Website: https://gsp.ky.gov/

**What is GSP?**

The Governor's Scholars Program is a summer residential program for outstanding students who are rising seniors. GSP is held on three college campuses, Morehead State University, Centre College and Bellarmine University, for five weeks each summer. Scholars must sign a contract agreeing to stay for the full term of five weeks, including weekends, without interruption and to attend classes daily and to participate in the life of the community.

Governor's Scholars live in college dorms. The students balance a busy academic schedule in the sciences, mathematics, humanities and the arts with a variety of co-curricular activities and a rich residential life. They choose from approximately 25 subjects, ranging from physical science to cultural anthropology. All subjects are taught in a non-traditional, interdisciplinary mode. There are no grades or college credits given. Student productions, publications, experiments and field trips enhance the curriculum.

Benefits of being selected to participate:

- Scholarship opportunities in the state of Kentucky
- Expand your horizons
- Develop flexibility, creativity and critical thinking
- Cultivate leadership capabilities

**Criteria for Selection**

**Academic Achievement**

- GPA
- PSAT/ACT/SAT
- Difficulty of courses

**Student Profile**

**Activities/How you spend your free time:** You will need to know the average time spent on each activity. (Can be Mercy and outside of Mercy)

- Sports
- Extracurriculars/Clubs and Activities
- Church activities (along with attendance)
- Newspaper, Journalism, Chorus, and Yearbook

- Hobbies

**Service:** You will need to know the average time spent with each activity.
  - Service at organizations around the community or within your family
  - These can be paid or unpaid.

**Honors:** Awards/Honors
  - Does not have to be a trophy.
  - Does not have to be from school.
  - Anything you are selected, elected, or chosen to do fits here.

**Writing Entry**
- 500 Words on a given topic (you will choose from around 10 options).
- It will be judged according to your writing ability.

**Teacher Recommendation**
- Someone within Mercy who teaches a core subject.

**Community Recommendation**
- It cannot be anyone associated with Mercy.
- It cannot be a family member.
- You want someone who can speak to your character, not your academics.

## Things to Consider

- Mercy may only send a select number of students to the Archdiocesan level of competition. This number changes every year.
- Competition will be very strong since many students with top scores will be applying. You must have strong test scores and a strong GPA to be competitive.
- The programs are FIVE weeks long (you must be able to stay for all five weeks).

**What To Do Over the Summer and Into Your Junior Year**

- Take the June ACT (You must register at www.act.org).
- Get involved over the summer with continual service (something you can do on a regular basis).
- Begin to take on leadership roles (does not have to be President/VP; take on smaller roles that show you are dedicated to an extracurricular or sport).
- Stay focused when it comes to your grades and classes. You want to show you are academically minded.
- Listen for announcements or emails to sign up for the PSAT.
- Listen for more information/meetings to come in September/October to begin the application process