



Governor's Honors Program

Tentative Student Handbook

June 18 – July 15, 2023



**Governor's Office of
Student Achievement**

The Governor's Honors Program does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, citizenship, ethnic or national origin, age, disability, medical status, military status, veteran status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, ancestry, or any legally protected status in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding grievances and the non-discrimination policies:
Joy Hawkins, GOSA Executive Director, (404) 463-1160.

On Campus Primary Points of Contact

For the duration of the summer program, the GHP office is open from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, and 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturday. Calls to the office number outside of these hours will be forwarded to a GHP Administrator.

GHP Office

Phone Number: (912) 478-8424

Email: ghp.onsite@gosa.ga.gov

Dean of Students

Ronda Price

Email: ronda.price@gosa.ga.gov

Program Manager

Ricky Parmer

Phone Number: (404) 463-0373

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Student Handbook**

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Introduction

Congratulations on being selected to attend the Governor's Honors Program! GHP offers students the opportunity to learn and share experiences with other gifted and talented Georgia high school students in a unique environment. Students who attend GHP may not only consider themselves as honor students, but as representatives of their **schools, communities, and state**.

Student and family acceptance of this invitation indicates acknowledgment of expectations regarding and agreement to maintain certain behaviors and responsibilities that are required of every participant.

- Integrity and respect for others must govern student behavior and performance in the program at all times, **from the moment of acceptance, throughout the entire program**.
- Students are expected to **fully participate in all aspects of the program**. These aspects include, but are not limited to, major and elective areas of study, as well as non-instructional activities.
- Students are expected to abide by **all rules, regulations, and expectations** as set forth and interpreted by GHP.
- Attending GHP is a **voluntary privilege** for each student and **not a right**. As such, a student's privilege to attend may be revoked without providing advance notice to the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) for either a single incident (such as the use or possession of a controlled substance or damage to emergency devices) or for a pattern of misbehavior deemed as sufficient grounds by the GHP Program Manager.
- If a student is engaged in any form of illegal behavior, the appropriate legal enforcement authorities will be promptly notified, and a police report will be filed.
- A parent/legal guardian or designated adult (21 years of age or older with direct knowledge of the child's medical history) emergency contact **must** accompany each student during the check-in process on June 18, 2023.
- Students who commit to GHP are expected to remain on campus for the **entire** four-week residential program without interruption; the only exceptions are specific incidents outlined in this handbook. All students must arrive on opening day **no later than 2:00 PM** and will **leave no earlier than 11:00 AM on the closing day of the program**.
- The Governor's Office of Student Achievement does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, citizenship, ethnic or national origin, age, disability, medical status, military status, veteran status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, ancestry, or any legally protected status in any of its employment practices, educational programs, services or activities.

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Instructional Program

GHP is a four-week, summer residential program designed to provide intellectually gifted and artistically talented high school students with challenging and enriching educational opportunities not usually available during the regular school year. Therefore, **all** students are required to fully engage and actively participate in **all** GHP activities during instructional time.

The subject areas in which students were nominated and selected are their major areas of study. Students will spend four hours daily, Monday through Saturday, in these major study areas. Students will receive information on selecting elective classes, including how to indicate their preferences, during the first week of GHP. Once assigned, students will remain in their elective class for the duration of the program. Elective classes will be held for two hours daily, Monday through Friday. Students will have opportunities to participate in daily offerings of seminars, activities, and performances after major and elective class times each day.

GHP uses films sparingly in its academic program. Occasionally films that faculty members determine to have excellent instructional value are R-rated. All R-rated offerings have gone through a deliberate screening process in which the film's educational value is articulated, and GHP administrators carefully consider the cause of its R rating. Examples of films used in the past are *Schindler's List*, *Saving Private Ryan*, and *Amistad*. If you **DO NOT** wish for your child to view these films, please notify the program by emailing the Program Manager, Ricky Parmer, at rparmer@gosa.ga.gov. Students will not be penalized for not viewing R-rated films and will receive an alternate assignment.

Students may **NOT** sign up for online courses during the summer, as participation in GHP requires a full-time commitment to the program.

Daily Schedule (Schedule may vary)

Breakfast	7:00 AM – 8:30 AM
Majors ¹	8:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Lunch.....	1:00 PM – 2:15 PM
Electives ²	2:30 PM – 4:30 PM
Dinner	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Hall Check.....	7:00 PM – 7:30 PM
Mixed Session I ³	7:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Mixed Session II	8:30 PM – 10:15 PM
Hall Check	10:30 PM – 11:00 PM
In Room	11:00 PM – 11:30 PM
Lights out	11:30 PM

¹ Major Sessions occur Monday through Saturday.

² Electives occur Monday through Friday.

³ Mixed Sessions include rehearsals, electives, fitness, research, intramurals, performances, guest speakers, and organized social activities. Times may vary.

Living on Campus

Dormitories & Instructional Rooms

All GHP participants are expected to be respectful with their use of all dormitories, classrooms, laboratories, facilities, and materials provided during the program. Students/families will be required to pay for repairs and/or replacements of any property for which the student is responsible due to damage beyond normal usage. In addition, everyone is expected to use sidewalks and/or paved surfaces when traveling throughout the campus.

Dormitories are assigned to create same-gender living spaces. Students are only allowed in approved and supervised areas of the lobby in dormitory areas that are designated for the opposite gender. GHP students will have access to specific supervised areas of dormitory lobbies during designated times during the program. Students will receive detailed guidelines regarding their ability to be in opposite-gender dorms during residence life orientation on the first day of the program. All students will be under the general supervision of resident assistants (RAs) while in their respective dormitories. Students must respect the authority of the RAs at all times. Dormitories are locked 24 hours per day, 7 days a week.

Each dormitory room shall be kept neat and clean at all times. Students are required to leave their rooms in good order each morning before class. All rooms and their contents are subject to inspection by GHP residential life personnel and administrators at any time.

Residence Hall Policies:

- No open flame or open heating element items, including, matches, lighters, candles, candle warmers, or incense.
- Cooking is not permitted in the residence hall rooms. Students may not bring microwaves, toasters, toaster ovens, electric skillets, George Foreman-style grilling machines, non-thermostat-controlled coffee makers, electric kettles/tea pots, or open heating element appliances. Microwaves will be available in the residence halls for student use.
- Keurig-style coffee makers **are** allowed.
- Do **NOT** block, hang, or attach items to fire safety equipment (e.g., sprinklers, smoke detectors, emergency horns, fire strobe lights).
- Use of nails, screws, tacks, and adhesives that may damage walls, doors, furniture, or fixtures is not allowed.
- Furnishings may not be removed from any room or from the lobbies.
- No photos or posters depicting obscene symbols, signs, or slogans, and/or containing defamatory, degrading, or offensive imagery or language are allowed in the residence halls.
- Pets are not permitted inside any campus facilities.
- Small amounts of food may be kept in closed containers in dorm rooms; however, open packages/containers of food or drink will **not** be allowed due to potential health hazards. Each suite will have a full-size refrigerator.
- Radios, stereos, televisions, and other sound-emitting devices must be kept at volumes that do not disturb roommates or people outside of the room.
- Please note that the Residence halls do not have cable TV in the rooms.

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- Each student must pay a \$20 deposit (exact cash or check) for a room key on registration day. The deposit will be returned when the key is returned at the end of GHP. The deposit will be forfeited if the room key is lost or stolen.

Room & Roommate Assignments

To provide the opportunity for students to meet new people and build new friendships, GHP does not provide students the option of requesting a particular roommate. All roommates are assigned by the program. All finalists will learn who their roommate(s) is/are after arriving on campus. GHP does not provide this information in advance because we have found that roommate relationships are more positive and successful when they start out with face-to-face interactions, rather than on preconceived notions based on fragments of information or online communications.

GHP strives to pair students who not only share common interests but who also have differences that enable them to learn from one another. A student from the metro area is likely to have a roommate from a different area of the state. A student interested in physics might be paired with a history buff, but both might be avid jazz fans. Every effort will be made to ensure that students are paired with peers from different majors and geographic areas of Georgia.

Students will be asked to complete an online roommate survey to identify characteristics for an ideal roommate pairing. Special requests for specific rooms or roommates will **not** be considered. GHP expects students to exhibit the intellectual and social mindset required to accept the diversity that makes up the GHP community.

Special Accommodations

The Governor's Honors Program accommodates all students as required by law. Students who require special accommodations for living and learning Georgia Southern University's campus because of health-related or other special circumstances must notify the GHP Office immediately. Please contact Ricky Parmer (rparmer@gosa.ga.gov) for questions or concerns.

Cell Phones & Wearable Technology

The Governor's Honors Program seeks to promote a sense of community among its members. A sense of community means fostering an environment with limited distractions. Cell phones and wearable technology can impede the fundamental goals of the Governor's Honors Program experience. Cell phones and wearable technology may not be used during instructional time or at extracurricular special events such as concerts and lecture seminars. Instructors may occasionally request the use of smart phones or other technology in class for instructional purposes and will notify GHP Administration in advance of such requests. Inappropriate use of cell phones and wearable technology may lead to their confiscation. Students may keep their cell phones and wearable technology with them during non-instructional time. However, they must use them in a manner that respects their environment and/or fellow students. Cell phones and wearable technology may not be used to defame, harass, intimidate, or threaten any other person. Students are prohibited from using their cell phones in any illegal, illicit, or offensive manner. Students must register their cell phone numbers with the RA staff upon check in/arrival. Students who fail to register their cell phones or who use their cell phone in any illegal, illicit, or offensive manner are subject to dismissal.

Computers & Internet Access

GHP and Georgia Southern University provide computers and internet access to GHP students for educational usage. Students must act in a responsible, ethical, and legal manner in order to access these services. Computers with internet access are available in both the college library and select computer labs administered by GHP. Georgia Southern will provide wireless internet access for students who wish to bring their personal computers.

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Students are responsible for ensuring that these resources, including computers and internet, are used in effective, efficient, ethical, and lawful manners. All existing laws (federal and state) apply, including not only those laws and regulations specific to computers and networks, but also those that may apply generally to personal conduct. Using Georgia Southern University's Internet access and electronic communications services means that one agrees to abide by the institution's guidelines as well.

The use of Georgia Southern resources is given to authorized users primarily for education, research, service, and administration. It is the user's responsibility, however, to practice the following:

- Comply with all federal, state, and other applicable laws; with all university policies and procedures; and with all contracts and licenses.
- Respect and honor the rights of others regarding intellectual property, privacy, freedom from harassment, academic freedom, copyright, and use of IT resources.
- Maintain the confidentiality, security, and availability of computer systems and information on all devices under their control to prevent loss, theft, damage, or inappropriate disclosure.
- Never share passwords with others and use only the passwords and privileges associated with your account and for the authorized purpose.
- Respect the privacy of other users and their accounts, regardless of whether those accounts are securely protected.
- Monitor access to accounts. If unauthorized activity is suspected, users should report it to the Program Manager, Ricky Parmer (rparmer@gosa.ga.gov) and change the password immediately.
- Use university-provided software in a manner that abides by licensing provisions, including installation, use, copying, number of simultaneous users, and other license terms.

Users are accountable for their conduct. Misuse of computing, networking, or information resources may result in the loss of computing privileges and could result in prosecution under applicable statutes. Complaints alleging misuse of campus computing resources will be directed to the Program Manager, Ricky Parmer (rparmer@gosa.ga.gov).

Misuse of Resources

Illegal reproduction of software protected by U.S. Copyright Law is subject to civil damages and criminal penalties, including fines and imprisonment. Activities will not be considered misuse when authorized by appropriate and program-sanctioned officials for security or performance testing.

Examples of misuse include, but are not limited to, these activities:

- Using a computer account or password other than one's own.
 - *Never share your computer account or password.*
- Using the campus network to gain unauthorized access to any computer or network.
- Performing an act which interferes with the normal operation of computers, peripherals, or networks.
- Knowingly running or installing on any computer system or network, or giving to another user, a program intended to damage or to place excessive load on a computer system or network. This includes, but is not limited to, programs known as computer viruses, Trojan horses, and worms.
- Attempting to circumvent data protection methods or uncover security vulnerabilities.

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- Violating terms of applicable software licensing agreements or copyright laws. This includes the downloading of copyrighted material, such as audio and video files for which the copyright owners have not granted rights.
- Knowingly wasting computer or network resources. Users should respect system limits and not consume an unreasonable amount of those resources. While network/Internet-capable video game consoles are prohibited, if they cause network performance degradation, they may be treated as if wasting computer resources.
- Intentionally accessing, downloading, uploading, receiving, or sending materials that include sexually explicit content or other material using vulgar, sexist, racist, threatening, violent, or defamatory language, except for GHP administration-authorized academic purpose.
- Masking the identity of an account or machine; including virtual private networks (vpn).
- Attempting to monitor or tamper with another user's electronic communications, or reading, copying, changing, or deleting another user's files or software without the explicit agreement of the owner.
- Using GHP's or the university's electronic mail and/or equipment for solicitation, political communication, advertising, or for any commercial purpose.
- Connecting and operating unauthorized wireless access points, switches, and/or routers on the campus network.

What to Bring

All students will be housed in suite style rooms with twin xl (boys) or full (girls) beds, and one bathroom per 2 students.

Students **should** bring the following items:

- Blanket/comforter
- Two sets of sheets based on individual residence halls.
- Pillow(s)
- Pillowcases
- Towels
- Washcloths
- Laundry bag
- Laundry detergent and supplies
- Personal watch and/or clock
- Desk lamp
- Clothes hangers
- Trashcan
- Shower shoes
- Toiletries
- Toilet paper/cleaning supplies

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Students **may** also bring these personal items:

- Radio/music player
- Alarm clock
- Power strip
- Hair dryer
- Shower caddy
- Bath sheet or bath robe
- Personal computer/TV/Gaming console
- Personal sports or musical equipment
- Camera
- Umbrella
- Keurig-style (single cup) coffee maker

Dress & Grooming

GHP attire and grooming must permit students, faculty, and staff to participate in learning without posing a risk to the health or safety of any GHP student or personnel.

- Students must wear clothing, including a shirt with pants or skirt (or the equivalent, such as dresses, leggings, or shorts), and shoes.
- Hats and other head coverings are not permitted in instructional, performance, or dining spaces, except when worn as sun-protective clothing as prescribed by the student's physician or recommended by the student's instructor, as an expression of religious beliefs, or when extreme weather warrants it.
- Clothing must cover the chest, torso, and lower extremities.
- Clothing must cover undergarments.
- Clothing must not be see-through.
- Sports attire (including, but not limited to, running, biking, exercise/workout attire; tank tops; active wear; similar items) and performing arts attire may not be worn outside approved and supervised instructional settings.
- Clothing must be suitable for all scheduled classroom activities, including fitness activities, science labs, performance-based activities, classes involving construction-based learning, and other activities in which unique hazards necessitate that specialized attire or safety gear be required.
- The program does not allow clothing with obscene pictures, symbols, signs, or slogans; the depiction of illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or contraband; or inflammatory, provocative, lewd, profane, defamatory, or suggestive language.

Final dress code interpretation is at the discretion of the administration, with all final decisions approved by the GHP Program Manager. Any member of the GHP community who violates these standards shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Students are strongly encouraged to bring casual clothes, ordinary school-appropriate dress, and dress clothes for special events such as concerts or plays or for attending off-campus worship. All

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students are expected to dress appropriately (business casual dress is suggested) for **all** concerts. Bear in mind that temperatures outside are usually hot; however, academic, residential, and performance spaces are often heavily air-conditioned. Therefore, students should consider clothes that will allow layering for various temperatures. **Rain gear and tennis/walking shoes are highly recommended.**

Attention to personal hygiene (personal neatness and good grooming) is expected of all students. Failure to meet expectations for personal hygiene will be addressed quickly and in a confidential manner.

Available Campus Services

Mail and/or Package Delivery

All mail, including express/overnight packages, will be delivered/received through the Georgia Southern Post Office and delivered to the GHP Mail Room. Mail and/or packages may be sent to students by using the following information:

Student's Full Name (GHP Boy or Girl)
Optional: RA Name
97 Georgia Avenue
Dining Commons #7981
Statesboro, GA 30458

USPS, UPS, and FedEx deliver to Georgia Southern University Monday through Friday. All mail and packages are then delivered directly to the GHP Mail Room once daily, Monday – Friday.

Note: GHP participants may purchase stamps and mail packages via the GSU Post Office. Acceptable means of payment are cash, check, Visa, Master Card, Discover, American Express, or EagleXpress. The GSU post office will not release packages directly to GHP students.

Letter/Package Pick Up Process:

- Letters\packages mailed to students will be delivered to the GHP Mail Room **once per day** by Georgia Southern employees. *This will usually occur midday.*
- The GHP Mail Room will have operating times for students to pick up mail. These times will be communicated to students after the program starts.
- While packages may be received by the Georgia Southern Post Office on Friday afternoon and throughout the weekend, they will not be delivered to the GHP Mail Room for pick up until the following Monday.
- GHP will not have access to the Georgia Southern Post Office outside of their regular operating hours. It is incumbent of the shipper to make sure that time sensitive items are delivered during the weekday, detailed above.
- **Example:** Package tracking shows delivered Friday 3:25PM at Georgia Southern Post Office. This package will be delivered to the GHP Mail Room on the following Monday for student pick up.

Library

Students are encouraged and welcomed to use all library services during their stay at Georgia Southern University. All students will attend an introductory program on using the library catalog, electronic indexes, databases, and other basic research information specific to the library.

Students must present their GHP identification cards to check out library materials. All overdue fines and/or replacement costs for lost or damaged materials are the student's responsibility.

Meals & Snacks

All meals in the Lakeside Dining Hall are provided to GHP students at no cost. Vegetarian dishes are offered at all meals, and every effort will be made to accommodate special dietary needs. Please enter special dietary needs in the online **Parent/Legal Guardian Student Information Form**.

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Food and grocery delivery services (DoorDash, Grub Hub, Instacart, etc.) of any kind are not permitted during the duration of the program.

GHP will provide its first student meal on the evening of registration day and its final meal during breakfast on the closing day.

During special events, visiting family members and other guests must pay for meals while on campus, including meals in the dining hall.

In addition to the university dining facility, [retail food vendors](#) are available on campus for meals. Everyone must pay for food at the retail food vendors. Various drink and snack machines are located on campus and may be accessed at the student's expense.

University Bookstore

The college bookstore is open during regularly scheduled business hours, which are posted on its doors and online, and accepts major credit and debit cards, and EagleXpress.

Laundry

Washers and dryers are available on campus at no cost; however, detergent and other laundry supplies are the student's responsibility.

Student Health Center & Medications

Georgia Southern University Health Services Center at 984 Plant Drive is available for GHP students for ambulatory illnesses and injuries during regular clinic hours (Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM). The Health Services Center is available to students in coordination with the GHP program nurses. Students should first report any illness or injury to the GHP program nurse who will then coordinate care with Health Services as necessary. Should a student require medical attention when the Georgia Southern Health Center is closed, or in the case of an emergency, a program administrator will transport the student to the local emergency room or an urgent care facility. Ambulance service is also available in extreme circumstances. **Students who do not feel well and cannot attend class must notify a GHP faculty or staff member as quickly as possible. Notifying a fellow student is insufficient.** The program provides, free of charge, treatment of minor injuries or illnesses by the campus health services. The student's parent/legal guardian will be responsible for all other expenses, such as prescriptions, hospital visits, ambulance services, and off-campus medical consultations. A program administrator will promptly report serious illnesses or emergencies to parent(s)/legal guardian(s) of the student.

GHP does not and cannot provide care for students requiring intensive physical or psychological treatment or for students with infectious diseases. It is GHP's policy to have these students treated by the local hospital until a full recovery can be certified by the hospital's treating physician. If a student leaves campus for health reasons and remains away for three days, they may not be allowed to return to GHP, as they would have missed a significant portion of the instruction.

Parents must notify GHP program staff of all student health conditions. Students must check in **all prescription medications** with the program nurses in the designated area upon arrival. **Do not bring over-the-counter (OTC) medications, as the program will provide them for all students.** Students will be required to receive their medication(s) according to the directions on the prescription and the online *Parent/Legal Guardian Student Information Form*. Parent(s)/legal guardian(s) must complete the requisite *Authorization to Carry Questions* for students who need inhalers, epi-pens, and insulin with them at all times, located in the above information form. A parent/legal guardian **must** complete the *Permission to Dispense*

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Medication Questions to authorize program nurses to dispense **any** medications, including over-the-counter medications. It is each student's responsibility to visit the Student Health and Wellness Center for their medicine regimen at the appropriate time(s). Students who miss their **required medication(s)** may be removed from any GHP activity to take their medication. A pattern of missing required medication(s) may result in dismissal from the program. Students must report to the Student Health Center and the Dean of Students before making off-campus medical appointments, including dental and vision visits. Non-emergency and off-campus medical appointments must be scheduled for visits during non-instructional hours.

A parent/legal guardian of every student who will be taking prescription medications during the program must check in with one of the program's Registered Nurses (RNs) on arrival day. The program RNs will administer most prescription medications and **all** over-the-counter medications. All prescription medications must be brought in their **original containers with the name and contact information of the prescribing doctor clearly visible**. We encourage parents to contact their pharmacy in advance and request daily medication packaging if available.

GHP students found with **unauthorized** prescriptions or OTC medications on their person or in their rooms may be dismissed from the program.

Finances

GHP operates at no cost to the students. However, students may bring discretionary spending money, depending on their personal preferences. It is reasonable to assume that students can spend between \$100 (e.g., program t-shirts) and \$250 during the program. Most students purchase program t-shirts, which typically **require cash payment**.

Students **are not advised** to keep large amounts of money on their person or in their rooms, backpacks, or gym bags. The college does not provide banking services. However, students may cash a maximum of \$100 in personal checks weekly at the cashier's window located in Deal Hall (Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM).

Students will have limited access to ATMs located in [Dining Commons](#).

Safety and Leaving Campus

Safety Protocols

Student safety is the single most important concern for GHP. The program works to provide freedom of movement, with some limits/constraints, to ensure a safe and secure environment. GHP students will be required to adhere to a “buddy system” at times, in that during these instances they will be required to always travel in groups of two to three and **MUST** attend mandatory hall checks each evening and during the afternoons on weekends. GHP may modify any and all safety protocols during the program. Failure to follow GHP safety protocols will lead to disciplinary action and may result in dismissal from the program.

Identification Cards

A personal photo identification card and program lanyard will be issued to students upon their arrival. The GHP/Georgia Southern ID card, along with the official GHP-issued lanyard, must be worn at all times to allow Georgia Southern personnel and the GHP faculty/staff to easily identify students as GHP participants. The student's name and photograph must remain visible at all times. If an ID card is lost, the student **must** replace it for a fee of \$20.

The GHP/Georgia Southern ID card provides students access to the residence halls, library, and dining facility. Students will not be able to enter these areas without it. The card also functions as a debit/flex card for all on-campus **food** vendors. **Deposits made to the Georgia Southern EagleXpress card are non-refundable.** A minimum of \$10 and maximum of \$100 may be deposited through an online link or phone transaction. Deposits will be available for students within 24 hours or less.

Parents/legal guardians will receive details for this system during registration day.

Leaving the Georgia Southern Campus

Students are expected to represent GHP well at all times, even during off-campus field trips, and to follow GHP rules/guidelines for acceptable behavior and dress. Unless related to a program approved and supervised GHP activity, students are required to remain on campus for the entire program.

Please note that the Fourth of July holiday nor observance of Juneteenth will be a “day off” at GHP. The program will provide appropriate Independence Day celebration activities on campus for the students. Classes and normally scheduled activities will be in session according to the regular schedule.

Visiting

Family Day will occur on July 2nd. Parents/legal guardians are invited to visit their students on campus or check them out, between 9AM – 3PM. Specific information will be provided closer to the start of the program.

Religious Activities

GHP does not endorse any worship service or group. GHP students may attend any local worship service of their choice, provided that the local service is willing to provide transportation to and from GHP with parental/legal guardian permission. The program will work to partner with local houses of worship and parents/legal guardians to facilitate the process. Parents/legal guardians will be required to complete a specific permission form (which will be available online) in a timely manner to allow their child to leave campus for religious services.

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Emergency Procedures

Emergency drills will be held during the program. **ALL** students must follow directions during these drills. Never re-enter a building until the all-clear signal is given. An RA will provide detailed training for each hall during the first week of the program.

Behavioral Expectations

General Rules of Georgia's Governor's Honors Program

Integrity and respect for others must govern student behavior and performance in the program at all times. GHP students are expected to fully participate in all aspects of the program. Students are expected to abide by all rules, regulations, and expectations as set forth and interpreted by the Governor's Office of Student Achievement (GOSA). Additionally, GHP students must interact with other students in a respectful manner, recognize the authority of GHP administration and faculty/staff, and conduct themselves in a manner that is safe both for themselves and for others while they are at GHP. **A student may be dismissed if the student displays behavior that is not suitable for a rigorous academic environment in a residential setting.** Parents should impress upon their child the honor and privilege of being selected as a GHP finalist, and the importance of adhering to this handbook when choosing to participate in the program.

We plan our program to accommodate all students, and our staff is trained to recognize and meet the diverse needs of our finalists. To meet each student's needs, parents *must* provide *all* relevant and accurate information regarding their child's health status, including physical, mental, emotional, and social health concerns, by the published deadline. Falsifying or failing to provide complete and accurate information may lead to rescinding the student's offer to attend or expulsion from the program. Parents are expected to communicate any concerns promptly and directly to the appropriate GHP administrator.

Attending GHP is a privilege for each student and not a right. As such, a student's privilege to attend may be revoked without providing advanced notice to the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) for either a single incident (such as, but not limited to, the use or possession of a controlled substance or damage to emergency devices), or for a pattern of misbehavior deemed as sufficient grounds for revocation by the GHP Program Manager. If a student is engaged in any form of illegal behavior, the appropriate legal enforcement authorities will be promptly notified, and a police report will be filed.

Students are not excused from instructional time at GHP with the exception of diagnosed illness or verifiable family emergency, and even then, only following the approval of the GHP Program Manager.

All students are required to fully engage and actively participate in **all** GHP instructional activities. This includes but is not limited to: taking responsibility for their own learning by attending classes, completing assignments, participating in group study and practice, and being well prepared for classes each day. Students who fail to take their academic and artistic opportunities seriously may be dismissed from the program.

All GHP students and personnel must wear their GHP/Georgia Southern ID cards and official GHP lanyard at all times. These ID cards not only identify students as GHP participants and authorize their presence on the Georgia Southern campus, but also provide admittance to all their dormitories, special events, and the Lakeside Dining Hall.

Students should dress appropriately at all times. Inappropriate apparel should not be worn in classes or rehearsals. Shoes must be worn at all times.

Students who bring unauthorized guests on campus will be dismissed.

Students must refrain from inappropriate and unseemly public displays of affection. Sexual conduct and/or sexual contact is prohibited and will result in dismissal. In certain instances, the conduct may also be illegal and require a report be made to the appropriate legal authority.

Governor's Honors Program Student Handbook

Students are not permitted to have any type of vehicle on the Georgia Southern campus (car, motorcycle, scooter, etc.). Bicycles, skateboards, hoverboards, rollerblades, electric scooters, skates, drones, and/or similar items (including but not limited to rental scooters on campus) are also prohibited. Violation of this rule may result in dismissal.

Any possession of any firearm, explosive device, or object that is intended to be used as a weapon will result in immediate dismissal.

Any possession or usage of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, illegal drugs, vaping products (including any associated paraphernalia and JUUL), or prescription drugs (all student prescriptions must be checked in, stored, and administered at the GHP health center) will result in an immediate dismissal from the program. GHP students found with unauthorized prescriptions or over-the-counter medications on their person or in their rooms will be dismissed from the program.

Theft of property will result in dismissal from the program.

Vandalism of GHP or Georgia Southern University property will result in dismissal from the program.

Any form of bullying, unwelcome conduct, and/or harassment (cyber, physical, sexual, mental, or emotional) of fellow students, Georgia Southern faculty/staff, or GHP faculty/staff will result in dismissal from the program. Conduct is unwelcome when an affected individual does not solicit or invite it and when the affected individual regards the conduct as undesirable or offensive. Harassment is defined as uninvited and unwelcome verbal, written, or physical conduct that offends, demeans, or threatens another person. Bullying is defined as verbal or physical acts which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass, or intimidate. **This policy will be enforced without exception.**

Parents must notify GHP program staff of all student health conditions. Failure to disclose a known health condition that may result in a health risk to anyone, including your child, other students, or faculty/staff may result in dismissal. *All* medications must be noted on the **GHP Health Form** and checked in on registration day. An appropriate health provider will dispense student medications.

In the unfortunate event that it becomes necessary, a student who is dismissed from the program **MUST** be checked out and picked up by a parent/legal guardian or a designated adult emergency contact within **12 hours** of notification. Such students will not be allowed to participate in any additional GHP activities and will be supervised by a GHP administrator and/or RA until the parent/legal guardian or adult emergency contact arrives. Late departures in this situation, more than 12 hours after notification, may result in the program contacting local law enforcement or the Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS). If GHP administrative staff is unable to contact a student's parent(s)/legal guardian(s) or emergency contact within 24 hours after the initial notification attempt, the program will call DFCS.