

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Criteria for Admission to the Class of 2014

In order to be eligible for admission to The Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science, an applicant must:

- Be a resident of Mississippi
- Be a current high school 10th grader
- Have earned a minimum of 12 Carnegie units of study by completion of the 10th grade
- Have a record of school performance that is superior in mathematics and science (overall average of 90 or higher) and above average in everything else
- Submit an ACT score (composite score of 20 or higher is recommended)
- Complete and submit this application \*

To enroll at MSMS, the student must have completed *prior* to August 1, 2012:

- Two Units of English
- Two Units of Math - Geometry and Algebra I required, Algebra II recommended
- Two Units of Science - Biology I required, Chemistry recommended
- Two Units of Social Studies - Mississippi Studies, World Geography, and World History recommended.

If possible, it is also recommended that the student complete the following courses at his/her home school prior to enrolling at MSMS.

- One Unit of Technology - Computer Discovery, STEM, or 1/2 Unit of Keyboarding and 1/2 Unit of Computer Applications
- 1/2 Unit of Health
- 1/2 Unit of Physical Education

**\*Different criteria exist for homeschooled students. Please visit [www.themsms.org/homeschool](http://www.themsms.org/homeschool) for details, or contact the admissions department for the homeschool supplement.**

*For detailed application instructions, including FAQ's, videos, and examples, visit the MSMS website at <http://www.themsms.org/msmsfaq>.*

***If you have any questions or concerns regarding the above mentioned criteria contact the MSMS Admissions Department at 1-800-553-6459 or at [admissions@msms.k12.ms.us](mailto:admissions@msms.k12.ms.us)***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Application Checklist

- Applicant Information and Release**  
*Check this box if the form has been filled out and submitted to MSMS Admissions.*
- School Information**  
*Check this box if the form has been completed to MSMS Admissions.*
- Resume**  
*Check this box if your resume has been completed and submitted to MSMS Admissions.*
- Work Sample**  
*Check this box if your Work Sample has been completed and submitted to MSMS Admissions.*
- Essays**  
*Check this box if BOTH essays have been written and submitted to MSMS Admissions.*
- ACT Score**  
*Check this box after you have submitted your ACT score to MSMS Admissions. If you have not taken the ACT, begin the process of signing up for the test. Although there is no minimum score, a 20 or higher is recommended. For more information about ACT visit [www.themsms.org/ACTinfo](http://www.themsms.org/ACTinfo)*
- Proofs of Residency**  
*Check this box after you have sent your two proofs of residency to MSMS Admissions.*
- Counselor's Recommendation**  
*Check this box when your counselor verifies that the counselor recommendation form has been completed and submitted to MSMS Admissions. **(Your counselor must also submit a copy of your discipline and attendance report, a copy of your official transcript that includes 1<sup>st</sup> semester 10<sup>th</sup> grade courses, and a copy of your second semester schedule.)***
- Math Teacher's Recommendation**  
*Check this box when your teacher verifies that the Math Teacher Recommendation has been completed and submitted to MSMS Admissions.*
- Science Teacher's Recommendation**  
*Check this box when your teacher verifies that the Science Teacher Recommendation has been completed and submitted to MSMS Admissions.*
- Additional Teacher's Recommendation**  
*Check this box your teacher verifies that the Additional Teacher Recommendation has been completed and submitted to MSMS Admissions.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## APPLICANT INFORMATION

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment/Unit Number: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Father's Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Legal Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Guardian's Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Mississippi Resident?  Yes  No

Are you a U.S. Citizen?  Yes  No

Gender:  Male  Female

Race or Ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_

Current School: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ School Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ School Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal: \_\_\_\_\_ Counselor: \_\_\_\_\_

This is a  Public School  Private School  Parochial School  Home School

**By signing below, I/we attest to the following:**

- I certify that all information given within this application is true and accurate.
- If accepted for admission to MSMS, I agree to adhere to the rules and regulations now in existence and those that may be established in the future.
- I agree to permit information in, or relating to, this application to be used for approved MSMS research purposes.
- I hereby request that all school data in support of my application to the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science be at the disposal of MSMS officials. I understand that the purpose of the recommendations being placed in this applicant's file is to assist in making admission decisions; and pursuant to the Family Education and Privacy Act of 1974, we, the undersigned student and parent, waive access to confidential recommendations.
- I declare my legal residence to be that given above. I understand that this application will not be reviewed until this form is completed and signed by the parent or guardian. I understand that a student admitted under false information is not legally enrolled and subject to penalty.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please enclose your two proofs of residence with this page.**

Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science - 1100 College Street, MUW-1627 Columbus, MS 39701 – Tel: 800-553-6459

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You can find MSMS on Facebook and follow the school at [twitter.com/the\\_msms](https://twitter.com/the_msms)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## School Information

In the space provided, list all courses for which you have received high school credit in the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades, as well as all courses you are taking or will take your 10th grade year. Indicate courses which are listed as honors, AP or advanced. DO NOT list the grades you made in these courses on this page.

**Eighth Grade School Attended:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Eighth Grade Courses:**

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**Ninth Grade School Attended:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ninth Grade Courses:**

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**Tenth Grade School Attended/Attending:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Tenth Grade Courses:**

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Resumé and Personal Narrative

*Prepare and attach a resume of accomplishments, not to exceed two pages in length, providing information about awards, certifications, projects, other recognition you have received, leadership experiences, extracurricular activities, and/or community involvement and describing your special interests, talents, and/or hobbies. Headings should include Mathematics and Science Awards/Recognition, Other Academic Awards/Recognition, Leadership/Extracurricular Activities, and Special Interests/Hobbies. **Do not use a font smaller than 12 pt. or include specific information about ACT test scores or grade averages or attach any other documentation.** For more information about the Resumé and Personal Narrative, visit [www.themsms.org/resume](http://www.themsms.org/resume).*

**Personal Narrative.** Use the space below to provide a personal narrative explaining why you think you are the kind of student MSMS desires. In drafting your statement, consider the following questions. What sort of person are you? What things are most important to you and why? What led you to MSMS? Do you feel you have difficulty being away from home? Are you prepared to be in more difficult classes and have more homework than you are probably accustomed to? Have you had any experience living away from home with your peer group? Is there anything else you feel the selection committees should know about you? Use only the space provided; do NOT attach additional pages.

### Where did you first learn about MSMS?

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Website            | <input type="checkbox"/> MSMS representative visit to your school | <input type="checkbox"/> School counselor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Super Night        | <input type="checkbox"/> MSMS representative visit to summer camp | <input type="checkbox"/> Summer program   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Field trip to MSMS | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend/Family member                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other            |

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## Work Sample

As part of your application for admission, you must submit an example of original work which expresses your academic and creative abilities. Although the work sample does not, necessarily, have to be a math or science project, it should INVOLVE math or science principles. It must be original, not copied, and work which you did, yourself. The work sample may take a variety of forms; however, since the project is designed to be a reflection of the extraordinary work you are capable of performing, you should give considerable thought to this aspect of the application. We will not return work samples. For examples of work samples and more information visit [www.themsms.org/worksamplefaq](http://www.themsms.org/worksamplefaq). **Note: Any evidence of plagiarism will be grounds for automatic removal of an application from consideration.**

## Narrative/Justification

*In the space below, please explain why you chose this particular topic and why you believe it demonstrates that you should be accepted. If a math or science connection is not clearly evident, please explain how your topic relates to those fields. Discuss any special preparations you made, and briefly outline the steps involved in completing your project. **A narrative is required for ALL work samples, regardless of topic.***

## Additional Application Requirements

### Essays

On separate sheets of paper, please respond to BOTH prompts listed below. Essays must be between 500 and 750 words, and double spaced in a 12-point font comparable to Times New Roman or Arial. Both essays must be typed and may be submitted via regular mail, fax or electronically. For electronic submission, the only acceptable file formats are .docx, .doc, .wpd, .txt, .sxw, or .pdf. If you use a word processor that does not save files in one of these formats, you may not submit the file electronically. For more information about the essays, visit <http://www.themsms.org/essays>.

***Note: Any evidence of plagiarism will be grounds for automatic removal of an application from consideration.***

- 1. The four MSMS Ideals are scholarship, service, community, and creativity. Explain what these terms mean to you. Select the two attributes with which you most strongly identify, and explain how you embody them.**
- 2. What makes you unique, and how would that uniqueness enable you to be a special part of the MSMS Class of 2014?**

All students invited to Interview Day will write a third essay as part of their onsite assessments.

### ACT Score

Part of your application to MSMS is the submission of an ACT score. The strongest candidates will have a composite score of 20 or higher; however, there is no minimum score required. To be eligible for priority consideration, students must submit complete applications AND an ACT score prior to the February 21<sup>st</sup> application deadline. Students who do not submit ACT scores until after the regular deadline will not be reviewed until the first round of students has been selected. While there is no minimum score for admission, we encourage you to take the ACT multiple times and get the highest score possible. For more ACT information, visit <http://www.themsms.org/ACTinfo>.

If you would like to send your scores directly to MSMS, our school code is 251-409.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Additional Application Requirements (Continued)

### Proofs of Legal Residence

*In cases where the guardian is NOT a parent, the custody order for guardianship described under Additional Requirement 2 (below) must be provided in. Guardians must assume financial responsibility for the student. Guardianship solely for school purposes is NOT sufficient.*

To establish proof of Mississippi residency, applicants must provide photocopies of a minimum of two (2) of the documents listed below; at least one must show a physical address/location. These can be mailed, faxed, or emailed to the address/fax number listed below.

**Filed Homestead Exemption application form**  
**Mortgage documents or property deeds**  
**Apartment or home lease**  
**Utility bills**

**Parent's driver's license**  
**Voter precinct identification**  
**Automobile Registration**  
**Mississippi State Resident Income Tax Form**

Additional Requirements:

1. Students living with a legal guardian under a Court Decree must provide a copy of the Court Decree or Legal Custody Agreement.
2. Students whose parents are in the military and declare Mississippi as their legal residency must submit a Military Power of Attorney if they are not currently living in the state of Mississippi.

**Applications are NOT complete without these proofs of residence.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Counselor's Recommendation and Transcript Request

*Students, give this form and a stamped envelope to your counselor. Counselor, please complete this form and return it by mail or fax, using the information at the bottom of this page **no later than Friday, February 17, 2012**. We will also need a transcript for the student's 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> grades showing ACT scores and first semester 10th grade grades, a listing of second semester 10<sup>th</sup> grade courses, and a copy of the student's discipline and attendance report. The student and parent have already signed a release authorizing you to share official records with MSMS and waiving access to this confidential recommendation, pursuant to the Family Education and Privacy Act of 1974. A copy of this release is available upon request. For more, visit <http://www.themsms.org/recommendations>.*

Approximately how many students are in this student's class at your school? \_\_\_\_\_

On which type of schedule does your school currently operate?

- Traditional 6 Periods     
  Traditional 7 Periods     
  A/B Block     
  Other

Characterize the student's course of study using the choices below

- Basic     
  Fairly Demanding     
  Very Demanding     
  Most Rigorous Available Here

	Poor	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Superior	N/A
<b>Leadership Ability:</b> Takes advantage of opportunities to distinguish himself/herself.						
<b>Self-Confidence:</b> Has faith in his/her own abilities.						
<b>Desire to Achieve:</b> Accomplishes high-level goals.						
<b>Motivation:</b> Is internally motivated to succeed.						
<b>Maturity:</b> Shows emotional maturity and good judgement.						
<b>Acceptance of Others:</b> Relates well to peers and teachers.						

Please respond to the following narrative questions regarding this student:

1. Has this student been subject to school disciplinary action for anything other than **minor** infractions?  Yes  No

**If yes, please explain.**

2. Has this student had any unexcused absences from school in the past 2 years?  Yes  No

**If yes, please explain.**

**Note: This form is CONTINUED on the reverse.**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you have any reason to question this applicant's academic or personal integrity?  Yes  No  
**If yes please explain.**

4. Do you think this candidate's grades are a valid reflection of his/her academic abilities?  Yes  No  
**Please explain.**

5. Based upon your knowledge of this student, do you feel he or she would be successful in our program, both in the residential and academic settings?  Yes  No  
**Please explain.**

6. In what ways would you distinguish the student's academic performance from other able students?  
How would you characterize this student's level of intellectual curiosity and understanding?

7. Please describe any other attributes of this student which you believe should be considered.

Overall, I recommend this student:  Confidently  Hesitantly  Do Not Recommend

Counselor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor's Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone \_\_\_\_\_ School Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Math Teacher's Recommendation

*Students, give this form and a stamped envelope to a mathematics teacher who has taught you within the past three years. Teachers, please complete this form and return it by mail or fax **no later than Friday, February 17, 2012**, using the information at the bottom of this page. Pursuant to the Family Education and Privacy Act of 1974, the student and parent have signed a release waiving access to this confidential recommendation. For more, visit <http://www.themsms.org/recommendations>.*

	Below Poor	Average	Average	Above Average	Superior	N/A
<b>Capacity for learning:</b> Learns quickly, easily, and thoroughly.						
<b>Inquisitive:</b> Looks beyond what is readily apparent; has a questioning attitude and needs to know why as well as what.						
<b>Analytical/divergent thinker:</b> Has the ability to reason; willingly explores the unknown with, or without, teacher supervision.						
<b>Self-starter:</b> Highly motivated, independent worker; self-directed; pursues individual interests; accomplishes high-level goals.						
<b>Persistent:</b> Stays with task; implements goals and objectives.						
<b>Adaptability:</b> Easily adapts to new places, situations and ideas.						
<b>Maturity:</b> Shows emotional maturity and good judgment.						
<b>Acceptance of Others:</b> Relates well to peers and teachers.						

**Please respond to the following questions regarding the student:**

1. How long have you known this student and in what capacity?

2. Do you have any reason to question this applicant's academic or personal integrity?  Yes  No  
**If yes, please explain.**

3. Do you think this candidate's grades are a valid reflection of his/her academic abilities?  Yes  No  
**Please explain.**

4. Do you feel this student would be successful at MSMS, considering both the residential and academic settings?  Yes  No  
**Please explain.**

**Note: This form is CONTINUED on the reverse.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, I recommend this student:  Confidently  Hesitantly  Do Not Recommend

**If you have reservations, please explain.**

*In the space below, please feel free to include anything you feel relevant that was not otherwise addressed. Is there anything else we should know about this student (e.g., personal circumstances, unusual accomplishments, obstacles overcome)? In what ways would you distinguish the student's academic performance from other able students? You may also write an additional letter of recommendation for the student, but this is not required.*

Teacher's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject Taught: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Science Teacher's Recommendation

*Students, give this form and a stamped envelope to a science teacher who has taught you within the past three years. Teachers, please complete this form and return it by mail or fax **no later than Friday, February 17, 2012**, using the information at the bottom of this page. Pursuant to the Family Education and Privacy Act of 1974, the student and parent have signed a release waiving access to this confidential recommendation. For more, visit <http://www.themsms.org/recommendations>.*

	Below Poor	Average	Average	Above Average	Superior	N/A
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<b>Maturity:</b> Shows emotional maturity and good judgment.						
<b>Acceptance of Others:</b> Relates well to peers and teachers.						

**Please respond to the following questions regarding the student:**

1. How long have you known this student and in what capacity?

2. Do you have any reason to question this applicant's academic or personal integrity?  Yes  No  
**If yes, please explain.**

3. Do you think this candidate's grades are a valid reflection of his/her academic abilities?  Yes  No  
**Please explain.**

4. Do you feel this student would be successful at MSMS, considering both the residential and academic settings?  Yes  No  
**Please explain.**

**Note: This form is CONTINUED on the reverse.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, I recommend this student:  Confidently  Hesitantly  Do Not Recommend

**If you have reservations, please explain.**

*In the space below, please feel free to include anything you feel relevant that was not otherwise addressed. Is there anything else we should know about this student (e.g., personal circumstances, unusual accomplishments, obstacles overcome)? In what ways would you distinguish the student's academic performance from other able students? You may also write an additional letter of recommendation for the student, but this is not required.*

Teacher's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject Taught: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Additional Teacher's Recommendation

Students, give this form and a stamped envelope to a teacher of any subject who has taught you within the past three years. Teachers, please complete this form and return it by mail or fax **no later than Friday, February 17, 2012**, using the information at the bottom of this page. Pursuant to the Family Education and Privacy Act of 1974, the student and parent have signed a release waiving access to this confidential recommendation. For more, visit <http://www.themsms.org/recommendations>.

	Below Poor	Average	Average	Above Average	Superior	N/A
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**If yes, please explain.**

3. Do you think this candidate's grades are a valid reflection of his/her academic abilities?  Yes  No  
**Please explain.**

4. Do you feel this student would be successful at MSMS, considering both the residential and academic settings?  Yes  No  
**Please explain.**

**Note: This form is CONTINUED on the reverse.**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, I recommend this student:  Confidently  Hesitantly  Do Not Recommend

**If you have reservations, please explain.**

*In the space below, please feel free to include anything you feel relevant that was not otherwise addressed. Is there anything else we should know about this student (e.g., personal circumstances, unusual accomplishments, obstacles overcome)? In what ways would you distinguish the student's academic performance from other able students? You may also write an additional letter of recommendation for the student, but this is not required.*

Teacher's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject Taught: \_\_\_\_\_