



Heart of Appalachia Talent Search (HATS) Program

The HATS Program is a federally funded TRIO Program that provides academic support to students in Mason and Wayne County middle and high schools. Partnering with each school, HATS staff members are committed to helping students reach their full potential by connecting them with the resources needed to successfully transition into a technical school, community college, or university.

What services will I receive as a member of HATS?

- Career Exploration
- College Readiness
- Financial Aid Counseling
- ACT/SAT Prep
- Cultural Enrichment
- Improving Study Skills
- College Campus Visits
- STEAM Activities
- Tutoring Connections
- Leadership Opportunities

Who can apply?

Any middle or high school student attending school in Mason or Wayne County is welcome to apply to be a part of the HATS Program. However, priority is given to students whose parents have not completed a four-year college degree or whose family income meets certain federal guidelines. All students must demonstrate that they want to be an active member of the program and can benefit from the services that are offered.

How can I apply?

1. Complete the entire HATS Application
2. If you have questions, contact the HATS Office at 304-696-2941
3. Return the application to the HATS Advisor at your school, your counselor, or mail it to our office at:

Marshall University
Heart of Appalachia Talent Search Program
Gullickson Hall 210
One John Marshall Drive
Huntington, WV 25755-2195-104



#TRIOWORKS



HATS Program Application



The information that you provide will be kept confidential. Remember, if the application is not complete, it will prevent us from admitting the student into the HATS Program in a timely manner.

Student Information

Name (First, Middle, & Last): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Student Cell: _____ Parent Cell: _____

Student Email: _____ Parent Email: _____

Gender: Male Female Date of Birth: _____

U.S. Citizen: Yes No Social Security Number: _____-_____-_____

Ethnic Background: American Indian or Alaska Native Asian or Asian American
 Black or African American Hispanic or Latino
 Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander White, non-Hispanic/Latino
 Two or More Races

School: _____ Grade Level: _____ Student ID Number: _____

Residence Status: Lives with both parents Lives with one parent Living with a relative(s)
 Lives with parent & a stepparent Foster Student
 Other: _____

Parental Marital Status: Married Separated Divorced Widowed Never Married

Parent/Guardian One Information

Name (First, Middle, & Last): _____ Relation: _____

Living in the home with the student? Yes No Complete a four-year college degree? Yes No

If so, what was their major: _____ College Attended: _____

Employment status: Employed Unemployed Permanently Disabled Temporarily Disabled

If employed, place of employment: _____ Contact Number: _____

Parent/Guardian Two Information

Name (First, Middle, & Last): _____ Relation: _____

Living in the home with the student? Yes No Complete a four-year college degree? Yes No

If so, what was their major: _____ College Attended: _____

Employment status: Employed Unemployed Permanently Disabled Temporarily Disabled

If employed, place of employment: _____ Contact Number: _____



Household Information



How many people currently live in your home (including yourself)? _____

Did you file an income tax return last year? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, what was your TAXABLE income for last year? _____ (Line 15)

If you did not file an income tax return, what was your source of family income for last year?

___ Unemployment Income ___ Social Security Income ___ SSI Income ___ Public Assistance

___ Other (please indicate source): _____

Student Evaluation (to be completed by student)

How did you find out about the HATS Program? _____

What grades do you usually earn in school? _____ Are you satisfied with your grades? ___ Yes ___ No

Have you had to repeat a grade in school? ___ Yes ___ No If yes, which grade? _____

What do you plan to do after High School? ___ 4-year College/University ___ 2-Year College ___ Military
___ Technical/Vocational School ___ Undecided

What career are you interested in when you finish high school? _____

I would like help with (check all that apply):

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ___ Improving Study Habits | ___ Improving Time Management | ___ Tutoring |
| ___ Learning About Career Options | ___ Visiting College Campuses | ___ Applying for College |
| ___ Developing Test-Taking Skills | ___ Taking ACT/SAT Test | ___ Paying for College |
| ___ Building Leadership Skills | ___ Gaining more Self-Confidence | ___ Taking College Classes |

Parent/Guardian and Participant Agreement

The signatures below approve and acknowledge the following:

- The release of any school, college, or university records to the HATS Program with the understanding that these records are held confidential in accordance with state and federal laws.
- My cooperation with HATS staff and encouragement of my child to abide by the rules of the program participation which includes:
 - Attending HATS meetings during the school day (more than two unexcused absences may result in dismissal from the program).
 - Demonstrating respectful behavior and a positive attitude when participating in HATS activities and events.
 - Notifying the HATS Program at least 48 Hours in advance if canceling attendance in a program workshop, trip, or overnight event.
- The right to photograph or film the student during HATS activities and use their likeness in HATS materials and media releases.
- To my knowledge, the information provided in this application is true, correct, and complete.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____



Academic Record Release



(Due to federal reporting requirements, we must have access to this information for your child to participate in our program.)

I hereby authorize the release of the student records indicated below to the Marshall University Heart of Appalachia Talent Search (HATS) Program for the student listed below. This information will be used to assist with improving academic performance as well as to monitor long-term post-secondary enrollment and success.

1. Records contained within the WVEIS data system including:

- Student ID Number
- Attendance Record
- Verification of Grade Level
- Class Schedule
- Grade Reports
- Student Standardized Achievement Test Scores
- Transcripts

2. Records related to college application status and college enrollment as provided by post-secondary institutions and/or the National Student Clearinghouse database.

3. Records related to FAFSA Completion and Verification Status as per agreement with the WV Higher Education Policy Commission and/or post-secondary institution where the student may apply/attend.

4. ACT/SAT test scores obtained using the HATS School Code for exam fee waivers.

The release will be in effect through the student's completion of high school and for six years following their graduation to allow for annual follow-up of HATS participants as is required by the U.S. Department of Education regulations to evaluate the HATS Program. I understand that this information will be held in compliance with the Family Education Right to Privacy Act (FERPA) and other applicable federal and state laws. Student records will only be accessible to the appropriate HATS Program staff members and the U.S. Department of Education officials who monitor the HATS Program grant for compliance. All records will be safely secured as outlined by federal law.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____



Professional Recommendation Form



Student: Please have a teacher, counselor, or community member complete this form. Your application will not be processed until we have received your recommendation.

Teacher/Counselor/Community Member: This student is applying to participate in the Heart of Appalachia Talent Search (HATS) Program at Marshall University. HATS is designed to help students who have academic potential succeed in high school and enter a post-secondary institution. Your responses will assist program staff with processing the student's application and matching them to services that best meet their academic needs.

Options for Returning the Form:

1. Return the recommendation to the student.
2. Give the recommendation to a HATS College Access Advisor.
3. Mail to the program at the following address:

Marshall University
 Heart of Appalachia Talent Search Program
 Gullickson Hall 210
 One John Marshall Drive
 Huntington, WV 25755-2195-104

Student's Name: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____

Please mark the student's areas of need: (check all that apply)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Academic Improvement	<input type="checkbox"/> Study Skills	<input type="checkbox"/> Time Management	<input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Skills	
<input type="checkbox"/> Career Counseling	<input type="checkbox"/> College Exploration	<input type="checkbox"/> Choosing a college	<input type="checkbox"/> Test-Taking Skills	
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Aid Counseling	<input type="checkbox"/> College Admissions	<input type="checkbox"/> ACT/SAT Prep	<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Enrichment	
<input type="checkbox"/> Motivation	<input type="checkbox"/> Goal Setting	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-Esteem	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Skills	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tutoring (list subjects): _____				
Please mark the student's performance:				
School Attendance	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Academic Performance	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Behavior Record	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor

Describe any additional personal or academic barriers that may prevent this student from succeeding academically and how HATS could benefit them:

Signature: _____ Title: _____ Date: _____