in immediate dismissal.

O. ID Badges

Official ID badges must be worn at all times, unless instructed otherwise. ID badges are required for admittance into the student's residence hall and the dining hall. **There is a \$25.00 charge for lost ID badges.** Visit the AGS Office to report a lost ID badge.

P. Mandated Reporting

In accordance with Arkansas Child Maltreatment Act, AGS faculty and staff are required by law to report child maltreatment. Child maltreatment refers to any abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, sexual exploitation, or abandonment of a person under the age of 18. If any faculty or staff member has reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been subject to maltreatment or observes a child being subject to conditions or circumstances that would reasonably result in maltreatment, then a report must be made immediately to the Child Abuse Hotline (1-800-482-5964). Please be aware that any references to child maltreatment in class discussions, assignments, or conversations are subject to mandated reporting under the law.

Q. Obedience

Students are expected to follow all instructions given to them by any members of the AGS faculty and staff.

R. Online Classes/Projects

At AGS, students are encouraged to dedicate their time and focus to the many academic and social opportunities that will be offered. Furthermore, the academic and social challenges that students will encounter require intense concentration and effort. Therefore, in order to reduce distractions from the AGS curriculum and activities, students are not permitted to enroll in online coursework during the session. Additionally, students are strongly discouraged from participating in non-AGS projects or research that are intensive and may distract from one's AGS experience.

S. Prescription Medications

Students **must** notify AGS of any prescription medications in their possession and update this information if medications change during the program. Any prescription medications in a student's possession **must** be in his or her name. Prescription medications are not to be transferred between students.

T. Required Presence

Participants must attend all classes and other required activities. Participants must be in their residence halls by 10:30 p.m. each night. *Participants must not leave campus except as according to the leave policy.*

U. Cellphone Use – Please Read Carefully

- Students may use cell phones in their residence hall rooms.
- No calls – incoming or outgoing – are allowed between 11:30 pm and 7:00 am.
- Students are not permitted to use their phones outside of their residence hall rooms unless special permission is granted.
- Violations will result in confiscation of cell phone/s.
- Electronic devices must not be used to violate AGS conduct rules, harass/bully students or staff, or for unlawful purposes.

V. Sexual Misconduct

It is the intent of AGS to maintain an environment free from all types of sexual misconduct. No student should be subjected to sexual misconduct by other students or AGS personnel at any time. This policy will be enforced with the utmost seriousness and haste.

I. Definition of Sexual Misconduct

- a. Sexual Misconduct – any continued, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct (i.e. comments, jokes, gestures, messages, hugs, tickles, pokes, grabs, etc...) of a sexual nature that has the effect of:
 - b. Unreasonably interfering with a student's participation in or benefit from the educational atmosphere.
 - c. Creating a hostile environment by persistent conduct or by a single severe instance.
 - d. Implying, whether implicitly or explicitly, that a student's presence at AGS or an activity or that program-related decisions related to the student are based upon submission to such conduct.

II. Types of conduct considered to be forms of sexual misconduct and violate this policy include but are not limited to:

- a) Sexual violence including rape and sexual assault
- b) Sexual advances (physical and verbal)
- c) Comments about inappropriately touching someone
- d) Lewd or sexually suggestive comments, jokes, innuendoes, or gestures
- e) Stalking
- f) Inappropriate social media posts

III. Reporting

- a) All AGS students, staff, and faculty are protected from any form of retaliation for reporting potential violations of this policy or participating in any investigations under this policy. Any conduct reasonably considered to be retaliation against someone who submits a report of sexual misconduct or participates in any resulting investigation from a report is strictly prohibited. Such retaliation will be considered as an act of misconduct and will be handled in the same manner in accordance with this policy.
- b) All AGS community members including students, faculty, and staff are encouraged and expected to immediately report any knowledge of sexual misconduct and/or retaliation. This includes anyone who believes he or she is a victim, anyone who is a witness, and anyone who has reliable information about an incidence.
 - i) Students may submit an oral or written report of an alleged violation of this policy to any faculty or staff member including the Director. Any AGS employee who receives a report of an alleged violation must immediately notify the Director. In the case of an oral report, the AGS staff member should take careful notes and confirm that the recorded details are accurate
 - ii) Reports of alleged sexual misconduct or retaliation violations should be clear and detailed. At a minimum, a report should include:
 - 1) The identity of the alleged victim
 - 2) The identity of the alleged offender
 - 3) The identity of the person submitting the report
 - 4) The identity of any witnesses, if any
 - 5) The date, time, and location of the alleged violation
 - 6) A detailed description of the alleged act in violation of this policy

IV. Consequences

- A. The Director will form a Behavioral Issues Committee to investigate alleged violations of this policy and determine resulting disciplinary actions, if any. Members of the committee will include the Director, the Coordinator of Residence Life, the Administrative Manager, and two faculty members. In choosing the committee members, the Director will make reasonable considerations to ensure that its membership is diverse with regard to gender and ethnicity.
- B. All reports of alleged violations of this policy will be treated with seriousness and confidentiality. In a timely manner, the Behavioral Issues Committee will investigate all reported incidences of alleged sexual misconduct or retaliation. Members of the Behavioral Issues Committee will be expected to keep all related information confidential and will take reasonable measures to protect the anonymity of an accuser.
- C. Parents or legal guardians of the alleged victim and the alleged offender will be notified that a report of sexual misconduct or retaliation has been made.
- D. The alleged victim and alleged offender will be instructed to avoid any contact or communication immediately following any report of alleged violations to this policy. This action may require administrative changes to the class and residential assignments of the alleged victim or alleged offender. These changes may remain in place regardless of the outcome of the investigation.
- E. When an investigation is completed, the Director will first notify the alleged victim and then the alleged offender of the findings and resulting consequences, if any. Disciplinary action is at the sole discretion of the Behavioral Issues Committee. Any student who is determined to have violated this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the program.

V. Prevention and Enforcement

- A. The AGS community as a whole has a responsibility to maintain an environment free from sexual misconduct. There are reasonable and practical steps that can be taken to ensure enforcement of this policy as well as help prevent incidences of sexual misconduct.
- a. All students, faculty, and staff are expected to fully cooperate with any investigations under this policy. All parties included in any investigation under this policy are expected to respect the privacy of the alleged victim and alleged offender and keep related information confidential.
 - b. Any faculty or staff responsible for discipline of students are expected to enact any disciplinary action(s) decided upon by the Behavioral Issues Committee against any student determined to be in violation of this policy.
 - c. During faculty and staff orientation, the Director or administrators will instruct all personnel on the sexual misconduct policy and procedures.
 - d. Within the first two (2) days of students' arrival to AGS, the Director will ensure that all students are instructed on the sexual misconduct policy and procedures.
 - e. The sexual misconduct policy and procedures will be available to all students, parents, and AGS personnel via the student handbook, AGS website, and the AGS Office, which will provide a copy upon request.

W. AGS Leave Policy

Arkansas Governor's School is state funded, highly competitive, and interested in fostering a very strong sense of community among its participants. Therefore, it is believed to be inappropriate for students who have accepted a place at AGS to take temporary leaves from the program. Time away from the program has an undesired effect on student participation, both for the individual and for the Governor's School community at large. We know that gifted and talented students will have many quality opportunities during the summer. Although we hope that students invited to attend AGS will accept our invitation to attend for the full six weeks, we understand that other choices are available and difficult decisions must be made. For students desiring to take advantage of other opportunities that coincide with AGS, students should decline the AGS invitation which will allow another student to be invited to benefit from the entire program. Temporary leaves will be granted for certain situations and only these situations. Requests for special leaves of absence must be made in writing at least one (1) week in advance and include explicit justification for the leave. Documentation may be requested to verify listed justification. A form may be obtained from the AGS office once the session starts. A leave may be granted for the following situations:

- unplanned personal or family emergencies
- weddings of immediate family members
- extremely important events of major personal, regional, or national significance
- medical reasons

Please note:

- proper paperwork must be filled out and submitted at least one week in advance
- the student cannot miss more than 2 class days
- the leave cannot be during the first 3 days or the last 3 days of the program
- no student may be granted more than one leave of absence
- leaves granted for medical reasons may not exceed a total of six (6) class days
- proper documentation may be requested to verify the listed justification for the leave

N. Proposed Budget (8.00, 14.00)

Make a copy of the [AGS 2022-2024 Proposed Budget](#) (14.03) and rename it as “AGS 2022-2024 Proposed Budget <Institution Name>.” (Adjust the share settings to add Krystal.Nail@arkansas.gov as a viewer. The budget will be saved and shared with the site selection committee.)

Total budget must not exceed \$640,000 for a four week program or \$890,000 for a six week program.

Tuition, room and board, approved activity fees, instructional supplies, books, and school medical services will be furnished for the students. Travel and personal expenses will be furnished by the student (8.00).

Link to Budget:

4 Week Budget: [AGS 2022-2024 Proposed Budget 4 Week<Arkansas State University>](#)

6 Week Budget: [AGS 2022-2024 Proposed Budget 6 Week<Arkansas State University>](#)

O. Additional Information

Include any additional information supporting or further defining the proposal. If links are included, adjust the share settings, as needed.

[Arkansas State University Site Application.pdf](#)

ASSURANCES

By submitting this proposal your institution is aware of and agrees to the following:

1. The Governor's School is under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education and the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and falls under the immediate administration of the Program Director for the Office of Gifted and Talented Education (1.03).
2. Faculty Selection (6.00), Student Selection (10.00), Site Selection (13.00), and AGS operations will be in accordance with the Rules Governing Arkansas Governor's School Site Selection.
3. Recruitment activities by the host campus may not be conducted during Arkansas Governor's School (13.10). (Recruitment activities, e.g. College Fairs, are allowable if other institutions are also invited to participate.)
4. An annual evaluation report must be submitted to the Department after the close of the school. This report must include a detailed summary or syllabus of Area I, Area II, and Area III including specific works read (12.00, 13.11).
5. Site selection will be for a period of three years contingent upon successful annual evaluations (13.11).

Questions related to proposals may be directed to Krystal Nail, Program Coordinator, Office of Gifted and Talented and Advanced Placement, Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, Arkansas Department of Education, krystal.nail@arkansas.gov, (501) 682-4224.