

2016 Xanadu Summer Programs Frequently Asked Questions

Programs: Xanadu 2016 Elementary Program for rising 1st-5th grade students
Xanadu 2016 Middle/High Program for rising 6th-12th grade students

Where: Price Middle School
1670 Benjamin Weldon Bickers Dr. SE, Atlanta, GA 30315

Dates: **WEDNESDAY**, June 1- **WEDNESDAY**, June 29

Time: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Session I – June 1st-15th

Session II – June 16th-29th

Cost: APS Students - \$150.00 (2 weeks)
Non-APS Students - \$600.00 (4 weeks)

APS Students - \$300.00 (4 weeks)
Non-APS Students - \$300.00 (2 weeks)

Registration:

Friday, April 1-8:30 am-3:30 pm

What is Xanadu?

Xanadu is a summer enrichment program for gifted and high achieving students offered by the Office of Gifted and Talented Education in Atlanta Public Schools. The program began over twenty years ago for first through fifth grade students, later adding programming for sixth through twelfth graders.

Xanadu teachers take academic content and turn it into fun and exciting ways for students to be enriched while still enjoying the sunny days of summer! Students are allowed to select their courses which are focused on academics and fine arts/athletics. Course offerings include everything from courses like Xtreme Xperiments where students explore the science behind lava lamps to courses like IMPACT where students work to make a difference in their immediate community and understand the value of their civic contributions.

Annually, the program concludes with the “BIG Show” where a student generated production is presented to parents and the community. It is always a treat and very entertaining! Xanadu has a long successful history deeply entrenched in the fabric of students’ lives from all across the city. You may view a previous production at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GfA4DDzzjiA>.

Who is eligible to participate in the Xanadu Summer Programs?

All gifted and talented eligible/high achieving students in the metro Atlanta area who have successfully completed kindergarten through eleventh grade who also meet program criteria are eligible to participate.

I am an APS employee; my child does not attend APS. Can I enroll my child in the Xanadu Summer Programs?

Yes, children of APS employees are eligible to apply for acceptance into the program as long as they meet program criteria. Students of APS employees pay the APS student rate but do not qualify for scholarships.

Can students of APS charter schools participate in the Xanadu Summer Programs?

Yes, children of APS charter schools are eligible to apply for acceptance into the program as long as they meet program criteria. Charter students pay the APS student rate but do not qualify for scholarships.

What are the criteria for acceptance into the Xanadu Summer Programs?

APS STUDENTS	NON APS STUDENTS
Identified Gifted Students <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Student Recommendation Form</u> completed by the school principal <u>or</u> gifted program teacher <u>AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING</u> <input type="checkbox"/> gifted progress report <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd quarter report card	Identified Gifted Students <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Student Recommendation Form</u> completed by the school principal <u>or</u> gifted program teacher <u>AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Proof of continued placement or identification in a school system gifted program (Annual Review Form/Eligibility Report) <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd quarter report card
Non Identified Gifted Students <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Student Recommendation Form</u> completed by the school principal <u>or</u> general education teacher <u>AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Results indicating an IQ score of 120 or higher from a mental ability test administered by the school system or a private psychologist such as the CogAT or WISC-IV <input type="checkbox"/> Results indicating a 90th percentile or higher in Reading or Math subtest from a norm reference standardized test such as the ITBS, Performance Series, or Terra Nova <input type="checkbox"/> Score of 550 or higher in Reading or Math on the 2016 Georgia Milestones <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd quarter report card	Non Identified Gifted Students <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Student Recommendation Form</u> completed by the school principal <u>or</u> general education teacher <u>AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Results indicating an IQ score of 120 or higher from a mental ability test administered by the school system or a private psychologist such as the CogAT or WISC-IV <input type="checkbox"/> Results indicating a 90th percentile or higher in Reading or Math subtest from a norm reference standardized test such as the ITBS, Performance Series, or Terra Nova <input type="checkbox"/> Score of 550 or higher in Reading or Math on the 2016 Georgia Milestones <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd quarter report card

Supporting documentation will not be returned. Please make all copies prior to submission.

When will I receive notification verifying my child's acceptance or non-acceptance into the program of application?

Acceptance or non-acceptance is based on the program criteria listed above. A letter of acceptance or non-acceptance to the program will be emailed by April 29, 2016. Those not accepted will receive non-acceptance letters and will have the program fee returned.

How are the instructional programs organized?

Daily instruction is a combination of academic and fine arts/athletics courses.

Can I register my child for one week in Session I and one week in Session II?

No, courses are designed as mini-courses to be taught in two consecutive weeks.

Session I – June 1st - 15th

Session II – June 16th - 29th

Is transportation provided to the Xanadu Summer Programs?

No, transportation is not provided. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to provide transportation.

What is the application and registration process for the Xanadu Summer Programs?

1. Complete the online application which gives us student, parent, school, and emergency information. The application is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X2016app>. Completion of this application DOES NOT secure placement in the program. Applicant selection and placement are secured upon the receipt of supporting documentation AND payment which takes place beginning April 1, 2016 at the Campbell Building 21 Thirkeld Ave. SW Atlanta GA 30315. Complete the online application before to coming to register.

2. The course brochure and course selection planner will be available by March 28th at the summer programs link on our website <http://www.atlanta.k12.ga.us/gifted>. Bring the completed course selection planner to registration. Students have the best experience when they participate in the selection of their courses.
3. Secure the program fee in the form of a money order or cashier's check. Personal checks and cash will not be accepted. The submission of supporting documents and receipt of program fees secure consideration of placement in the program. If we find in reviewing a student's documents they do not meet program criteria we will refund 100% of all program fees.
4. Registration takes place in person on Friday, April 1, 2016. Bring the completed course selection planner, copies of supporting documentation, and the program fee to the Campbell Building 21 Thirkeld Ave. SW Atlanta, GA 30315.

Xanadu 2016 will accommodate 225 students in the elementary program and 150 students in the middle/high program. You may apply for either program by completing the online application process. (Use the same online application survey for both programs).

Courses are assigned on a "*first paid-first placed*" basis. Once a class is full, course placement will be based on second choice, and possibly third choice. There is no guarantee of first choice course placement. To record your child's course preferences, use the Course Selection Planner (available March 28, 2016). Bring the completed Course Selection Planner with you for each participant.

Receiving Schedule

Friday, April 1st 8:30 am – 3:00 pm Registration Begins

Wednesday, April 13th 9:00 am – 12:00 noon

Friday, April 15th 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Can changes to classes be made once classes have been assigned?

No, a specific student teacher ratio is maintained and changing classes disturbs the ratio. Classes will not be changed once confirmation letters have been sent. Once a class is full, course placement will be based on second choice, and possibly third choice. There is no guarantee of first choice course placement.

What forms of payment are accepted?

Money orders and cashier's checks are the only acceptable forms of payment. No cash or personal checks will be accepted. Please bring payments made payable to *Atlanta Public Schools* with the student's name written on the method of payment. For accounting purposes, separate elementary program payments from middle/high program payments.

Is there a discount for families enrolling multiple children?

No, multi-student discounts are not available.

How do I qualify for a tuition scholarship, if I am experiencing a financial hardship?

A specific number of scholarships are awarded to APS students receiving documented free or reduced meals. Indicate the desire for a scholarship in the online application. We will verify meal status directly through the Nutrition Department and make scholarship awards based on information provided by them. Full payment must be made at the time of registration but will be refunded should tuition assistance be awarded. Notification of scholarship awards will be communicated by May 20th.

Is before care available for Xanadu Summer Programs?

Yes, before care is available. Before care begins at 7:00 am for a drop-in fee of \$3.00 per student/per day. Scholarships do not include or cover before care.

Is after care available for Xanadu Summer Programs?

Yes, after care is available. After care is sponsored by Preferred School Care. After care begins at 3:00 pm and ends at 6:00 pm daily. The fee for after care is \$60.00 per week or a drop-in fee of \$15.00 per day. Preferred School Care is a private entity and accepts all forms of payment for their services. Atlanta Public Schools only accepts money orders and cashier's checks. The after care program focuses on technology, visual arts, fitness and character education. Please contact Preferred School Care for additional after care information. After care program participants will receive an afternoon snack.

Are school meals provided for Xanadu Summer Programs?

The school meal program operates on site during the program. Atlanta Public School students and its charter school students eat breakfast and lunch at no charge during the program regardless of meal status during the academic year. Non APS students will be required to pay for meals at a rate of \$4 for each lunch and \$ 1.50 for each breakfast. Students will not be permitted to charge meals. Parents will be contacted in the event a student requires a meal but funds are not provided.

What is the policy regarding cancellation?

If cancellation is made on or before to May 13th, you will receive a full refund minus a \$20.00 processing fee. No refunds will be made after this date. To cancel your registration, call 404-802-7585 and email a letter of cancellation to Xanadu_Gifted@atlanta.k12.ga.us. Include your child's name, the program registered for, and reason for cancellation. Please allow 14 days for refund processing.

If you have any additional questions, feel free to email the Office of Gifted and Talented Education at Xanadu_gifted@atlanta.k12.ga.us.

For regular updates visit the Office of Gifted and Talented Education's website at:

<http://www.atlanta.k12.ga.us/Gifted>

Email any questions to Xanadu_Gifted@atlanta.k12.ga.us.