



Williamsburg-James City County Schools

High School Honors Program

The Honors Program of the Williamsburg-James City County School Division was instituted in Fall 2003 to enable and encourage highly motivated students to earn special recognition for their outstanding efforts. The program invites students to take advantage of the extensive Advanced Placement offerings at the secondary level and to complete challenging, self-designed community service and Honors projects. Students who successfully meet the strenuous demands of the Honors Program earn the Honors Seal on their diplomas at graduation. Participation in the Honors Program is one more way in which a student can distinguish himself/herself in the increasingly competitive college application process.

In addition to meeting the requirements of the Advanced Studies Diploma, candidates for the Honors Seal must:

- Complete at least seven Advanced Placement courses and the exams. Specifically, students must have one AP course in each of the core courses (English, math, science and social studies) and three or more elective AP courses.
- Complete a four-course sequence in one foreign language
- Design and complete a Community Service Project of at least 25 hours
- Design and complete an in-depth Honors Project (**must be approved before senior year**)
- The Honors Project and the Community Service Project may be coordinated as two components of a single project.

Participants in the Honors Program submit proposals to and meet with the Division Honors Committee, comprised of representatives from each high school and the Central Office. After receiving approval from the committee, students work with the school's Honors Program Coordinator and with a mentor to successfully fulfill the requirements of the program. Students return to the committee to report on their completed community service projects; Honors projects are presented to a panel of professionals for approval.

Students may enter the Honors Program as early as the freshman year. Projects may be completed at any time, but the Community Service Project ideally should be completed by the beginning of the senior year and the Honors Project must be completed by the end of the third quarter of the senior year.

Interested students should contact their respective counselor