

Summer 2018 Tinker-a-Thon Details

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Program Structure

Our three 2018 Tinker-a-Thon Program sessions meet on weekdays for one week, each: July 9-13, July 26-20, and July 23-27. Students may enroll in either morning half-day (9:00-11:40), afternoon half-day (12:20-3:00), or full-day (9:00-3:00).

During all sessions, activities, builds and creations are student led at work stations in a self-contained, student-centered classroom all morning and/or all afternoon. Tinker-a-Thon students do not choose classes; rather, they choose their projects from among the work stations in their classroom. These focus on art, science, technology, math and engineering.

Before beginning their afternoon sessions, students enrolled for the full day join their peers and instructors for lunch (see Lunch Options, below).

Extended Care

Organized, nurturing supervision by qualified staff is offered every morning between 7:30 and 9:00 and from 3:00 to 6:00 each afternoon. Pre-registration is not required.

Other Details

- **Application:** We recommend applying online at www.centerforgifted.org. There are no application deadlines. Enrollment for each session remains open until it begins. Beginning early 2018, paper applications can be downloadable from our website or requested, and mailed to The Center for Gifted, Box 364, Wilmette, IL 60091; faxed to 847-901-0179; emailed to info@centerforgifted.org; or brought to us at 1926 Waukegan Road in Glenview. (No phone applications, please).
- **Enrollment:** Parents receive email notification of enrollment status after we have received their *complete* applications. For all students, this is defined as the application and the required \$80 deposit per one-week session. For students new to our programs, this also includes the required teacher recommendations.
- **Tuition, Fees:** Tuition for each one-week session is \$215 for half-day students and \$430 for full-day students. Also for each session, a \$15 lab fee is required. For every student, a \$4 fee is charged at application to offset the cost of our online application system. The fee for our Extended Care service is \$9 per hour.
- **Payments:** The required minimum deposit per session is \$80, which must accompany application and will be credited to tuition. The balance of tuition and fees is due in full by 14 days before the start date of the session. On that due date, for families who paid their deposits with credit or debit cards, their balance will be automatically deducted from the same card. Families who apply on or after their due date must pay full tuition and fees upon application. Payments are accepted by check or money order payable to The Center for Gifted; Discover,

MasterCard, and Visa credit or debit card; e-check; and cash. Extended Care fees may be prepaid when applying online or on site (cash or check only) before or on the day they are incurred.

- **Refunds, Credits:** Tuition and fees (except prepaid lunches) are fully refunded for withdrawals requested by the second day of each session. There are no refunds, credits, or discounts for absences for any reason, for late or partial enrollments, for siblings, or for enrolling in multiple programs.
- **Financial assistance:** Need-based financial assistance is available. To apply, a financial assistance application and a \$40 processing fee must be submitted along with the program application (the \$80 deposit is not required). The \$40 fee is refunded if the student does not enroll. The financial assistance form can be requested via phone, fax, or email to The Center for Gifted.
- **Lunch options:** Students may bring sack lunches from home, purchase "full hot lunches" for \$10.35* each from the Elmhurst College cafeteria, and/or purchase *à la carte* items from the cafeteria. Cash and credit cards will be accepted on site. For students enrolled in all three sessions, parents who wish to prepay for full hot lunches may do so through the Center for Gifted during or after applying online, but only if they purchase lunches for all three sessions—the full 15 days—of the programs for a lump sum of \$155.25*. Please note that this prepayment option is available for purchase only through July 3, and no part of it will be refundable or transferable after July 3. *\$10.35 was the hot lunch price for summer 2017; we will notify parents if it goes up.
- **Transportation:** We provide free roundtrip chartered buses from ten suburban locations; the Metra train station is two blocks from campus; there are two Pace Bus stops near campus; and several area hotels offer free shuttles for their guests. For a list of bus stop locations and details, click on the "Transportation Options" link under the Tinker-a-Thon tile on our home page.

Eligibility and Recommendation

(The recommendation form can be downloaded from our website or requested from the CFG by phone, fax or email.) Bright, motivated students entering 1st-5th grades in fall 2018 in any educational setting—public, private, parochial, or home school—may apply.

New students, who never have attended a CFG program, must be recommended by teachers. The completed and signed recommendation form may be submitted via fax, mail, or email, before, with, or after application. We will hold a spot for any student who has applied until we receive the recommendation, which must be no less than a week before the program begins.

Returning students, who have attended previous programs of the CFG, do not require teacher recommendations. They are accepted upon our timely receipt of their applications.

Applicants need not have qualified for advanced programming at their schools; test scores are not our only criteria. Although most of our students rank at or above the 95th percentiles in some areas, we recognize and discern the great variety of talents and abilities that children express. The list below may be used as a general reference. If uncertain about their child's eligibility, parents are welcome and encouraged to request a conversation with the Director of The Center for Gifted, Joan Franklin Smutny. An ideal candidate, one who will enjoy and do well in our programs, typically evidences many of the following talents and characteristics in pre-primary, primary, and elementary years:

Expresses curiosity and creativity	Talented in art, music, writing, or drama	Able to place objects in logical sequence
Enjoys challenges	Acts independently and with initiative	Enjoys Reading
Asks thoughtful questions	Has an extensive vocabulary	Rates and/or tells stories
Has unique problem-solving abilities	Uses complex language skills	Exhibits wit and humor
Is keenly observant	Discusses and elaborates on ideas	Has a sustained attention span
Has a well-developed imagination	Uses learned facts in new contexts	Has a good memory

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