



MCKINLEY ACADEMY

ACCELERATING FUTURES

APPLICATION

***Current 8th Grade Applications due April 13, 2018**

***Current 9th, 10th, & 11th Grade Applications due February 22, 2018**

All Information must be received by 5:00 PM on date specified

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Students,

Enrollment in McKinley Academy is a personal commitment to your future. The rigorous academic focus of this program will require a dedication of your time and effort in order to be successful. It is extremely important to evaluate your personal commitment to academic success before you decide to apply.

We want you to be successful, and we want to make sure you are prepared to handle the high expectations of McKinley Academy. Please meet with your parents, academic advisors and other mentors to discuss the following questions:

- Do I look for more opportunities to challenge myself?
- Do I think about and/or have already set goals to attend college?
- Can I be mature in adult settings?
- Do I enjoy reading and/or do I read well?
- Am I self-motivated in school?
- Do I set aside time in my day to study for my classes?
- Are you prepared to attend all classes with few absences?

If you answered yes to several or all of these questions, we believe McKinley Academy may be an exciting opportunity for you.

Sincerely,

Mike Hyatt
Gallup-McKinley County Schools - Superintendent

McKinley Academy Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **Who is eligible?**
 - McKinley Academy will be open to High School students.
- **What if my child does not attend GMCS, can they still apply?**
 - Yes, all students are welcome to apply.
- **Do I have to apply to McKinley Academy?**
 - Yes, all students will go through an application process and interview. All information regarding this process will be published on the GMCS website.
- **Is a college environment for me?**
 - That is a question each student and parent will need to ask themselves. McKinley Academy is academically challenging and will condense 6 years of school into 4 years.
- **Will parents be required to pay tuition?**
 - No, the payment for tuition, books and technology will be handled through Gallup-McKinley County Schools.
- **I live outside of Gallup; will this program be available for me?**
 - Yes, transportation *will be* made available for all McKinley Academy students in county areas.
- **Will I graduate from “McKinley Academy”?**
 - The Associate’s Degree will be awarded by the University. Your High School Diploma will be awarded by the high school you are enrolled in (i.e., Crownpoint, Gallup, Gallup Central, Miyamura, Ramah, Navajo, Thoreau, Tohatchi, Tse Yi Gai).
- **Can I still participate in Afterschool Activities?**
 - Academic achievement will be the primary focus of McKinley Academy. However, you may still be able to participate in some of these activities at your enrolled High School.
- **What are the benefits of receiving an Associate’s Degree and my High School Diploma?**
 - Students who are able to receive an Associate’s Degree reduce the financial costs of college, choose to enter the workforce with higher credentials or may even choose to enter the military with higher incentives and pay.
- **How can I get more information?**
 - We are very excited that you are interested in McKinley Academy. Please visit the GMCS Homepage and Facebook page for additional information.

Part 1: Applicant Information

Student Name: _____
Last First M.I.

Date of Birth: _____ Grade Level for 18/19 _____
Month / Day / Year (i.e. 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, etc...)

Parent/Guardian Name: _____
Last First M.I.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____
Last First M.I.

Parent/Guardian phone number: () _____

Parent/Guardian phone number: () _____

Parent/Guardian e-mail address: _____

Parent/Guardian e-mail address: _____

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Part 2: Student Letter of Interest

Participating in McKinley Academy is a personal commitment to your future and your education. The rigorous academic focus of this program will require a dedication of your time and effort in order to be successful. As part of your application, please write or type a letter of interest to the McKinley Academy Committee explaining why McKinley Academy is the right program for you. At minimum, please address the following points in a letter attached to this application.

- What are your future education and career goals?
- How prepared are you to handle the challenging environment of high expectations at McKinley Academy (taking both advanced high school classes and college classes)?

Part 3: Parent/Guardian Letter of Support

McKinley Academy is academically challenging and will condense six years of school into four years. Participating in McKinley Academy will require students to give a personal commitment and have self-motivation to complete the anticipated academic requirements. Your student will also need your support. Please write or type a separate Letter of Support to the McKinley Academy committee addressing the following areas and attach the letter to this application.

- Why do you feel your child is ready for a challenging program of study such as McKinley Academy?
- How will you and your family support your student in this program of study?
- What are your goals for your student for their future education and career?

Part 4: Letters of Recommendation

Students will need to get two additional letters of recommendation to be attached to the application. At least one of these letters must come from a teacher who taught you with in the last year. The second letter can come from a teacher, mentor, community members or other non-family related individual (home schooled students will submit two of these letters in lieu of letter from teacher). Please have these individuals include the following information:

- State Name, Address, Phone & Sign the letter
- Please state your relationship to the student and number of years you have known the student
- Description of the student's work ethic
- Describe the student's potential to meet high expectations
- Provide an evaluation of this student's skills and accomplishments

Part 5: How to Submit Application

1. _____ Make sure all parts of the application are completed
2. _____ Make a copy of the completed application for your records
3. _____ Submit completed Applicant Information Form (Part 1) and all letters (Part 2-4)

Three Options are available for Application Packet submittal:

1) Mail: GMCS - McKinley Academy
Attn: Alan Bingham
640 Boardman Drive
Gallup, NM 87301

2) Email: abingham@gmcs.k12.nm.us

3) Walk-in: Hand deliver to GMCS Central Office at 640 Boardman Ave.

4. You will receive a letter of acknowledgement within 10 business days of application delivery. If you do not receive a reply within 10 business days please contact Alan Bingham by phone at 505-721-1123 or by email at abingham@gmcs.k12.nm.us. Successful applicants will be contacted to schedule an in-person interview for the parent(s)/guardian(s) and the student.