

**MINDS MATTER STUDENT APPLICATION 2015 - 2016**

Congratulations! You have been nominated for Minds Matter, a highly selective mentoring organization that will help prepare you for college. Minds Matter of Boston is a not-for-profit volunteer organization dedicated to assisting bright and motivated high school students like you achieve academic excellence and expand educational horizons.

**KEY DATES**

Late September: Applications Due

Early October: Student Interviews

Mid-October: First Minds Matter Session

**APPLICATION CHECKLIST**

We cannot consider your application until we receive all of the following materials:

☐ Personal Information

☐ Short Answer Questions

☐ Essay

☐ Parent / Guardian Form (with signature)

☐ 2014 tax return (IRS Form 1040) or proof of government assistance

☐ Most recent high school transcript

**APPLICATION SUBMISSION**

Please submit applications to your guidance counselor

**QUESTIONS**

If you have any questions about the application, please contact the Co-Directors of Student Recruiting listed below:

**Anita Sekar – sekar.anita@gmail.com**

**Sinead O’Brien – sinead.e.obrien@gmail.com**

www.mindsmatterboston.org

**MINDS MATTER BOSTON STUDENT APPLICATION**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

**Student Information**

First name

Last name

Address

City, State, Zip

Home Phone

Cell phone

Email address

Date of Birth

Current Grade ☐ 9th ☐ 10th ☐11th ☐ 12th

Sex ☐ Male ☐ Female

How did you hear about Minds Matter?

☐ Guidance Counselor ☐ Current Minds Matter Student ☐ Other

☐ School Presentation ☐ Other student/sibling

☐ Teacher ☐ Internet Search

**School Information**

Name of High School

**Family Information**

Father/Male Guardian name

Highest Level of Education

☐ Less than H.S ☐ Some College ☐ Bachelors Degree

☐ H.S/G.E.D ☐ Assoc. Degree ☐ Graduate Degree

Is parent/guardian fluent in English? ☐ yes ☐ no

Mother/Female Guardian name

Highest Level of Education

☐ Less than H.S ☐ Some College ☐ Bachelors Degree

☐ H.S/G.E.D ☐ Assoc. Degree ☐ Graduate Degree

Is parent/guardian fluent in English? ☐ yes ☐ no

**Immigration Status**

*This information is used for financial aid application for summer program and will not be shared outside of Minds Matter and program applications.*

Please select one of the following:

☐ U.S. Citizen/dual U.S. citizen

If dual, specify other citizenship

☐ U.S. permanent resident

Citizen of

Alien registration no.

☐ U.S. visa holder

Citizen of

Visa type

☐ None of the above

How long have you been in the country?

**Academic Information**

Please state your cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **(e.g., 3.5 / 4.0)**

*You must submit a copy of your most recent transcript along with your application.*

Are you currently enrolled in an ESL class? ☐ yes ☐ no

Have you taken the PSAT or SAT? Please indicate scores and dates.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Test | Date Taken | Score |
| PSAT |  |  |
| SAT |  |  |

**Extracurricular Activities / Honors and Achievements**

What extracurricular activities (personal, school, athletic, religious, community, etc.) have you participated in? What positions (if any) have you held (*e.g.* editor, president, secretary, captain, volunteer, etc.)?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Activity and Positions Held | Grade (9,10,11) | Hours per week |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

What awards or honors have you received?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Award or Honor | Grade (9,10,11) |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
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|  |  |

**Program information**

*Minds Matter has sessions every week throughout the school year (excluding school breaks). Minds Matter students spend an additional ~4 hours per week on Minds Matter related preparation.*

Do you have any conflicts that would prevent you from attending session? What other significant time commitments do you have?

Do you have a part-time job? ☐ yes ☐ no

What career areas interest you?

Minds Matter will assign you two mentors. Please indicate if you have any preference:

☐ I prefer female mentors ☐ I prefer male mentors ☐ No preference

**Short Answer Questions (100 words each) – You may write your answers below or attach a typed copy**

Why are you interested in Minds Matter? What do you hope to gain from the program?

What is your favorite class? What class do you find most difficult? Explain in detail.

Describe a time when you overcame a challenge

**Essay Question (250 words) – You may write your answer below or attach a typed copy**

If you had the opportunity to have dinner with one person, dead or alive, who would it be and why?

Please sign and date below:

Signature

Date

**MINDS MATTER BOSTON STUDENT APPLICATION**

PARENT/GUARDIAN FORM

Student first name

Student last name

**Dear Parent/Guardian**:

Congratulations! Your child has been nominated for Minds Matter. Minds Matter of Boston is a competitive, not-for-profit organization dedicated to assisting bright, motivated, and deserving students in finding and funding academic summer programs at colleges, universities, private boarding schools, and other preparatory schools. Participation in Minds Matter can expose your child to enriching educational and social opportunities and increase his/her chances for college acceptance and scholarships. If your child is accepted, Minds Matter will:

* Pair him or her with two adult mentors who will help strengthen his or her academic skills, help identify and apply to summer programs, and ultimately gain admission to a 4-year college or university.
* Host weekly mentoring sessions for your child on most Saturdays throughout the school year.
* Pay for your child to attend an academic summer program before his or her Junior and Senior Years.
* Provide extensive weekly SAT tutoring (30 hours total) to your child during his or her Junior Year.

**Please answer the following questions as part of your child’s application process.**

Minds Matter Students are required to attend weekly sessions, occasional field trips and summer programs after their sophomore and junior years, during the summer.  Please check the following permission boxes to determine your consent.  For more information, contact your local chapter.

☐ I grant my child permission to attend weekly Minds Matter sessions

☐ I grant my child permission to attend occasional field trips

☐ I grant my child permission to attend local summer programs

☐ I grant my child permission to attend regional summer programs

☐ I grant my child permission to attend national summer programs

☐ I grant my child permission to attend international summer programs

The following information is **required** for the Minds Matter application. Many summer programs offer substantial financial aid to families with incomes less than $25,000. The programs require copies of income tax returns to verify income.

**Please include a copy of your most recent income tax form (IRS Form 1040) or an official letter from a social worker for families on government assistance.**

*This information will not be shared with anyone outside of Minds Matter and the schools to which your child applies.*

Indicate your approximate total family income for 2014: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Indicate your approximate total family income for 2013: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How many people live in your household (including you)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Does your child quality for free/reduced lunch? ☐ yes ☐ no

Does your family receive governmental assistance/food stamps? ☐ yes ☐ no

Do you have any concerns about your child’s participation in the program?

Please sign and date below:

Parent/guardian signature

Print name

Date