

WAKE YOUNG WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP ACADEMY TOP 20 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



1. Who may attend WYWLA?

WYWLA serves students in grades 6 through 13. All students may apply to attend. We accept approximately 50 – 60 students in 6th grade. Students entering grades 7 through 10 will be applying for a limited number of seats. To apply, visit the WYWLA website and/or the WCPSS Magnet Programs website.

2. What is the difference between WYWLA and other traditional middle or high schools?

WYWLA was established in 2012 to provide educational opportunities for young women in a rigorous single-gender academic program. We emphasize leadership development, entrepreneurship, and community service. Unlike most traditional middle and high school programs, our academic program focuses mainly on core courses. WYWLA students are engaged in a rigorous and challenging course of study that is designed to meet 95% of high school graduation requirements before 11th grade. We offer advanced level courses that provide a foundation for future success. We limit elective offerings to ensure college readiness by the end of grade 10.

3. What is an early college?

An early college is a high school option that allows students to earn their high school diploma and free transferrable college credit while they are enrolled in a public high school. Students are offered one additional year of high school to complete the maximum number of credits possible, up to two years of college credit. Early colleges are located on the campus of a community/technical college or four-year college or university. Their intended audiences are generally first-generation college-able students; however, students from families whose parents/guardians have earned college degrees are also eligible to attend. Our 11th and 12th grade students attend classes at Saint Augustine's University.

4. How are students selected to attend WYWLA?

Students and their families must submit an online application and select Wake Young Women's Leadership Academy during the Early College/Magnet Application period. A review committee will score each application. Available seats at the application schools applicants are divided among applicants who are first generation college attendees and those who are not first-generation college attendees. To access the online application, please visit our website or visit the Magnet Programs webpage on our district's website. Only complete applications that are received on or before the deadline will be considered in the review process. **Application Period: October 15 – December 14**

5. If a student is accepted for the WYWLA middle school program, will she need to reapply for the high school program?

WYWLA middle school students will automatically advance to the high school unless the student, her family and the WYWLA faculty determine together that the placement is not an appropriate high school program. Students do not need to reapply.

6. What classes will be available for WYWLA students?

Middle school students study language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and healthful living. Middle school electives may include Spanish and Career and Technical Education courses. High school students study English, mathematics, science, and social studies. High school electives may include Spanish and Career and Technical Education courses. Our academic program focuses mainly on core courses. Our students are engaged in a rigorous and challenging course of study that is designed to meet 95% of high school graduation requirements before 11th grade. We offer advanced level courses that provide a foundation for future success. We limit elective offerings to ensure college readiness by the end of grade 10.

7. What career development opportunities will WYWLA students experience?

A comprehensive career development program is implemented in ways that are developmentally appropriate. The program will vary from level to level to help students become both college and career ready for their future leadership roles. Our career development program encompasses four stages that will help students move from the cognitive stage to the experimental stage. These four stages are *Career Awareness*, *Career Exploration*, *Career Preparation*, and *Career Training*.

8. What calendar will WYWLA follow and what are the school's operating hours?

As an early college, WYWLA will follow the Leadership Academy calendar. Our first day of school is usually 2 – 3 weeks before traditional calendar school and our instructional day begins at 7:35am and ends at 2:10pm.

9. Are WCPSS transportation services provided for students who attend WYWLA?

Yes, our students utilize the express bus routes assigned to the Southeast Raleigh High School transportation hub. Students arrive at their hub from their express bus routes and take a shuttle bus to WYWLA.

10. Will WYWLA students be eligible for WCPSS Child Nutrition Services?

Yes, WYWLA students are served by WCPSS Child Nutrition Services who offers breakfast and lunch in the Weathers Dining Hall on the Governor Morehead Campus and lunch on the Saint Augustine's campus. Meals on our main campus are prepared by the Governor Morehead

School staff. WYWLA students purchase meals through WCPSS Child Nutrition Services and may pay online at www.MySchoolBucks.com. Students who are eligible for free and reduced lunch services may also participate.

11. Are there clubs and organizations for students to join at WYWLA?

Yes, WYWLA offers a variety of clubs and organizations that are designed to meet the interests of our students. Our clubs include student government, service clubs, yearbook, and drama. For a complete list of our current clubs, please review the WYWLA Club Brochure that is posted on our website. Clubs offerings will change from year to year based on student and staff interests.

12. How will WYWLA students participate in athletics?

Our partnerships with Oberlin Magnet Middle and Broughton High allow interested students to participate in athletics. Middle school students try out for athletic teams at Oberlin Magnet Middle School. High school students try out for athletic teams at Broughton High School. WYWLA provides transportation to these schools to allow student participation. Parents are responsible for transportation after athletic practices or competitions.

13. What communication structures will be available to WYWLA families?

WYWLA sends Weekly Updates to parents. These newsletters are posted on our website under News. In addition to these newsletters, teachers send weekly emails to share information with families. Other important school information can be found on the WYWLA website at www.wcpss.net/wywla or on the WCPSS website at www.wcpss.net. In addition to these methods, all teachers have class websites and our school shares information through our social media accounts.

14. How can families be involved at WYWLA?

There are many ways to be involved. Join the PTSA and attend monthly meetings, volunteer to assist with school events, attend open houses, read classroom and/or school newsletters, visit our school's website, request that information be available in all languages spoken by school families, meet your child's friends and get to know their parents, take advantage of family programs and resources offered at the school, discuss your child's school day and homework daily, and respond to school surveys.

15. Do you have any special events that are unique to WYWLA?

Our students are involved in several events and community service projects throughout the year. Two of our favorite events are the Yellow Rose Ceremony and the Day of the Girl Celebration. Each year on the first day of school, we welcome our new students by presenting each one with a yellow rose during a special ceremony. The Day of the Girl is an international movement. On October 11th of every year, women across the world come together to highlight, discuss, celebrate and advance girls' lives and opportunities across the globe. Wake Young Women's Academy is committed to participating in this movement.

16. Are students required to wear uniforms every day?

WYWLA students conduct themselves as leaders and learners in every facet of their experience. As leaders, they present themselves in a serious, productive manner, which includes their daily school attire. Thus, WYWLA students are required to wear a uniform every school day. Uniform requirements can be found on our website.

17. What is GLC?

Girls' Leadership Class (GLC) is our daily activity period that is dedicated to leadership development. During this time, students learn and develop a deeper understanding of The Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership. These Practices are based on the research of Kouzes and Posner (The Leadership Challenge). The Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership are: *Model the Way*, *Inspire a Shared Vision*, *Challenge the Process*, *Enable Others to Act*, and *Encourage the Heart*. During GLC, students will explore each of these practices and learn behaviors that will serve as the basis for learning to lead. Each GLC will also focus on the following leadership qualities: Character, Communication, Service, and Teamwork. Students will have multiple opportunities to demonstrate their leadership development throughout the year. Each GLC will participate in school-wide projects that are also designed to promote leadership development. These projects include Day of the Girl, Community Day of Service, and Women's History Month.

18. Do students receive special consideration during the application process if they have a sibling at the WYWLA or WYMLA?

Yes. One of the highest priorities in any of the application processes is for entering siblings to attend the same school as an older sibling. Applications for siblings in the same grade span are considered together. This means that if you apply for more than one sibling to attend a school, the application process will not select one sibling without the other. If there are not available seats for each sibling, the program will select none of the siblings.

19. If my student is not selected for a school, will they be added to the wait list?

Wait list procedures are determined by the Office of Student Assignment and vary from year to year. For the most up-to-date procedures, please visit the county's website.

20. What is the student creed?

The student creed is a statement of shared beliefs among our students. It instills a sense of pride and honor and provides common language that serves as a source of inspiration and motivation to challenge our students to excel in every way. The creed is a powerful affirmation and commitment that holds all students accountable for the daily actions and decisions that help them become **Outstanding Women Leaders**.