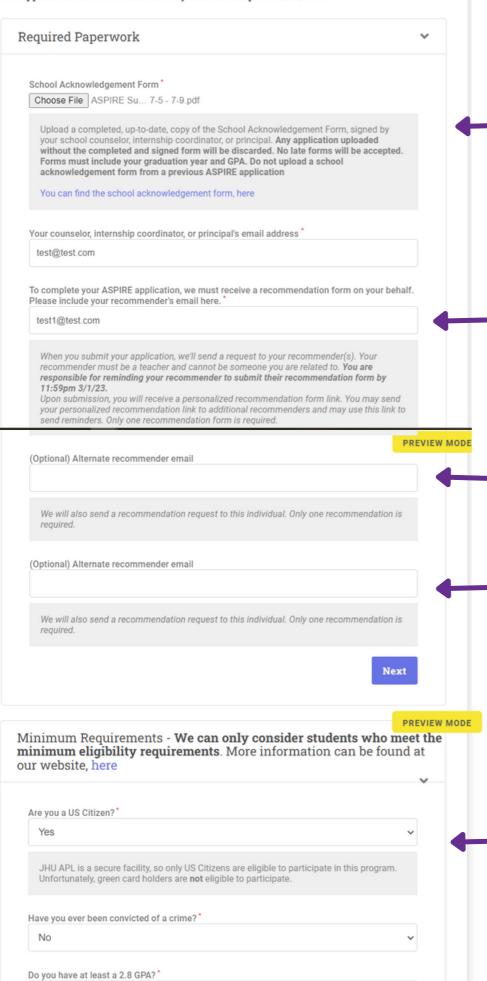
### ASPIRE 2024 Internship Application

PREVIEW MODE

Welcome to the 2024 ASPIRE Internship Application. Please gather all your required materials now. You will be required to upload a resume and a completed and signed school acknowledgement form. Incomplete applications, including those submitted with a completed and signed school acknowledgement form, will not be considered. No late forms will be accepted. You cannot save your progress once you begin.

The application form will automatically close at 11:59pm on 2/15/2024



Yes



# ASPIRE Application Tips and Tricks

Remember: Your application must be completed in one sitting. You can't save your progress.

Type your answers in Google Docs and then paste them in!

If your school acknowledgement form isn't completed, signed by your counselor, internship coordinator, or principal, and uploaded at the time of submission, we **will** disqualify your application. No exceptions. No email submissions.

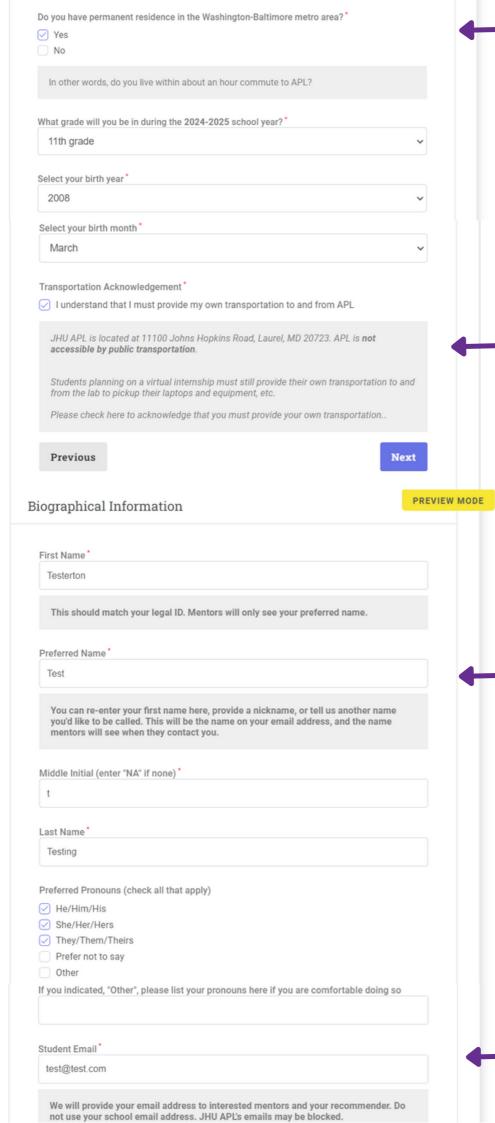
After you submit your application, we will send a personalized recommendation link to your recommender(s) on your behalf. You will also receive this link, and may forward it to additional recommenders. These are brief evaluations, not full blown letters of recommendation.

If we do not have at least one form for you a week before the deadline, we will send you an additional reminder via email.

It's up to you to remind your recommender to submit on time.

We suggest listing alternate recommenders in case your primary recommender does not submit on time, or is not available.

APL is a Department of Defense (DoD) cleared facility. For this reason, ASPIRE cannot admit students who are green card holders or permanent residents. Check out our STEM Academy program instead!



We are asking if you live nearby.
Does it take you an hour-ish or less
to get to the lab? Great! Then you
live in the Washington-Baltimore
metro area. If it takes you a really
long time to drive to APL, then you're
probably outside the WashingtonBaltimore metro area.

## Note, we are not located in Baltimore!

Even if you're planning on interning virtually, you'll still need to come to APL in-person at least once for onboarding. We do not do any remote onboarding. We are not accessible by public transit.

Do you prefer to go by a name other than your first name? You can list it here. This is will be your name on all APL documents, etc.

If you prefer to go by your legal first name, just type it here again.

Use an email you're going to check often! We're going to send you lots of emails.

**Do not use your school email**. It may block senders from outside the school.

1234567890	
Parent's email (if student is under 18)	
testparent@test.com	
School District (County)	
Howard County	~
School Name	
Test Academy	
Select "internship" from the dropdown.	
Internship	*
Previous	xt
udent Interest	PREVIEW MO
What kind of internship are you interested in? Please select ONE option.*	
In-person	Ĭ
You will be considered for opportunities that match your preference. In-person means up to one day per week of intern-from-home flexibility.	
at is your primary area of interest? *	
Computer Science	~
at is your secondary area of interest? *	

Why did you choose this area(s) of interest? What do you want to learn at APL? (250 words recommended)

I firmly believe that computer science and engineering are the tools to make the future brighter, better, and more accessible. I chose these areas of study because I am fascinated by their versatility and nuance. I've been dabbling in programming since middle school and am intrigued by how many different fields can utilize computer science, from finance, to healthcare, to cybersecurity, to general tech and beyond. As a creative person and avid gamer, I'm particularly interested in investigating programming in conjunction with game design and virtual reality, though I'm equally as interested in exploring cybersecurity and other computer science applications.

My second area of interest, engineering, is also near and dear to my heart. While I've taken a number of engineering classes in school, I've never been able to use my engineering skills in the real world. I am interested in exploring a hands-on engineering project that will allow me to think critically and work collaboratively with other engineers. For example, I would really enjoy a project related to solving global issues, such as addressing the COVID-19 pandemic. I would also learn a lot from seeing how a real team of engineers works through difficult problems collaboratively.

Tell us about a project you were proud of (250 words recommended)

One of my proudest accomplishments was winning my school's trivia bowl last year. I had been training with a group of friends for month. Several times a week after school, we would get together and study. Our study materials were varied and, honestly, a little eccentric. Sometimes we studied trivia books, sometimes we went through quizzes online or played Trivial Pursuit, and sometimes we watched Jeopardy reruns. We studied geography in particular, trying to memorize the names of rivers and lakes in Europe and Asia. We noticed Jeopardy contestants getting stumped on these questions pretty often.

Finally, the day of the competition came. I looked around my room at all of the flashcards and trivia facts on sticky notes and knew that I was ready. The competition was held in three rounds—one group round and two individual rounds--with questions becoming progressively more difficult each round. My group made it through the first round with no problem. During the second round, however, half my study group was eliminated on a

You can choose to intern virtually (all intern work from home) **or** inperson at APL. If you're inperson at APL, you have up to one day per week of interning from home.

If you select "virtual," we're going to try and pair you with mentors who also want a virtual student; if you select "in-person," we'll try and pair you with a mentor who want to work with a student in-person. In both cases, students have to achieve a minimum of 190 hours of internship time over the summer.

ASPIRE is a serious time commitment. Please check your schedule to make sure it's compatible with ASPIRE before applying!

You cannot change your preference after you submit your application.

Go with your gut on these! Choose what looks fun to you and don't overthink it. We do not know how many placements we'll have in each category when you apply, so just go for what sounds fun. Just know that your first choice area of interest is weighted much more heavily than your second choice.

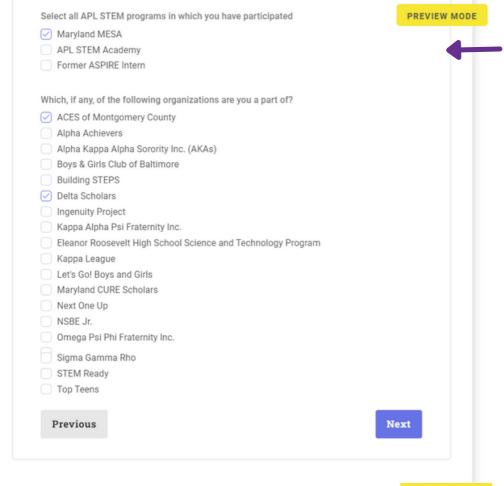
Note that we don't have any medical placements. We may rarely have placements that are healthcare adjacent (i.e., COVID-19 reserach).

We have very few, if any, placements in biology and chemistry at all.

Your essays don't need to be long or overly-formal. Mostly, mentors read these essays to get to know you better before they decide to interview you. Feel free to show some personality and don't be afraid to be yourself. Please do make sure to check your spelling and grammar before you submit, though.

pai fin	restion about manufacturing practices in the Midwest. There were only six peopreticipating in the final round. By the last question, there were only three of usual question was about the Mekong River in Southeast Asia—and I knew the acturns out, I was the only one who knew the answer.	left. The
Ne	ext, I plan on winning Jeopardy.	* // // // // // // // // // // // // //
	ols project does not have to be STEM-related! Just tell us about something you're proud of yours, something cool you did, etc	a passion
Stud	dent Skills and Experience	VIEW MODE
Ple	ease list your GPA *	
	3.2	Make sure this is unweighted. An
L	List your unweighted GPA, if possible. Note: This information will not be visible to our mentors. If your school doesn't give GPAs, just put "N/A"	unweighted GPA is always a 4.0 or below. Also, our mentors can't see your GPA when they're looking at applications. Your GPA just needs to
0.1		be a 2.8 to apply.
	lect any of the following common math classes you've taken in high school	
_	Algebra 1	
_	Algebra 2 Geometry	
_	Trignometry	
	Pre-Calculus	
	Calculus	The next few fields include the most
	Research Statistics	common STEM classes we see in our
	Linear Algebra	applicantsmeaning that most
	AP Calculus AB	applicants have taken at least one
	AP Calculus BC	of these classes! Choose anything
	AP Statistics	that is applicable to you. If you don't
	Other	see a class listed here that you want
	None	to mention, you can type it in, below.
,	NOT need to indicate if a class if honors-level or G/T. If your classes vary slightly (i.e., Algebra II IB instead of Algebra II), you may choose the closest match.  lect any of the following common STEM classes you've taken in high school	We are not concerned with whether or not the class is honors-level, or a GT or IB class. We would like to know if it's an AP class, though.
	Advanced Data Structures	know ii ii s dii Ai Class, iilougii.
	Advanced Design Applications	
	Advanced Object Oriented Design	
	Advanced Physical Science	
	Advanced Technology Applications	
	Aerospace Engineering	
	Anatomy and Physiology	
	Astronomy Biology - AP	
	Biology	
	Chemistry – AP	
$\overline{\square}$	Chemistry	
	Computer Programming 3-Advanced Topics in Computer Science	
	Computer Programming	
	Computer Science A - AP	
	Computer Science Java – AP	
	Computer Science Principals - AP	
	Cybersecurity and Computer Networking 1	
	Cybersecurity and Computer Networking 2	
	Environmental Science - AP	
	Environmental Science	
	Forensic Science	
$\checkmark$	Foundation of Technology	
	Foundations of Computer Science	
	Foundations of Technology	
	Introduction to Engineering Design	
	Marine Science	
	Physics 1 - AP	
	Physics 2 - AP	
	Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism - AP	
	Physics C: Machanics AD	

Physics	
Principals of Java Programming	
Web Tools and Digital Media	PREVIEW MODE
Website Development	PREVIEW MODE
Other	
None	
These are only the most common STEM classes; this is not an exhaustive list. You do NOT need to indicate if a class if honors-level or G/T (though please indicate if it's an class). If your classes vary slightly (i.e., Algebra II IB instead of Algebra II), you may choose the closest match.	AP
Select any programming languages or software with which you have experience.	
Python	
MATLAB	
Java	These are the most common
Javascript	programming languages that
C++	our mentors are looking for. If
Unity	you know one, great, please tell
✓ AutoCAD	us! If not, no worries. ASPIRE
Microsoft Excel or Google Sheets	students are not required to
R	have programming knowledge
_ C#	to apply.
□ css	
SQL	
Fusion360	
Other	
None	
	Want to tell us about other STEM classes you've taken? Are there more programming languages you know? Put them here!
These may include classes you've taken in school but weren't listed here, classes outside of school (such as APL STEM Academy classes), etc.	EVIEW MODE
Of the following professional skills, which do you think are your strongest? Please choo to THREE skills.	se up
Active listening	Professional skills are just as
Collaboration/teamwork	important as STEM skills.
Communication	importani da atem akina.
Confidence Creativity	We want you to do some self-
Critical thinking	reflection and choose your top three skills from the list on the
Following instructions	
Independence	left. There are no wrong
Leadership	answers!
Learning new concepts quickly	
Networking	
Organization	
Problem solving	
✓ Public speaking  Time management	
Willingness to learn	
Work ethic	
Share your most important leadership experiences, extracurricular activities, or and/or hobbles	
	Telling mentors about your hobbies
	and extracurricular activities helps them get to know you better. Feel free to showcase your personality.
These may include things like being leader of a school club or society, service opportunities, other professional experiences, such as being a shift lead or keyholder, o	



Make sure to check here if you've ever participated in Maryland MESA or APL STEM Academy.

If you are a former/current ASPIRE intern and want to stay with your former/current mentor, you need to fill out a continuation form, not an application. Email ASPIRE@jhuapl.edu for more info.

Did any of your parents/guardians receive a four-year college degree?

No

We are curious if you are the first person in your family planning to go to college!

Do you speak any languages other than English? If so, which one(s)?

Are you eligible for free or reduced cost meals at school (FARMS)?

Yes

In general, when faced with a difficult task, do you prefer to wait for instructions, or try on your own (even though you may fail)?

Try it on my own

This is not a trick a question. We're just curious about your style!

In general, would you prefer to work with just your mentor, or part of a small group of students/mentors?

Working as part of a small group

Self-Evaluation (Please note that all questions in this section are

All of the fields in this section are optional. They're just ways for the mentors to get to know you better. If you aren't comfortable filling out any of these fields, or don't think they're valuable, you can leave them blank.







- Make sure your recommender submits your recommendation
- Check your emails frequently. If we have a question, we'll email you
- You likely will not hear back form a mentor until the end of
- Check our website frequently for updates
- Email ASPIRE@jhuapl.edu with any questions

#### Good luck!