



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Girls Inc. of Greater Atlanta would like to invite your teen to apply for the **Eureka! Program** to grow and nurture their interest in science, technology, engineering & mathematics (STEM). The program is designed to enhance their excitement about STEM subjects and increase access to meaningful STEM experiences through fun, hands-on, and authentic learning opportunities. For the 2024-2025 program year, we are recruiting 20 rising 9th graders to join our summer cohort.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Eureka! is a five-year, year-round comprehensive program with summer and school-year experiences provided at a cost of \$600 for the year. (scholarships are available on a sliding scale) Eureka! starts the program in the summer before 9th grade and are supported through high school graduation. In their first three summers, Eureka! explore STEM concepts, personal development, and physical growth in a 4-week summer camp. During the school year, they attend monthly activities focused on building their knowledge in STEM subjects and careers while also building their confidence. In their fourth and fifth summers, Eureka! are placed in paid STEM-focused internships that provide real-world career experiences. In addition, *Eureka!* will provide support for your teen to apply to institutions of higher education and find scholarships available to them.

Program Structure

Year	Summer (June – August)	School Year (September – May)
1	4-Week STEM Camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly required STEM enrichment classes every 2nd Saturday STEM-based field trips and programming College preparation & career readiness classes
2	4-Week STEM Camp	
3	4-Week STEM Camp	
4	4-Week STEM Internship	
5	4-Week STEM Internship & College and Career Development	

****Please note – The Eureka! Program intends to follow national and local public health, Girls Inc. of Greater Atlanta will follow CDC and State Health Department guidelines when it comes to safety for in-person classes and vaccination requirements.****

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, and no more than two, recommendation(s) from teachers, coaches, and/or other adults in the youth’s life that is not a relative. Applicants and a parent/guardian will then participate in an interview together that will be conducted online or in-person.

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

- can commit to a 5-year, year-round experience;
- have an interest and motivation to explore STEM;
- rising 9th grader;
- live in the Greater Atlanta area and have transportation to Girls Inc of Greater Atlanta (461 Manget Street, Marietta Ga 30060) (*school-year*) or Georgia State University (40 Pryor Street, Atlanta, GA 30303)- *for summer programming*;

- can attend the 2024 Summer *STEM Camp* (June 3 – 28, 2024, 8:00am – 5:00pm M-F);
- can attend monthly *STEM Saturday* enrichment programs (2nd Saturdays of the month, Sep – May);
- can maintain at least a 2.5 GPA once in the program (No GPA requirement to join the program).

The **Eureka!** Program strongly encourages applications from youth for whom this experience would be the critical difference in propelling them on a path towards higher education and careers in STEM. This includes, but is not limited to, Black, Indigenous, Latin, and other races and ethnicities historically under-represented in STEM fields; youth from low-income families; LGBTQ+ youth; and first-generation college students.

Eureka! is committed to providing the comprehensive Girls Inc. experience to young people who feel safe in a pro-girl and girl-centered environment. Our programming is intended for youth whose genders and gender identities have been historically marginalized. This includes 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.

IMPORTANT APPLICATION DATES

Interviews Begin	March 13 – April 14, 2024 (weekday evenings, ongoing)
Final Application Deadline	Wednesday, March 6, 2024
Latest Selection Notification	Wednesday, April 31, 2024
Summer 2024 Orientation	(Dates/Times TBD)
STEM Camp at Georgia State University	June 3 – 28, 2024 (M-F, 8:00am-5:00pm)

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

The mission of Girls Inc. of Greater Atlanta is to inspire all girls to be **Strong, Smart and Bold**. The vision of Girls Inc. of Greater Atlanta is a world in which every girl values her whole self, discovers her inner strengths, and achieves her goals. Girls Inc. of Greater Atlanta is an affiliate of the national Girls Inc. network. We serve girls ages 5-18 in the Greater Atlanta area. Our research-based programming is delivered by trained professionals who focus on the development of the whole girl by supporting, guidance and mentoring.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.


Katherine Sherrill
 STEM Program Manager
ksherrill@girlsincatl.org

Eureka! Program 2024-2025

Application Checklist

Please make sure the following six items are included in your application (or completed online) and email components to Eureka@girlsincatl.org with the subject line "Eureka ProgramApplication – [Your First & Last Name]", or deliver to Girls Inc. of Greater Atlanta in one envelope with your full name on the front. Only complete applications will be reviewed.

Applicant Name: _____

	Application Item	Details	Submitted By
<input type="checkbox"/>	Application Cover Page	This form, with all items checked	Submitted by Applicant
<input type="checkbox"/>	Applicant Contact Information	Page 6 - 7	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Applicant Question Responses	Page 7-8	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parent/Guardian Question Responses	Page 9	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Commitments	Page 10	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recommendation	<p>At least 1, no more than 2, recommendations from school personnel, volunteer experience, etc. Cannot be from someone related to you.</p> <p>Recs must be emailed directly from the recommender to Eureka@girlsincatl.org with the subject "Eureka Recommendation – (Applicant Name)"</p>	Submitted by the Recommender

Final Application Deadline: March 6, 2024
Interviews Conducted: March 13 – April 14, 2024

Eureka! Program 2024-2025

Participant Application

Class of 2029

Applicant Information:

First and Last Name: <small>If you have a preferred name, include that, too!</small>	
Pronouns:	
Current School:	
Current Grade:	
Home Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Applicant Phone Number:	
Applicant Email:	
Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY):	
Were you referred by a current Eureka?	If so, tell us their name:

Applicant Background Information:

Girls Inc. of Greater Atlanta is committed to providing opportunities, resources and support to First-Generation college students and BIPOC students. *Completion of this section is optional.*

Will you be the first generation in your family to graduate from high school?	
Will you be in the first generation in your family to graduate from college or university?	
Did your parent(s)/legal guardian(s) attend college in the United States?	
How do you identify racially and/or ethnically?	
Are there any other identities that are important to you that you want to share?	

Eureka! Program 2024-2025

Participant Application

Class of 2029

Parent/Guardian Information: | *Información de Padre/Guardián:*

Parent/Guardian Name: <i>Nombre de Padre/Guardián:</i>	
Relationship to Applicant: <i>Relación con le solicitante:</i>	
Parent/Guardian Cell Phone: <i>Teléfono celular del Padre/Guardián:</i>	
Parent/Guardian Work Phone: <i>Teléfono de trabajo del Padre/Guardián:</i>	
Parent/Guardian Email: <i>Correo electrónico del Padre/Guardián:</i>	

Secondary Parent/Guardian Information (optional): | *Información de Padre/Guardián Secundaria (opcional):*

Second Parent/Guardian Name: <i>Nombre de Padre/Guardián:</i>	
Relationship to Applicant: <i>Relación con le solicitante:</i>	
Second Parent/Guardian Cell Phone: <i>Teléfono celular del Padre/Guardián:</i>	
Second Parent/Guardian Daytime Phone <i>Teléfono de trabajo del Padre/Guardián:</i>	
Second Parent/Guardian Email: <i>Correo electrónico del Padre/Guardián:</i>	

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 and 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 for you to share information about yourself in your own words. Relax, be honest, and do the best that you can. Please answer each question in a **minimum of three sentences** and within the space provided.

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

2. 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 can “nerd out” about?

3. 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?

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

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

6. 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?

7. 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.

8. Is there anything that would prevent you from attending *Eureka!* this summer from June 3rd to 28th from 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday?

9. We want to get to know you better! Answer 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?

10. Is there anything else you would like to share about yourself?

Eureka! Program 2024-2025

Parent/Guardian Questions

Parent/Guardian Questions | Preguntas para un Padre/Guardián

While we know that it's your teen that 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.

1. What are your personal hopes and goals for your teen's education?
¿Cuáles son sus esperanzas y metas personales para la educación de su adolescente?

2. Why do you want your teen to participate in the *Eureka!* Program?
¿Por qué quiere que su adolescente participe en este programa?

3. Is your teen receiving any additional services at school or do they have an IEP? If so please explain so we can provide activities that will work for them if they are selected to participate.
¿Recibe su adolescente algún servicio adicional en la escuela o actualmente recibe servicios de educación especial? Si es así, explique para que podamos asegurarnos de ofrecerle actividades que le resulten útiles si es seleccionada para participar.

4. Can you support your teen in attending all required summer and school year programming for five years (through high school graduation)?
¿Puede apoyar a su adolescente para que asista a todos los programas de verano y año escolar requeridos durante cinco años (hasta la graduación de la escuela preparatoria)?

5. Is there anything else you would like to share about your teen?
¿Hay algo más que le gustaría compartir sobre su adolescente?

Please submit applications to Girls Inc. of Greater Atlanta via mail, email, or drop off.

Mailed/Dropped Off :
Girls Inc of Greater Atlanta
461 Manget Street
Marietta, Ga 30060
Attention: Eureka!

Email: Eureka@girlsincatl.org

The *Eureka!* Program 2024-2025

Girls Inc. of Greater Atlanta

Applicant Recommendation

Your full and honest answers are greatly appreciated!

Applicant First/Last Name	
Your Full Name:	
Job Title/Role:	
How you know the applicant:	
Length that you've known the applicant:	

1. How has the applicant demonstrated an interest in STEM topics, or just their overall display of curiosity?

2. How has the applicant demonstrated commitment, dedication, and responsibility?

3. What qualities and skills would the applicant contribute to the *Eureka!* program?

4. What challenges and roadblocks does the applicant face, and how could *Eureka!* be the critical difference that would propel them into a STEM academic and career pathway?

This recommendation should be emailed directly from the recommender to the Eureka! Program at with "Eureka Recommendation – (Applicant Name)" in the subject line.

The *Eureka!* Program

Girls Inc. of Greater Atlanta

Recommendation Request

Dear Supportive Adult in a Young Person's Life:

_____ is applying for the Girls Inc. of Greater Atlanta *Eureka!* Program. *Eureka!* is a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) program designed to encourage girls and gender-expansive youth's excitement about STEM subjects through engaging them in enriching and fun year-round learning opportunities. *Eureka!* is a 5-year commitment and integrates summer and school year experiences. "Eurekans" start the program during the summer before 9th grade and continue through high school graduation. During the first two years, Eurekans attend a 4-week summer camp and once-a-month activities during the school year. In years three and four, Eurekans are placed in paid summer internships, and year five they get to choose a STEM-based leadership activity.

Part of the *Eureka!* selection process requires a recommendation from a non-family member in an educational, work, or volunteer setting who can speak to the applicant's ability to commit to the program and enthusiasm for learning. By receiving this form, the applicant has requested a recommendation from you. Your recommendation is a critical part of our selection and awareness process. On the next page, please provide answers and information for all the questions provided, including:

- Applicant's full name
- Your name, title and how you know the applicant (including duration)
- **Question 1:** How has the applicant demonstrated an interest in STEM topics, or just their overall sense of curiosity?
- **Question 2:** How has the applicant demonstrated commitment, dedication, and responsibility?
- **Question 3:** What qualities and skills would the applicant contribute to the *Eureka!* program?
- **Question 4:** What challenges and roadblocks does the applicant face, and how could *Eureka!* be the critical difference that would propel them into a STEM academic and career pathway?

The completed recommendation should be emailed directly to the *Eureka!* program at Eureka@girlsincatl.org with "Eureka Recommendation – (Applicant Name)" in the subject line.

On behalf of Girls Inc. of Greater Atlanta, we thank you for your time, interest and participation in this process. Thank you for helping to inspire our girls to become strong, smart, and bold.

Sincerely,

The *Eureka!* Selection Committee

Eureka! Program Commitments/Compromisos para el programa Eureka!:

Parent/Guardian (Padre/Guardián):

Girls Inc. and local partners are making an investment of more than \$3000 per participant to offer Eureka! in 2024-2025. The annual cost to families for programming will be \$600. Scholarships are offered and will be determined on a sliding scale based on income. The scholarship will be assessed when summer programming starts and can be paid with a payment plan.

If my teen is accepted into *Eureka!*, I will encourage them to participate fully in all aspects of this 5-year program. I will ensure that all the proper forms are completed and returned on time. I will also support them in attending required programming and communicating effectively with Eureka! staff.

By writing my name below, I am agreeing to the commitments outlined above.

Girls Inc. y sus socios locales están invirtiendo más de \$3000 por participante para ofrecer Eureka! en 2024-2025. El costo anual para las familias se determinará en una escala móvil basada en los ingresos y variará \$500 para todo el año de programación, y se evaluará cuando comience la programación de verano y se puede pagar con un plan de pago.

Si mi adolescente es aceptada al programa Eureka!, yo la animaré para que participe plenamente en todos los aspectos de este programa de cinco años. Me aseguraré de que todos los formularios adecuados se completen y devuelvan a tiempo. También la apoyaré asistiendo a la programación requerida y comunicándome de manera efectiva con el personal Eureka! .

Al escribir mi nombre abajo, estoy aceptando los compromisos descritos anteriormente.

Signature/ Firma: _____ Date/Fecha: _____

Applicant:

If selected as a member of *Eureka!*, I agree to participate fully in all aspects of this 5-year program, including orientations, summer sessions, internships, and monthly activities throughout the school year. I understand that my attendance is important for me to remain enrolled and fully benefit from the program. I also understand that I will need to communicate effectively with Eureka! staff in order to stay informed about upcoming events and opportunities.

By writing my name below, I am agreeing to the commitments outlined above.

¡Si soy seleccionada como miembro de Eureka!, acepto participar plenamente en todos los aspectos de este programa de 5 años, incluidas las orientaciones, las sesiones de verano, las pasantías y las actividades mensuales durante todo el año escolar. Entiendo que mi asistencia es importante para poder seguir inscrito y beneficiarme plenamente del programa. También entiendo que tendré que comunicarme de manera eficaz con Eureka! personal para mantenerse informada sobre los próximos eventos y oportunidades.

Al escribir mi nombre abajo, estoy aceptando los compromisos descritos anteriormente.

Signature/Firma: _____ Date/Fecha: _____

Eureka! Program Frequent Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **If I'm not currently in 7th grade or in the Atlanta Greater area, can I still apply?**
 - No. Applicants must currently be in 8th grade and live in the Greater Atlanta area. However, you can participate in other Girls Inc. programs.
- **Do I have to type the application?**
 - Applications must be typed and submitted via email. Handwritten applications will not be accepted. If you need computer access, please contact us at Eureka@girlsincatl.org.
- **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 we will work with families to ensure that you have access to the internet and tools necessary to participate in an interview. Interviews will be conducted on a rolling basis starting March 13th through April 14th.
- **Could the COVID pandemic impact this summer's camp?**
 - We hope that it is safe to offer the 4-week STEM Camp as planned. However, if by May 23 CDC guidelines or the requirements of Girls Inc. of Greater Atlanta indicate otherwise, we will adjust how we implement the summer program and offer it in a way that maximizes safety for all. Girls Inc of Greater Atlanta will also follow all safety and vaccination requirements mandated by GSU, Atlanta Department of Public Health & Environment. This may include, but is not limited to, a requirement to be fully vaccinated against Covid-19.
- **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 talk to your family about what it would take to balance all your commitments before you apply.
- **What if I cannot attend all required events during the school year?**
 - *Eureka!* has a credit system that tracks your participation. If you miss the required events there will be opportunities for you to make up that work independently. However, you **MUST** be able to attend the full STEM Camp program this summer.
- **When and where are the school-year activities?**
 - We have required programs, called STEM Saturdays, on (usually) the 2nd Saturday of the month. We also offer other, optional activities during the week and occasional weekends. Most weekend activities are in-person, and most weekday activities are online.