

New High School Student Application

Student U

Student U is a community organization that uses the power of education to build a just and equitable Durham. We provide out-of-school time (summer and after-school) programming with in-school advocacy to ensure that students and families are prepared for their journey to and through college. Our program begins the summer before students enter 6th grade and continues through their graduation from college. Student U strives to partner with students and their families to develop academic skills, teach financial literacy, cultivate positive personal well-being and engage students in their community. Through their connection with Student U, we hope that students realize their brilliance and use it to change the world!

Mission

Student U is a community organization that uses the power of education to build a just and equitable Durham. We empower and equip first-generation college students in Durham Public Schools, their families, and educators to become the leaders that will transform our city. We walk with students and families from sixth grade through college, providing holistic support at each step along the way. We believe our students are powerful, and this power will help us realize a Durham where all students succeed.

Core Values

The following six values drive the Student U community. We believe by embodying these values, we become the best version of ourselves.

We will energize our community.

We will achieve greatness.

We will respect ourselves and others.

We will discover our best selves.

We will dream fearlessly.

We will share our brilliance.

For questions, contact: Karla Fernandez ,

Associate Director of Operations

karla.fernandez@studentudurham.org or

919-695-3317

Send or drop off completed application

to:

Student U

600 E Umstead St

Durham, NC 27701

**For Student U programming questions,
contact:**

Andrea Rodriguez

Associate Director of Student and Family
Support Services

andrea.rodriquez@studentudurham.org or

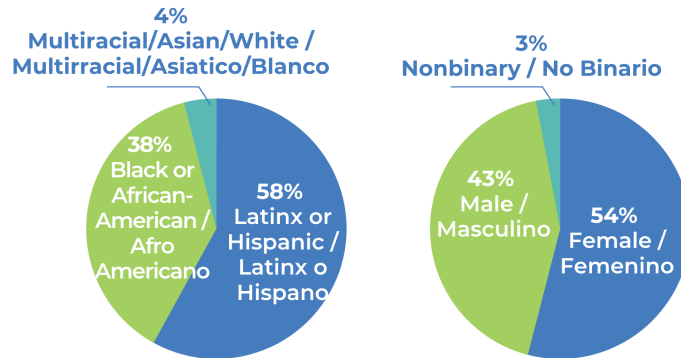
919-679-1998

New Student Information Session on November 8, 2023, at 6:15 pm at W.G. Pearson Center.



Our Program

Below you'll find a diagram that outlines our programming. Enrollment in Student U is an eleven-year commitment for students and their families. Our students' families are our teammates and we must work together to ensure students' success. We ask families to commit to consistent attendance and communication with our program.



Middle School	High School	College
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5-week Summer Academy Program where students receive academic enrichment, participate in field trips and build positive relationships with their peers. Monday - Thursday after-school program (Year-Round Program) where students complete homework, develop study skills, and explore extracurricular interests in clubs. Opportunity to sign up for a college savings Accounts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9th -10th grade students participate in a 5-week Summer Academy program where students continue to develop academic skills through elective-based courses 11th -12th-grade students participate in summer internships, SAT/ACT Prep classes, and personalized college advising. During the school year, in-school advocates check in with students weekly to ensure they meet their academic and personal goals. All students can attend tutoring, receive enrichment funds, and attend college tours. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students participate in summer & winter retreats to set goals and learn about time management, skills, summer experiences, and other helpful topics for college students. Student U College Readiness and Success Coordinator regularly checks in on a student's progress and connects students with resources on campus.
<p>All students and families can access our Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Learning Specialist, who provide additional social-emotional and academic support through their time in Student U. Families are engaged through workshops, meetings, phone calls, and parent leadership opportunities.</p>		



Application Directions

Student U uses this application to learn more about families applying to Student U. We ask that families report honest and accurate information on this application.

Eligibility

Student U will use the following parameters to select candidates for the high school lottery. Student U is looking for students who:

- Are performing at or slightly below grade level (2.5 GPA)
- Plan to attend a DPS school for the 2024-2025 school year
- Qualify for free or reduced lunch
- Are first generation college bound

Before you submit the application, please check the following boxes to ensure you have a complete application.

- Student Section:* Students sign the HS agreement, complete pages 5 & 6 of the application, & submit thorough responses to the student prompts. Students should complete this section on their own. This portion is for us to learn more about students.
- Parent/Guardian Section:* Parents/Guardians sign the HS agreement & complete pages 7-9 of parent/guardian questions. This portion is for us to learn more about you and your student. Be sure to sign the information release and attach any IEP/504 information.
- 2 Teacher or Counselor Recommendations:* The last page on this application is the Teacher Recommendation information page. This information includes the QR code to the teacher recommendation form that will need to be completed by your teacher. Be sure to give the teacher enough time to complete the recommendation (at least two weeks). Applications will not be considered complete until a teacher recommendation is completed and received.
- Student Data:* Please include a copy of your child's most recent transcript or a snapshot of their semester grades. The counselor or data manager at your child's school can provide this information.
- Individualized Education Plan or 504:* If your student has an IEP or 504, please attach a copy of that to the application. This must be included for a complete application.

Application Timeline:

- All application materials (student section, parent/guardian section, teacher recommendation and transcript) are due by December 4, 2023. Incomplete or late applications may not be considered for admission into Student U.
- In January 2024, approximately 20 **current** 9th and 10th grade students will be selected to join Student U's High School Program for the 2024-2025 year.

Admission notifications will be sent home in February 2024



HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPATION**Family Agreement for the High School Program**

Participation: We believe that family involvement is essential to a child's success. Enrollment in the High School Program of Student U is a four-year commitment from 9th grade until graduation from high school. By signing below, you acknowledge the participation requirements and agree to work to the best of your ability as a family to make the process of preparing for post secondary options and Student U a priority over the next four years. In addition, you agree to work closely with school and Student U staff to support your child's academic and social success in and through high school.

The high school program requires students to meet with advocates or academic coaches on a weekly basis, attend monthly clusters meetings , U- Prep workshops, Community Days and participate in various summer programs. We expect that students will remain fully engaged over the course of their four years with our program. As a parent/guardian we plan to partner with you all to ensure your student stays engaged and meets all program requirements.

Students will receive participation status updates at least twice a year. Families who do not participate in the program will be considered disconnected. Disconnected students will be placed on a re-engagement period and may be dismissed from the program. The high school program staff looks forward to supporting all students as full participants in the high school program.

Students and parents agree that if they are accepted to Student U, they understand that they are making a commitment to work hard with Student U through high school, college, and beyond to achieve their dreams!

Attendance Requirements: Students are expected to check in with their advocate once per week, attend tutoring in person/virtually/or at school for at least 1 hour 1 time a week, attend monthly cluster meetings, and attend all U Prep days throughout the year. If attendance falls below requirements, families will enter a brief disengagement period, which can be resolved through a meeting with our team. Failure to engage may lead to dismissal, but families can reapply within a year if needed.

Student Name (Print): _____ **Date:** _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Name(s)(print): _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature(s): _____



Student Information

**Students please complete pages 5, 6 and 7*

Full Name: _____
First Middle Last

Preferred Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Home Address:

Street Apt #

City State Zip Code

Ethnic Background- check all that apply

- Black or African-American Hispanic or Latino American Indian Multiracial
 Asian/Pacific Islander White or Caucasian Other: _____

Gender: Male Female Non-Binary Prefer Not to Say Other: _____ Pronouns: _____

Do you speak languages other than English at home? Yes No

If yes, which language(s)? _____

What language do your guardians prefer to speak and receive information? _____

Enrolled in an ESL or ELL program? Yes No

Current Grade (2023-2024 school year): 9th 10th

Current school: _____

Base High School: _____

School attending next year: _____

Student cell phone number: _____

Student email address: _____



Check all the activities of interest to you in high school:

- Language clubs (French, Spanish, German, Russian etc.)
- Service clubs (Interact, etc.)
- Sports (Basketball, soccer, lacrosse, tennis, volleyball, baseball, cheerleading, swimming, track etc.)
- Honor clubs (National Honor Society)
- Art clubs (Music, art, dance)
- Theater
- Fraternity and Sororities
- Student Government
- Other time commitments you currently have or are expected to have:

Other Interests? -----

What career fields interest you? (Circle all that apply)

- Medicine
- Law
- Sports
- Art Education
- Hospitality
- Business
- STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering math, architecture)
- Non-profit work

Questions

Please complete one of the two options below. Your answers will help us learn more about you!

Option A: Create a 60-90-second video answering the prompt and send it via email to Karla.fernandez@studentudurham.org.

Option B: Answer the prompt in at least 5 complete sentences.

Prompt:

Tell us about yourself! What is your dream for the future? Why do you want to attend Student U? What brilliance will you bring to Student U?

Responses

Option A: Video Link - email to Karla.fernandez@studentudurham.org
Title your email: Student Name, New Student Application Video

Option B, Written Response ((you have this and the next page to answer):

Lined writing area consisting of multiple horizontal dashed lines for student input.

Parent/Guardian Section**Parents please complete pages 8, 9 and 10*

Parent/Guardian/Caretaker 1

Full Name: _____ Relationship to Student: _____

Does the child live with this person? Yes No

Home Address: _____

Number and Street

Apt #

City

State

Zip Code

Phone (circle preferred): _____

Work

Home

Cell

Email: _____ Employer: _____

Ethnic Background - check all that apply

- Black or African-American Hispanic or Latino American Indian
 Multiracial Asian/Pacific Islander White or Caucasian Other:

Education History - check all completed

- Some High School above High School/GED Two-year College Some College Four-year college or above

 Other _____

Parent/Guardian/Caretaker 2

Full Name: _____ **Relationship to Student:** _____

Does the child live with this person? Yes No

Home Address: _____

Number and Street

Apt #

City

State

Zip Code

Phone (circle preferred): _____

Home

Cell

Work

Email: _____ **Employer(s):** _____

Ethnic Background - check all that apply

- Black or African-American
 Hispanic or Latino
 American Indian
 Multiracial
 Asian/Pacific Islander
 White or Caucasian
 Other: _____

Education History - check all completed

- Some High School
 High School/GED
 Two-year College
 Four-year college or above
 Other _____

Does your child qualify for free or reduced lunch? Free Reduced Neither

Will your child (parents and children included) be the first person to obtain a 4-year college degree in your family?
Yes No

If no, what college did you and/or their sibling(s) attend?

If yes, and the child has siblings, did their siblings graduate from high school? Yes No

Does your child have any siblings or household members who participate in Student U? Yes No
Having a sibling or family member in Student U does not guarantee admission to our program.

If so, list their name and grade:

Was your child born in the United States? Yes No

If no, where was your child born? _____

**The purpose of the information requested is to enable our high school staff to effectively serve our students/families during high school and in the college advising process.*



For your teacher!
¡Para tu maestro!

Teacher Recommendation Recomendación de Maestros

A teacher recommendation is required with every application. Please follow the QR code to complete the request by December 4th. Applications will be considered complete once a teacher recommendation is submitted.

Se requiere una recomendación del maestro con cada solicitud. Siga el código QR para completar la solicitud antes del 4 de diciembre. Las solicitudes se considerarán completas una vez que se envíe la recomendación del maestro.



STUDENT 