

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER LEARNING - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What are the dates for Middle School Summer Learning?

Middle School Summer Learning begins on June 22, 2026, and concludes on July 31, 2026. Please note there may be different dates and times for programs (see table below).

| Program Name | Summer Site | Dates | Times |
|---|--|--|---|
| Acceleration Academy (Students flagged for retention) | John Francis EC Johnson MS MacFarland MS Stuart-Hobson MS | June 22 – July 31 | Academics (9:00 am – 12:00 pm) Enrichment (12:00 pm – 4:00 pm) |
| MS ELSAP | MacFarland MS | June 22 – July 31 | 9:00 am – 4:00 pm |
| MS CTE Enrichment- Mini Medics and Robotics (Registration Required) | John Francis EC Johnson MS MacFarland MS Stuart-Hobson MS | June 22 – July 31 | 9:00 am – 12:00 pm |
| MS HPE Enrichment - Outdoor Pursuits (Registration Required) | Woodson HS McKinley Tech HS | June 22 – July 10 July 13 – July 31 | 9:00 am – 4:00 pm 9:00 am – 4:00 pm |

2. Will breakfast and lunch be served during the summer learning term?

Yes. Breakfast and lunch will be served daily for both half day and full day programs. Students should verify with their summer site team the exact time when breakfast and lunch will be served. Generally, breakfast is served at 8:30 am and lunch at 12:00 pm.

3. Can students register for more than one (1) morning summer enrichment program?

No. Students can only register for one (1) morning enrichment program. Please note that students who are retained at the end of SY2025-2026 must be scheduled in and attend MS Acceleration (summer school). Students who receive a confirmed seat in a morning enrichment program, prior to learning of their retention status, will no longer be eligible for enrichment if marked for retention by their school Principal.

4. Are middle school students eligible for high school original credit?

Yes. Specifically, current 8th grade students are eligible for original credit during the summer learning term if they are promoted from 8th to 9th grade at the conclusion of SY2025-2026. Original credit allows current 8th graders to start earning high school credit prior to their ninth-grade school year.

Students will not have a confirmed seat in original credit until their eligibility has been confirmed and they have been scheduled in the course. Students can follow up with their school counselor if they have any questions.

Current high school students will also be scheduled in original credit courses. Seats will be prioritized for potential summer 2026 graduates.

The table below lists the original credit courses current 8th graders (rising 9th graders) can register for:

| Course Name | Credit Value | Summer Site(s) |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| Algebra I | 1.0 | Anacostia HS, Bard DC HS, Old Banneker HS, Jackson-Reed HS, McKinley Tech HS, Woodson HS |
| Geometry | 1.0 | Anacostia HS, Bard DC HS, Old Banneker HS, Jackson-Reed HS, McKinley Tech HS, Woodson HS |
| Health | 0.5 | Anacostia HS, Bard DC HS, Old Banneker HS, Jackson-Reed HS, McKinley Tech HS, Woodson HS |

5. Which students are eligible for MS Acceleration?

Students who have been officially marked for retention by their school principals during SY2025-2026 are eligible for and must attend academic recovery. School principals determine whether students will be retained. The Extended Learning Team is not involved in retention decisions.

Central Services will cross-enroll and schedule retained students in their respective summer sites and MS Acceleration courses.

6. Are students required to attend the summer site per the established feeder pattern for academic recovery (summer school)?

Yes. The feeder pattern for MS Acceleration has been thoughtfully created in collaboration with school-based and Central Services teams. If families have safety concerns, families should reach out to their current school team who will then follow up with Central Services, if necessary.

Middle school enrichment programs do not have a feeder pattern. Families can register their students for the program they wish at the summer site of their choice.

7. My child receives special education services. Can I enroll him/her in DCPS' middle school summer learning?

Yes. Depending on the student's IEP and progress toward promotion and graduation, students who receive special education services may be enrolled in the DCPS Summer Learning Program at their assigned school or in the Extended School Year (ESY) program.

ESY services, which are provided in accordance with the IEP, are distinct from the summer learning program which offers generalized content on a predetermined schedule. Students with disabilities are provided with necessary accommodations and modifications to access the general curriculum and receive instruction in summer learning.

ESY services are provided through an IEP and are intended to focus on mitigating the loss of critical skills when there is a break in service. The IEP team annually determines the students who are eligible for ESY programming.

8. My student is an English learner. Can I enroll him/her in DCPS' Summer Learning?

Yes! Middle grade English language learners may enroll in summer programming. EL students may enroll in any traditional summer school program. As part of instruction, EL students will experience differentiation based on their individual English Language Proficiency (ELP) level.

If EL students meet the required criteria for the English Learner Summer Academic Program (ELSAP), English learners may enroll the Middle School English Learner Summer Academic Program (MS-ELSAP).

MS-ELSAP is a program for English Learner students who are rising 6th through 8th graders. Students with WIDA level 1.0 to Level 2.5 are encouraged to enroll in an intensive language program designed specifically for middle school English Learners. Students who are currently taking English as a Second Language (ESL) classes or receiving ESL supports are welcome to join the English Learner Summer Academic Program (ELSAP).

ELSAP provides a rigorous academic program while supporting students' progress in English language development. For additional information, please contact kristopher.bengtson@k12.dc.gov.

9. My child is not a DCPS student. Can I enroll him/her in DCPS' Summer Enrichment & Learning Program?

No. Only current students enrolled in DCPS for the 2025-2026 school year are eligible for DCPS' Summer Learning. Students enrolled for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year are not considered current students.

A DCPS student is someone currently enrolled in one of the traditional public schools. This does not include students who attend public charter schools.

10. My child is not a DC resident. Can I enroll him/her in DCPS' Summer Learning Program?

If a non-resident student is **currently** enrolled in a traditional DCPS school for the 2025-2026 school year and has paid non-resident tuition, then he/she can be scheduled in summer learning. Students who attend public charter schools are not eligible.

11. What is the summer learning program attendance policy?

Students in Summer Learning are expected to engage in and attend classes daily and arrive on time. Middle school students who are scheduled in MS Acceleration or original credit and accrue more than three (3) unexcused absences will automatically receive a final grade of grade of W for the course. Not meeting the attendance requirement may impact promotion for students.

Students scheduled in non-graded enrichment courses who do not attend consistently may be withdrawn from the course and those seats may then be offered to students on the waitlist. Withdrawal will be at the discretion of the summer site leader in consultation with the teacher of record.

12. Will students have opportunities to go on field trips?

The opportunity to take field trips lies solely with the various programs or summer site teams. Students should check with their summer site leadership, teacher, or program lead if they have questions about field trips.

13. Do summer learning students ride public transportation for free?

Yes. Students registered for DCPS 2026 summer programs are eligible to ride metro public transportation for free. Students must be:

- A resident of the District of Columbia,
- Ages 5 through 21, and
- Enrolled in an elementary or secondary public, public charter, private, or parochial school located within the district or youth in the care of the District.

For more information, please visit [Kids Ride Free Program | ddot \(dc.gov\)](#).

14. Where can families and students find more information about summer programming?

Families and students can find additional summer programming information at [DC Public Schools Family Guide for Summer Learning - DCPS Strong](#).

15. Is there a registration process for middle school summer learning?

Yes. Families can register their DCPS children [here](#) starting on February 2, 2026, at 9:00 am. There is not a registration process for retention students.

School Principals will have an opportunity during the month of May to make retention decisions. Central Services will subsequently schedule all retention students in DCPS' MS Acceleration.

At the conclusion of the summer learning term, school Principals will make promotion decisions for students scheduled in MS Acceleration.

16. Once a student has been registered and scheduled in a summer learning program, is that seat guaranteed?

Our goal is to ensure that all DCPS summer programs take place; however, if student enrollment is low, there is a possibility that a program or class may be closed. If that is the case, families will have an opportunity to select another program pending seat availability.

The only middle school program that is guaranteed to take place is MS Acceleration for students who have been marked for retention by their school Principal.

17. Who can students and families contact if they have questions about specific middle school summer learning programs?

Students and families can reach out to the following points of contact:

| Program | Point of Contact |
|---|--|
| MS Acceleration | extendedlearningteam@k12.dc.gov |
| Original Credit | |
| Heath & Physical Education Outdoor Pursuits Enrichment | |
| Career & Technical Education Enrichment | |
| Middle School English Learner Summer Academic Program | Kristopher.bengtson@k12.dc.gov |
| Extended School Year (ESY) | Dcps.esy@k12.dc.gov |
| 6 th and 9 th Grade Summer Bridge | extendedlearningteam@k12.dc.gov |

