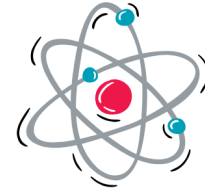




EUREKA!

2023-2024 Application



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Girls Inc. of Greater Indianapolis (GIGI) would like to invite your teen to apply for the **Eureka! Program** to grow and nurture their interest in science, technology, engineering & mathematics (STEM) and prepare them to be strong, smart, and bold leaders. *Eureka!* builds girls' confidence and skills through fun, hands-on STEM activities and field trips. Additionally, *Eureka!* fosters personal development and college and career readiness, promotes lasting relationships with peers and mentors and encourages positive risk-taking. Within a cohort of 30 peers, "Eurekans" will be inspired to pursue educational, professional, and personal growth.

For the 2023-2024 program year, we are recruiting 30 current 7th and 8th graders to join the program.

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Girls Inc. of Greater Indianapolis is a non-profit organization that inspires all girls to be **strong, smart, and bold**. We empower program participants to be confident in their own skin, prepared for their futures, proud of who they are, and ready to take their place in the world through our programming. We offer holistic, comprehensive programming for girls ages 6-24 in a **safe, pro-girl, girl-centered** environment utilizing our trained staff and volunteers; curriculum focused on academic enrichment and support, leadership, healthy living, and life skills instruction, and our vast network of community and corporate partners.

We serve girls who need us most – girls who wouldn't otherwise have access to the opportunities, experiences, or mentors to envision and reach their dreams. We support girls individually and work to change the system collectively to ensure an equitable future for girls, young women, and marginalized youth to thrive.

GIGI is committed to providing the comprehensive Girls Inc. experience to young people who feel safe in a pro-girl and girl-centered environment. GIGI programming serves youth whose gender and gender identities have been historically marginalized, including those who identify as girls (regardless of their assigned sex at birth), non-binary youth, gender non-conforming youth, and/or youth exploring their gender identity or expression.

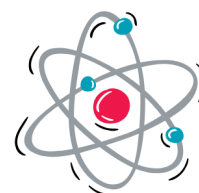
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Eureka! is a year-round, 5-year STEM-based program for middle and high school students provided at a low cost for families (\$0-\$125 a year based on financial need). **The program builds girls' confidence and skills in science, technology, engineering, and math; prepares them to pursue STEM-related careers; become leaders in their communities; and lead healthy, independent lives.** Within a cohort of 30 peers, girls enter the *Eureka!* program the summer before their 8th-grade year and continue in the program through high school graduation.



EUREKA!

2023-2024 Application



Participants in years 1-3 of the program (8th, 9th, and 10th graders) start each program year with a four-week summer camp on a college campus and engage in:

- **fun, hands-on STEM activities and experiments** with our community and corporate partners, such as Eli Lilly, Cummins, and First Robotics;
- **exciting field trips** such as ziplining and rock climbing;
- eye-opening **job shadowing and career development** experiences;
- **participant-led leadership projects** and workshops;
- high school and **college readiness** workshops;
- **and life skills activities** and workshops focused on self-defense, healthy cooking, financial literacy, and more!

In year 4, the program participants (11th graders) complete a **four-week, paid internship** with our community and corporate partners aligned with their career interests. In 2022, participants completed their internships at companies such as Azenta Life Sciences, Cox Automotive, Resultant, VMS BioMarketing, and Pivot Marketing.

In year 5, program participants (12th graders) can complete another paid summer internship (STEM-related or outside of STEM) or enroll in a **summer dual credit course** on a local college campus.

Outside of summer activities, all participants are required to attend monthly workshops and mentoring sessions during the school year at the Girls Inc. Indy office and participate in additional field trips, such as college tours, to further their educational, professional, and personal growth.

Additional Perks:

- Access to **scholarships** (up to \$20,000!)
- Eligibility for **Girls Inc. Indy Alumnae program** post-high school graduation
- T-shirts & swag

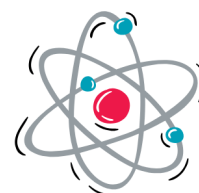
Program Structure

Year	Summer (June – July)	School Year (September – May)
1	4-week STEM Camp at IUPUI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly required workshops, one Saturday a month • College tours • STEM field trips & leadership opportunities (optional)
2	4-week STEM Camp at IUPUI	
3	4-week STEM Camp at IUPUI	
4	4-week STEM Internship	
5	4-week Internship or Dual Credit Course	



EUREKA!

2023-2024 Application



APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

To apply, interested youth and a parent/guardian must submit a completed application, which includes a commitment agreement for the 5-year program, and at least one letter of recommendation from a teacher, coach, or another adult in the youth’s life that is not a relative. Applicants and a parent/guardian will then participate in an interview that will be conducted online or via phone.

The ideal applicant for the Eureka! program is someone who:

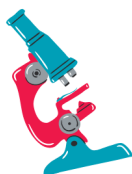
- can commit to a 5-year, summer and school-year experience;
- has an interest and motivation to explore science, technology, engineering, and math fields;
- is currently in 7th grade or 8th grade and attends school within and around Marion County
- has reliable transportation to the GIGI office (3935 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46208) (school-year) and IUPUI School of Informatics (535 W Michigan St, Indianapolis, IN 46202) (summer) for programming;
- can attend the 2023 Summer Camp (June 12 – July 7, 2023, 7:30am – 5:30pm, M-F);
- can attend monthly Saturday workshops during the school-year (September – May);
- will benefit from building stronger relationships with peers and enjoy in-depth learning experiences.

IMPORTANT APPLICATION DATES

Review of Applications Begin	Monday, February 27 th
Application Deadline	Friday, March 31 st , 5:00pm EST
Final Interview Invitations Sent	Tuesday, April 4 th
Interview Date(s)	Friday April 7 th , Friday, April 14 th , Saturday April 15 th
Acceptance Notifications Sent	The week of May 1 st
Scholarship Applications Due	Friday, May 12 th
Registration + Program Fee Deadline	Friday, May 26 th
Eureka! Years 1-3 Orientation	Saturday, June 3 rd
Summer Camp at IUPUI	Monday, June 12 th – Friday, July 7 th (July 4 th & June 19 th OFF)
Eureka! Summer Celebration w/ Families	Friday, July 7 th

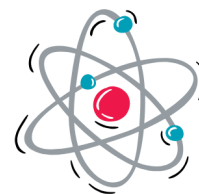
If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Eureka! program or the application process, please feel free to contact us at eureka@girlsincindy.org.

Kierra Hall
High School Programs Manager
khall@girlsincindy.org



EUREKA!

2023-2024 Application



FAQ: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Five years is a long time! I don't know if I can make that commitment. Should I still apply?

We expect participants to commit to the 5-year experience. If you are interested in STEM, want to become a leader, prepare for your future, make new friends, and have fun, this is an excellent opportunity! New Eureka! participants end up loving the program so much that they continue through the program without thinking about the time commitment. We will have our first 5th-year cohort this year!

Do I have to be "good" at math or science to join Eureka!?

As long as you are interested in learning more about STEM and want to improve, we would love to have you in the program. The purpose of Eureka! is to build girls' confidence and skills in STEM through fun, interactive activities, and field trips. It's not a matter of being good or bad; it's about trying your best. We will connect you and your family with resources to help you succeed in and out of Eureka!

I'm currently in 9th grade. Can I still join Eureka!?

No. Only current 7th and 8th graders are eligible to join the Eureka! program.

We have another high school program called Young Women in Leadership (YWIL), which is open to 9-12 graders. YWIL is a school-year program focused on leadership development and college and career readiness. For more information on the YWIL program, email leaders@girlsincindy.org.

What if I can't attend all the summer camp and school year meetings?

All participants are required to attend 90% of summer camp meetings and 80% of school-year meetings.

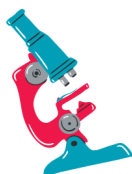
The Eureka! Coordinators will track participants' attendance rates and notify them when their attendance rate falls below the attendance requirement. Participants whose attendance falls below the required attendance rate must complete a makeup activity or project, such as attending a community or STEM event, interviewing a woman in a STEM career, journaling, etc.

What if I am no longer interested in STEM the further I get in the program? Can I still participate?

Suppose a participant completes year 2 or 3 of the program and finds that they are no longer interested in STEM. In that case, we still highly encourage participation in the remainder of the program because years 4 and 5 of the program focus more heavily on college and career preparedness through workshops, internships, overnight college visits, and dual credit opportunities. Participants who drop out of the program after years 2 or 3 will miss critical experiences and opportunities that will help them prepare and transition to adulthood.

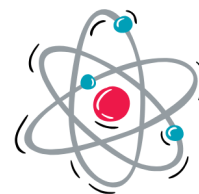
What if I don't have reliable transportation to get to Eureka! sessions?

Participants must have reliable transportation to and from Eureka! meetings and events. Many participants carpool with one another. Girls Inc. Indy may provide transportation assistance via bus



EUREKA!

2023-2024 Application



passes for participants living near bus lines.

How will interviews be conducted?

If selected as a finalist, all applicants must participate in a final interview. Interviews will be conducted virtually (i.e., Zoom) and via phone for families without access to the internet. Interviews will be conducted on **Friday, April 7th**, **Friday, April 14th**, and **Saturday, April 15th**. Girls Inc. staff will contact to applicants to schedule interviews by **Tuesday, April 4th**.

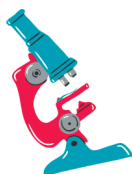
I am already participating in another intensive/immersive program/sport/activity. Can I still be in Eureka?

Yes, however, participating in two or more programs, sports, or activities that require a big commitment will be challenging. We encourage you to speak with your family about what it would take to balance all your commitments before you apply. Eureka should not be the lowest priority.

How can I write a strong application?

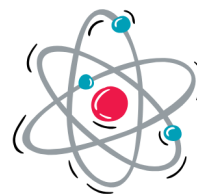
- Remember you are unique, and your experiences leading up to today shape your view of the world.
- Be authentic in your responses and willing to share these views.
- Adhere to word limitations.
- Plan ahead and allow yourself enough time to gather information such as recommendation letters.
- Identify ahead of time whom to ask for letters of support and give them plenty of advance notice to write your recommendation.
- Be sure to hold important dates on your calendar, such as the application deadline, interview and program dates.

If you have additional questions, don't hesitate to get in touch with us at eureka@girlsincindy.org.



EUREKA!

2023-2024 Application



APPLICATION CHECK-LIST

You can apply to the *Eureka!* program several ways.

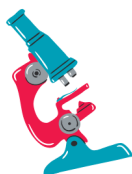
1. Print, fill out, scan, and email this paper/pdf copy in the order below **[pages 6-14]** to eureka@girlsincindy.org with the subject line, "Eureka Program Application – [Your First & Last Name]".
2. Complete **[pages 6-14]** fillable pdf form and email it in the order below to eureka@girlsincindy.org with the subject line, "Eureka Program Application – [Your First & Last Name]".
3. Print, fill out, and mail your application **[pages 6-14]** to our Girls Inc. office in the order below to:
Mailing Address
Girls Inc. Indy; Attn: Kierra Hall
3935 N Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN 46208
4. Submit an online application by clicking the link below or scanning the QR code.
Link: <https://forms.gle/3VYWE9zm4L1AkSuT9>



Applicant Name:

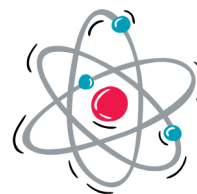
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Application Items	Details	Submitted By
	Application Cover Page	This form, with all items checked	Submitted by Applicant
	Applicant and Parent/Guardian Contact Information	Pages 7-9	
	Applicant Question Responses	Pages 9-12	
	Parent/Guardian Question Responses	Page 13	
	Recommender Information	Page 14	
	Program Commitments	Page 14	

Applications are due Friday, March 31st, 5:00pm EST. Only complete applications will be considered.



EUREKA!

2023-2024 Application



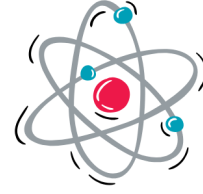
APPLICANT INFORMATION

First & Last Name: (If you have a preferred name, include that, too!)			
Pronouns (check): <i>(Pronouns are the part of speech used to refer to someone in the third person. We want to know how to respectfully refer to you!)</i>	She/Her/Hers No Pronoun	He/Him/His No Preference	They/Them/Theirs Not Listed
Name of Current School:			
Current Grade:			
Home Address:			
City, State, Zip Code:			
Applicant Phone Number:			
Applicant Email:			
Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY):			
Race/Ethnicity (confidential): <i>(check all that apply)</i>	Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Latina/Hispanic/Latin American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Native American/Alaskan Native/Indigenous <input type="checkbox"/> Middle Eastern/North African <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>		
Hispanic Origin (check):	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic	
How did you first hear about Eureka!? (check):	School Other:	Friend	Newspaper Social Media



EUREKA!

2023-2024 Application



PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

First & Last Name: (If you have a preferred name, include that, too!)	
Relationship to Applicant:	
Email Address:	
Preferred Phone Number:	
Preferred Phone Type: (Check)	Home Work Cell
Secondary Phone Number:	
Secondary Phone Type: (Check)	Home Work Cell
Home Language (confidential): (check)	English Spanish Other: _____
Street Address:	
City, State, Zip Code:	

Girls Inc. Indy is committed to providing additional resources and opportunities for first-generation college students and low-income families. The questions below help us acquire additional resources. (this section is optional)

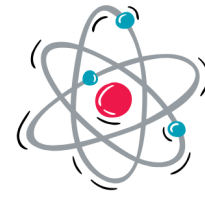
During the 2022-2023 school year, did the applicant qualify for free or reduced lunch? (Confidential) (check)

Yes No



EUREKA!

2023-2024 Application



Will you apply for a scholarship toward the \$125 registration fee if applicant is accepted into the program? (Confidential, your answer will not affect if applicant is accepted. It simply informs us of how many scholarship applicants we should expect to receive.) (check)

Yes No Maybe

Is the applicant enrolled in the 21st Century Scholars Program? (Confidential) (check)

Yes No Unsure

Will the applicant be the first in your family to attend college or university? (confidential) (check)

Yes No

APPLICANT QUESTIONS

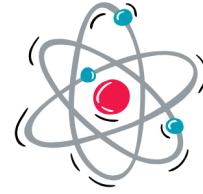
*The mission of Girls Inc. is to inspire all girls to be **strong, smart, and bold**. We are excited to get to know you better, how you embody these qualities, and where we can help support your growth in these areas! Please respond to the questions below. This is an opportunity to share information about yourself in your own words. Be thoughtful, be honest, and do the best that you can. **Please answer each question thoroughly but with no more than 200 words. You may attach an additional document if you need more space to write your answers.***

Tell us a little bit about yourself. How would you describe who you are to others?



EUREKA!

2023-2024 Application



Tell us about something that you find interesting and want to learn more about within science, technology, engineering, or math. Is there a topic that you enjoy the most?

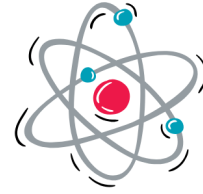
What are some jobs and careers that you are currently interested in? In other words, what do you want to be when you grow up?

What excites you about the Eureka! Program? What do you hope to gain from it?



EUREKA!

2023-2024 Application



What do you believe you can contribute to the Eureka! program? Why should you be selected?

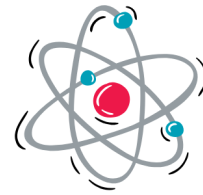
How do you feel about spending four weeks of your summer in Eureka!? How do you feel about spending five years in the Eureka! program?

Think about how you are doing in school right now. What actions are you taking to help ensure you maintain good grades or improve the grades you have? For example, do you go to talk to your teachers, get tutoring, check your grades consistently?



EUREKA!

2023-2024 Application

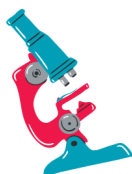


What other school year or summer activities are you committed to? When and for how long do they meet? Include activities like sports, clubs, other summer programs.

We want to get to know you better! Answer ONLY ONE of the following questions:

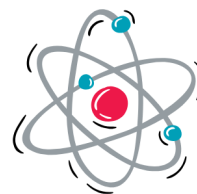
- What song would you say best describes you? Why?
- What is your favorite “unusual” food combination, and why should others try it?
- If you could only play one game for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?
- What’s a talent that you would do at a talent show?

Is there anything that would prevent you from attending Eureka! Summer Camp this summer from June 12th to July 7th from 7:30 am- 5:30pm, Monday - Friday?



EUREKA!

2023-2024 Application



Parent/Guardian Questions

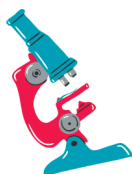
While we know that it's your teen who is applying for the Eureka! program, family support is critical in helping them reach their goals. We'd benefit from hearing from you, as their parent/guardian, about their application to the program. Please respond to the questions within the space provided.

What are your hopes and goals for your teen's education and future?

Why do you want your teen to participate in the Eureka! Program?

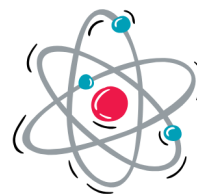
Is your teen receiving any additional services at school or do they have an IEP (Individualized Education Plan)? If so, please explain so we can provide activities that will work for them if they are selected to participate.

Is there anything else you would like to share about your teen?



EUREKA!

2023-2024 Application



Recommender Information

You must have at least 1 adult in your life (that is not related to you) to share about how great you are through a recommendation. They can be a teacher, coach, counselor, volunteer coordinator, or anyone else that knows you well. You can have up to 2 total recommenders. We recommend listing a secondary recommender in case your primary recommender does not submit the letter of recommendation in time. We will reach out to your recommender(s) to complete our recommendation form.

Recommender 1 First & Last Name	
Recommender 1 Relationship to You	
Recommender 1 Email Address	
Recommender 2 First & Last Name	
Recommender 2 Relationship to You	
Recommender 2 Email Address	

Eureka! Program Commitments

Eureka participants ("Eurekans") are expected to participate fully in all aspects of this 5-year program, including orientations, summer sessions, internships, and monthly activities throughout the school year. Attendance at these events is critical to remain enrolled and fully benefit from the program. Eurekans are expected to communicate effectively with Eureka! staff to stay informed about upcoming events and opportunities.

Parents and guardians are expected to support their teen with this commitment of attending required programming and communicating effectively with Eureka! staff.

By signing my name below, I am agreeing to the commitments outlined above if I am selected for this program.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____