



MICDS WinterTerm

The Senior Winter Term Experience for the Class of 2026

What is the Winter Term Senior Experience?

The Senior Experience is an opportunity for students to use the two weeks during Winter Term to:

- pursue THEIR Interests
- try something new
- extend their learning environment beyond the MICDS curriculum
- use and test skills learned at MICDS in real-life situations

Dates: January 6-16, 2026

Options:

- Community Service, job shadowing experience, internship
 - Full-day experience (minimum of 5 hours) for the nine weekdays during Winter Term
 - Enrichment to both you and those that you engage with
- MICDS Travel Programs - International and domestic Winter Term options to be announced in early April.
- Domestic Network Exchange Trip

Information on any travel opportunities can be found on the Global Learning Resource Board.

Timeline:

- March 3, 2025 - Introduction in Junior Class Meeting
- Follow-up Email to 11th-grade students and parents with information & links
- Spring 2025
 - Student Proposal & Prompts Document shared in advisory
 - Research organizations and discuss potential plans with advisors during advisory
 - Discuss ideas and plans with parents/guardians and other adults who know you well
 - Contact organizations

- Use prompts document
 - Complete proposal
- May 5, 2025 - target deadline for proposals
- September 15, 2025 - final deadline for proposals
- Fall 2025 - Use advisories and class meetings to prepare for your Experience

Feedback from Seniors:

- Experienced something new
- Explored what to study in the future
- Learned how to perform well in stressful situations
- Made connections
- Gained real-world experience
- Used to be afraid of asking questions, but not anymore
- Saw growth in the following skill areas: communication, empathy, responsibility, organization, time management, leadership, collaboration skills, patience, conflict resolution, professionalism, and workplace etiquette.

Advice from Seniors following their Experience:

- Start early.
- The amount of effort you put in is the amount you get out of it.
- Stay organized and plan ahead.
- Step out of your comfort zone.
- Do something fun and what you want to do, not what your friends or doing or you think colleges or your parents will like. This is your experience.
- Reach out to people a long way before the deadline and check in with them if they don't get back to you.
- Make sure to keep in touch with your supervisor leading up to the experience.
- Go in with an open mind. Even if the plan ends up not being what you thought it would be, there are still great opportunities to learn something new and get something out of it.

From College Counseling: How Does the Senior Experience Look to Colleges?

- This is an opportunity for unique, early freedom. You can choose from a world of opportunities without any repercussions. When you get to college, internships lead to jobs, but these internships and experiences don't have those stakes or have an impact on the future, which makes them freeing and exciting. You don't have to pick something you're locked into because of your college and career choices.
- Students gain vital skills through the Senior Experience. The skills you need to find your experience or internship and the skills you need to meet during the two-week experience are things that students don't get every day in their typical classes. This experience can help you acquire and showcase skills you will need as you move into college and careers.

[Read about the 2025 Senior Winter Term Experience here!](#)