

Center for Talent Development

CREATING PATHWAYS FOR ACADEMICALLY TALENTED STUDENTS

A photograph of two young boys sitting at a table, looking intently at an open book. The boy on the left has short brown hair and is wearing a blue and black plaid shirt. The boy on the right has light brown hair, wears glasses, and a dark blue hoodie. On the table in front of them are two colorful paper cups with a geometric pattern, each containing a wooden popsicle stick. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a library or study area.

**2019-2020
Academic Year
Programs
Age 3 - Grade 12**

Weekend, Online,
and Service-Learning



A CTD student
and his family's desire
to learn together.

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We're excited

to show you a sample of some
of our academic year courses.
Visit **EXPLORE COURSES** at
ctd.northwestern.edu/courses
to view them all!



The story of two
educators impacting
CTD students, through
the power of numbers
and social justice.

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Once a student's interests
and skills are brought into focus,
we create paths to build
confidence and competence.

DR. PAULA OLSZEWSKI-KUBILIUS
DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR TALENT DEVELOPMENT

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A Message From Our Leadership



Northwestern University's School of Education and Social Policy (SESP) is passionate about discovering new ways to unlock creativity, learning, and engagement.

Uniquely positioned at the intersection of education and social policy, we are driven by our mission to make lives better and transform communities. Center for Talent Development (CTD) is at the heart of SESP's work—developing, testing, and relentlessly improving programs, which spark lifelong learning in tomorrow's leaders.

We strive to identify talent and unlock exceptional assets across a diverse community of young learners. For thousands of students each year, CTD provides the first glimpse into what Northwestern University has to offer. We look forward to welcoming our 2019-2020 students, both new and returning, as they continue to learn, grow, and thrive.

DAVID FIGLIO
DEAN, SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL POLICY

No two children are alike, just as no two CTD students have the exact same path.

CTD INSTRUCTOR



At Center for Talent Development (CTD), we believe giftedness is not a trait, like eye color or fingerprint, but rather a journey which involves developing

potential into achievement. We believe talent can be developed by matching an individual's interests and abilities with the right blend of opportunity, experience, and challenge.

CTD's signature *Pathways* approach helps high-ability students develop intellectually, socially, and emotionally. Once a student's interests and skills are brought into focus, we create paths to build confidence and competence, starting in early childhood and continuing through adolescence and adulthood.

Our expert instructors share our vision. We partner with highly trained, well-respected, and enthusiastic teachers who provide the most stimulating ways to explore their content areas. Students come away challenged, with passions stoked, and hungry for more.

Students truly understand foundational concepts when they can apply critical-thinking, creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving skills to real-life situations. By providing learning experiences for students to solve authentic, real-world problems, we offer students a vision of how they may one day contribute to their field. We hope our advanced learners, the future leaders of our world, will successfully adapt to whatever career or life situation they encounter down the road.

DR. PAULA OLSZEWSKI-KUBILIUS
DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR TALENT DEVELOPMENT

76%

of female CTD students participate in STEM coursework

CTD students come from 46 different countries

20,000+

students enrolled in CTD programs since 2013

over 500

middle school students have taken credit-bearing high school level honors courses in the last two years

500+

unique courses offered each year

8:1

CTD's student:teacher ratio supports individualized learning

CTD's Online Family Program has not only served families from coast to coast in the US and Canada, but also families in Central America, China, Hong Kong, Europe, and Australia

1,300+

families have more than one student enrolled in CTD courses

Developing Your Child's Potential

The CTD Pathways Approach

At Center for Talent Development (CTD), we believe advanced academic ability is not a trait, like eye color, but rather a potential for future achievement that requires continuous nurturing over time. Research suggests that talent development occurs when an individual's aptitudes and interests are matched with the right combination of opportunities for intellectual, social, and emotional growth. CTD's mission is to identify exceptional ability and potential in young students and provide paths toward adult achievement and creativity through opportunities to study and practice with peers, while being guided by expert teachers and adult professionals.

How Our Pathways Approach Guides Your Child

Our signature Pathways approach to talent development includes multiple options for high-ability students and their families as they grow both intellectually and psychosocially. Starting as early as age 3, a student can begin exploring an array of interests through various courses or pursue a passion by taking many courses in the same subject area. As they grow older, CTD programming includes opportunities to delve even deeper into subjects through numerous enrichment opportunities and advanced and accelerated courses. Our goal with our Pathways approach is to help students move from early potential to increased competency and expertise in areas of interest and/or ability.

As a parent you may wonder, *how can I find the right pathway for my child?* There is no right or wrong path, just one that matches your child's interests and abilities. The Pathways approach at CTD provides endless opportunities to help your child reach their individual highest potential. No two children are alike, just as no two CTD students have the same exact path. CTD offers hundreds of courses and experiences in nearly every discipline at every grade level. This means you'll always find the right opportunity at the right time in your child's development.

To support each individual student, CTD has an exceptional approach to instruction. CTD instructors are chosen because they are content experts, engaged and passionate about their subject, and committed to developing the talents of their students. Each class stretches students' problem solving and critical-thinking skills, fosters their creativity and content expertise, and encourages intellectual risk-taking in a safe atmosphere. Students are inspired to become self-directed, lifelong learners and to continue on their path of talent development.



The belief that academic ability develops over time is important, because it emphasizes the role of study, practice, and effort—combined with the right kinds of opportunities.

DR. PAULA OLSZEWSKI-KUBILIUS
DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR TALENT DEVELOPMENT



*This example was created to demonstrate a potential pathway for a CTD student. Students are able to explore many different pathways during their time at CTD.



Meeting the Needs of High-Ability Learners

Center for Talent Development (CTD) exists to help young people with exceptional academic potential and demonstrated talent reach their full potential. CTD's unique Pathways approach to talent development gives students opportunities to identify their academic strengths and interests, explore potential career trajectories over time, develop critical knowledge and skills, and monitor their progress.



CTD has been accredited by the NCA CASI since 1994



“The most important thing I will take with me is the idea that anyone can be a leader by leading with their mind and heart.”

CTD STUDENT

ASSESSMENT

Understanding your child's academic potential and current level of achievement is an important first step in the talent development process. Assessments that identify your child's strengths also help determine what is needed in terms of enrichment, acceleration, or supplemental programming. However, by elementary school, the grade-level and computer-adaptive tests used in schools provide limited information about growth and readiness to learn for high-ability learners. CTD solves this problem by offering assessments designed for older students that measure college and career readiness, but, when given to younger students, also measure academic ability and potential.

Once your child is assessed using a test better suited to their level of ability, CTD provides recommended pathways for talent development, normative data that provides a benchmark to compare their performance to other high-ability learners their age, resources for instruction and programming, and access to a supportive, online community led by an expert facilitator.

Visit ctd.northwestern.edu/assessment to learn more about the tests CTD uses and to register.

ADVANCED ENRICHMENT

Advanced Enrichment courses give students the opportunity to focus on specific areas of study. Students delve deep into topics and fields not typically a part of the core curriculum at school. These courses place emphasis on higher-order thinking, facilitate creative thinking, and provide early exposure to advanced concepts in developmentally appropriate ways. Classes are student-centered, exploratory, and interactive. These courses complement school-based curriculum by extending student learning to real-world problems, providing students with insight into cutting-edge, emerging careers.

ACCELERATION

Acceleration courses give middle and high school students opportunities to accelerate academically by accessing curriculum more commonly used with older students. Students in these courses can advance at a pace more in sync with how quickly they learn, allowing them to learn more, feel more engaged in class, maintain motivation, and develop healthy learning habits. CTD offers a wide variety of Acceleration courses through our Online Core Essentials courses (Grades 4-8), Online Honors and Honors Elective courses (Grades 9-12 and middle school students on an accelerated basis), and Online AP® courses (Grades 9-12).

Academic Year Program Types

WEEKEND

Center for Talent Development (CTD) offers a variety of weekend courses at multiple sites. CTD offers single-weekend Accelerated Weekend Experiences (AWE), as well as courses on eight Saturdays in fall and winter, or six Saturdays in spring. Sunday Advanced Enrichment courses are also offered at our Evanston site for extra flexibility for families.

Weekend programs allow students to:

- Work in a community of like-minded peers
- Explore subjects not typically offered in traditional schools
- Participate in challenging, research-driven courses backed by one of the world's most respected universities
- Delve deeper into a single topic and develop an area of strength

ONLINE

CTD provides a variety of online and hybrid (a combination of online and in-person) courses. Online courses offer academically talented students from around the world the opportunity to take exceptional enrichment, high school honors, and Advanced Placement (AP)® courses in a flexible and interactive online setting. Courses are created specifically with advanced students in mind and taught by caring educators with deep content expertise.

Online courses allow students to:

- Explore subjects not typically offered in traditional schools
- Accelerate their learning through access to courses usually offered to older students
- Enjoy extensive one-on-one feedback from instructors
- Fit coursework into their busy schedules
- Develop critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills, as well as executive functioning skills

HYBRID

CTD Hybrid programs combine the best elements of online and face-to-face learning. Face-to-face course elements build relationships and support experiential learning, while online components support in-depth exploration and personalized guidance and feedback for each student.



SERVICE-LEARNING

Service-learning courses are offered through CTD's Civic Education Project (CEP). CEP combines hands on-education and community service to promote civic responsibility among young people. Through innovative school-year programs and summer courses, CEP offers students opportunities to learn and serve in communities across the country, developing the knowledge, experience, and leadership skills they need to make a positive impact on the world. For educators, CEP also offers custom-designed programs, teacher training, and support for service-learning efforts.

Service-learning programs allow students to:

- Engage in hands-on service in communities
- Learn about important social problems and inspiring solutions
- Develop and practice leadership skills
- Explore an exciting city and earn service hours while making a difference
- Build lasting friendships with bright, motivated peers
- Discover ways to create positive change

CTD Programs: Grade by Grade



This course is something that I will remember for the rest of my life.

CTD STUDENT



Age 3 - Grade 3 Programs

Assessment

CTD does testing for both program eligibility and talent identification. For age 4 through grade 1, CTD offers the group-administered Measures of Academic Progress (MAP®), which assesses what students are ready to learn in math and reading. For age 4 through grade 3, CTD also offers the individually administered Kaufman Test of Educational Achievement (KTEA), which measures math and reading achievement. Students in grade 3 may take the PSAT™ 8/9 above-grade-level through Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS). PSAT™ 8/9 is a test designed for students in grades 8 and 9, but when it is given to high-achieving students in grade 3, it identifies areas of exceptional academic talent and pinpoints what a student is ready to learn more clearly than grade-level tests. For more information, please visit ctd.northwestern.edu/assessment.

MAP®, KTEA, PSAT™ 8/9

PROGRAM DATES AND LOCATIONS

Dates and locations vary throughout the academic year. Visit ctd.northwestern.edu/assessment for details.

PRICING

Varies by assessment (\$65-\$150)

Weekend Enrichment Program

Weekend courses provide students challenging, hands-on engagement, and outstanding instruction by teachers with experience teaching academically talented students. All courses in this grade band, including weekend courses, encourage a sustained, whole-family approach, offering parent education workshops, addressing the social-emotional development of academically talented learners, and guiding parents on how to support students in order to maximize their full potential. Weekend program sessions run for eight Saturdays and/or Sundays in fall and winter, and six Saturdays and/or Sundays in spring.

PROGRAM DATES

Fall 2019

Saturdays, September 28 - November 16 (snow day November 23)
Sundays (Evanston only), September 29 - November 24
(snow day December 8). No class October 20

Winter 2020

Saturdays, January 18 - March 7 (snow day March 14)
Sundays (Evanston only), January 19 - March 8 (snow day March 15)

Spring 2020

Saturdays, April 11 - May 16
Sundays (Evanston only), April 12 - May 17

TADPOLE ACADEMY PROGRAM DATES

Fall I 2019

Saturdays, September 28, October 5, October 12
Sundays, September 29, October 6, October 13

Fall II 2019

Saturdays, October 26, November 2, November 9
Sundays, October 27, November 3, November 10

Winter I 2020

Saturdays, January 18, January 25, February 1
Sundays, January 19, January 26, February 2

Winter II 2020

Saturdays, February 15, February 22, February 29
Sundays, February 16, February 23, March 1

Spring I 2020

Saturdays, April 11, April 18, April 25
Sundays, April 12, April 19, April 26

Spring II 2020

Saturdays, May 2, May 9, May 16
Sundays, May 3, May 10, May 17

Note: Information about Tadpole, CTD's classes for three-year-olds and their caregivers/parents, is available in the parent-child course section of this catalog. Please see pages 12 and 13.

PROGRAM LOCATIONS

Saturdays: Evanston, Palatine, Naperville, and Chicago, Illinois
Sundays: Evanston

PRICING

Weekend Enrichment Program, Fall and Winter: \$430
Weekend Enrichment Program, Spring: \$340
Accelerated Weekend Experience (AWE): \$265
Tadpole Academy: \$120

Online Family Program

The Online Family Program is for bright, busy, and inquisitive students in Kindergarten through grade 3. Students and their parents/care-givers participate in short, flexible, online modules taught by expert instructors. No test scores or teacher recommendations are required for eligibility for this program.

PROGRAM DATES

Fall 2019

September 27 - October 25

Winter 2020

January 17 - February 14

Spring 2020

April 10 - May 8

PROGRAM LOCATION

Online

PRICING

Online Family Program \$150

Note: Our **Core Enrichment** and **Core Essentials** online courses are available to students in grade 3. These nine-week courses are offered quarterly throughout the year. Please refer to the Online Program section on page 10 for more details.

Grades 4-8 Programs

Assessment

Students in grades 4-6 are encouraged to take the PSAT™ 8/9 through Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS). PSAT™ 8/9 is a test designed for students in grades 8 and 9, but when it is given to high-achieving students in younger grades, it identifies areas of exceptional academic talent and pinpoints what a student is ready to learn more clearly than grade-level tests given in school. Students in grades 6-8 are invited to take the SAT® or ACT®, through NUMATS, which are the same tests typically taken by juniors and seniors to measure college and career readiness. When given to high-achieving students in grade 6 through 8 (above-grade-level), these tests provide helpful information about the content a student is ready to learn and assess readiness for accelerated programming. When applying for CTD accelerated courses, above-grade-level assessment is the preferred tool for determining eligibility. For more information, please visit ctd.northwestern.edu/assessment.

PSAT™ 8/9, SAT®, ACT®

PROGRAM DATES AND LOCATIONS

Dates and locations vary throughout the academic year. Visit ctd.northwestern.edu/assessment for details.

PRICING

Varies by assessment (\$85-\$150)

Weekend Enrichment Program

Weekend courses range from single-weekend courses to eight-week courses to accommodate flexible family schedules. Weekend programs are research-driven, offer a community of like-minded peers, and present opportunities for students to delve deeper into specific topics. Weekend courses encourage sustained, whole family engagement, offering parent education workshops and addressing the social-emotional development of advanced learners. CTD offers everything from in-depth, single-weekend accelerated weekend experiences to courses taking place on Saturdays in the fall, winter, and spring. Sunday advanced enrichment courses are also offered at our Evanston site for extra flexibility for families. For more information, please visit ctd.northwestern.edu/weekend.

PROGRAM DATES

Fall 2019: Saturdays, September 28 - November 16 (snow day November 23); Sundays (Evanston only), September 29 - November 24 (snow day December 8). No class October 20

Winter 2020: Saturdays, January 18 - March 7 (snow day March 14); Sundays (Evanston only), January 19 - March 8 (snow day March 15)

Spring 2020: Saturdays, April 11 - May 16
Sundays (Evanston only), April 12 - May 17

PROGRAM LOCATIONS

Saturdays: Evanston, Palatine, Naperville, and Chicago, Illinois
Sundays: Evanston

PRICING

Weekend Enrichment Program, Fall and Winter: \$430
Weekend Enrichment Program, Spring: \$340
Accelerated Weekend Experience (AWE): \$265

Online Program

CTD's online courses allow students to explore topics beyond the core curriculum, develop critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills, and interact with like-minded peers from around the globe. Some online courses are non-graded courses, allowing students to expand their learning horizons in a "low stakes" environment where they can feel free to fearlessly explore new fields of interest, and where instructors have expanded flexibility to differentiate instruction based on each student's goals, experiences, and desire to learn. Other online courses focus on core academic subjects and are designed for students to master academic content standards. Students at this level also have the opportunity to receive early access to high school credit-bearing courses, giving them the chance to earn high school credit at their schools. For more information, please visit ctd.northwestern.edu/online.

PROGRAM DATES

Online Enrichment and Online Core Essentials Courses (Grades 3-8):

Fall 2019: September 15 - November 17

Winter 2020: January 15 - March 19

Spring 2020: April 1 - June 3

Summer 2020: June 15 - August 17

Online Honors Courses (Grades 6-12): Up to 36 weeks with flexible start dates.

Online Honors Electives (Grades 6-12): Up to 18 weeks with flexible start dates.

PROGRAM LOCATION

Online

PRICING

Online Enrichment Courses: \$565
Online Core Essentials Courses: \$595
Special group pricing is available for schools enrolling five or more online students.

FINANCIAL AID: Need-based financial aid is available for select CTD programs for qualified students. Financial aid is awarded on a first come, first served basis. More information can be found on page 33 of this catalog or by visiting ctd.northwestern.edu/financial-aid.

Hybrid Courses

Hybrid courses combine flexible and in-depth online learning with in-person experiences at select sites that build community and provide opportunities for hands-on learning. This novel approach takes unique advantage of the potential of online learning to provide a personalized experience while providing authentic group, laboratory, and service-learning experiences. For more information, please visit ctd.northwestern.edu/hybrid.

PROGRAM DATES

Laboratory Science: Human Anatomy (Grades 6-9): Online component runs September 15 - November 17. One in-person weekend October 12-13 in Evanston, IL.

Algebra I Honors (Grades 5-7): Online component runs September 28, 2019 - May 16, 2020. In-person session dates are 10/5/19, 10/26/19, 11/17/19, 1/25/20, 2/15/20, 3/7/20, 4/18/20, and 5/9/20.

Civic-Hybrid: Human Rights & Youth Advocacy (Grades 7-10): Online component runs September 2 - November 3. One residential in-person weekend October 12-14 in Chicago.

PROGRAM LOCATION

Online and In-person

PRICING

Tuition varies by course. Please visit ctd.northwestern.edu/hybrid for details.

CivicWeek

CivicWeek, a program within CTD's Civic Education Project (CEP), brings together outstanding students from around the country for service, learning, and leadership. The city becomes a classroom as students gain hands-on experience with important social issues in fields such as health, human rights, law, politics, and urban development. Together with an experienced team, groups of 12 to 18 students engage in meaningful service, meet with top professionals and community leaders, and participate in hands-on learning in a fun and supportive living-learning community. For more information, please visit ctd.northwestern.edu/civic-week.

To learn more about the Civic Leadership Institute, visit ctd.northwestern.edu/cli.

PROGRAM DATES

Varies by topic. Visit ctd.northwestern.edu/program/civicweek for details.

PROGRAM LOCATION

Varies by topic. Visit ctd.northwestern.edu/program/civicweek for details.

PRICING

CivicWeek (4 days): \$995

Grades 9-12 Programs

Assessment

Students in grade 9 are invited to take the SAT® or ACT®, through Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS), which are the same tests typically taken by juniors and seniors to measure college and career readiness. When given to high-achieving students early (above-grade-level), these tests help inform course choices in preparation for college, help educators pinpoint what students are ready to learn now, and help make a case for accelerated placement. When applying for CTD accelerated courses, above-grade-level assessment is the preferred tool for determining eligibility. For more information, see the CTD Assessment web pages.

SAT®, ACT®

PROGRAM DATES AND LOCATIONS

Dates and locations vary throughout the academic year. Visit ctd.northwestern.edu/assessment for details.

PRICING

Varies by assessment (\$100-\$150)

Online Program

Online Honors and Honors Electives courses offer high school honors-level curriculum. Advanced Placement (AP) courses are aligned with College Board standards. Many schools limited access to AP courses to students in grades 11 and 12, but CTD allows academically ready 9th and 10th grade students to apply. All credit-bearing courses are offered in flexible formats with students enrolling throughout the year. For more information, please visit ctd.northwestern.edu/online.

PROGRAM DATES

Courses enroll monthly. Apply by the 1st of the month to start on the 15th of the month.

Online Honors Courses (Grades 6-12): Up to 36 weeks with flexible start dates (2-credit equivalent)

Online Honors Electives (Grades 6-12): Up to 18 weeks with flexible start dates (1-credit equivalent)

Online AP Courses (Grades 9-12): 1 and 2-semester equivalent courses with flexible start dates

PROGRAM LOCATION

Online

PRICING

Online Honors Courses (2-Credit): \$1,190
Online Honors Elective Courses (1-Credit): \$725
Online Advanced Placement (AP) Courses (2-Credit): \$1,195
Online Advanced Placement (AP) Courses (1-Credit): \$750
Special group pricing is available for schools enrolling five or more online students.

Hybrid Courses

Hybrid courses combine flexible and in-depth online learning with face-to-face experiences at select sites. Students engage in hands-on learning and work side by side with other bright, motivated students. They combine in-depth online study of complex contemporary issues with on-site service-learning experiences, which allow students to study topics up close and help make a positive difference through guided service experiences. Hybrid courses incorporate 1 to 2 weekend intensive experiences on Northwestern University's Evanston campus or off-campus sites with unique resources relevant to course topic. For more information, please visit ctd.northwestern.edu/hybrid.

PROGRAM DATES

Laboratory Science: Human Anatomy (Grades 6-9):

Online component runs September 15 - November 17.

One in-person weekend October 12-13 in Evanston, IL.

Weekend-Hybrid: Algebra I Honors (5-7)

Fall 2019: September 28 - November 16; meet up dates are October 5 & 26 and November 16.

Winter 2020: January 18 - March 7; meet up dates are January 25 and February 15.

Spring 2020: April 11 - May 16; meet-up dates are April 18 and May 9.

Civic-Hybrid: Human Rights & Youth Advocacy (Grades 7-10):

Online component runs September 2 - November 3.

One residential in-person weekend October 12-14 in Chicago.

Visit ctd.northwestern.edu/program/civichybrid for details.

PROGRAM LOCATIONS AND PRICING

Locations and pricing for hybrid courses vary by course topic. See ctd.northwestern.edu/hybrid for details.

CivicWeek

CivicWeek, a program within CTD's Civic Education Project, brings together outstanding students from around the country for service, learning, and leadership. Together with an experienced staff, groups of 12 to 18 students engage in meaningful service, meet with top professionals and community leaders, and participate in hands-on learning in a fun and supportive living-learning community. For more information, visit ctd.northwestern.edu/civic-week.

PROGRAM DATES

CTD offers CivicWeek programs in Spring and Summer.

For 2020 program dates, see ctd.northwestern.edu/civicweek.

PROGRAM LOCATION

Varies by topic. Visit ctd.northwestern.edu/program/civicweek for details.

PRICING

CivicWeek (full week): \$1495

Family Education at Center for Talent Development

Center for Talent Development (CTD) acknowledges and supports the critical role of parents in helping academically talented children reach their full potential. As a leader in the fields of education and talent development, CTD guides and empowers parents by providing expertise and resources as well as opportunities for community and connection.

Talent development occurs in the context of a young person's overall maturation. It begins in early childhood and continues through adulthood. Therefore, families are the first teachers, and also the most consistent and impactful influence affecting the transition of a bright child's potential to their achievement. From the start, parents enable their child's experiences and understanding of culture, literature, math, and science. At an early age, they expose their child to enrichment in the context of recreational and family time. Parents become their advocate in school, facilitate access to out-of-school opportunities, and help them develop a scholar identity. With intentionality in day-to-day decisions, parents set their child on a pathway of talent development and academic achievement. That's why at CTD, classes for our youngest students include parent-child options.

Identifying how best to support a child's academic achievement and meet their unique needs calls for substantial and ongoing effort. To help guide you, CTD has a number of offerings for parents, and for parents and children together.

PARENT-CHILD CLASSES

Tadpole Academy

Tadpole Academy is a series of three classes for students age 3 and their parents/caregivers. Classes take place on Saturday and Sunday mornings in Evanston. No test scores are required for your child to participate. For more information, visit ctd.northwestern.edu/tadpole-academy. Sample class descriptions include:

Robot Friends (Age 3)

What is a robot? How do people tell robots what to do? How are robots and people the same? How are they different? Get to know a robot first-hand. During this class students will:

Listen to stories about robots and discuss the role of robots in our world

Learn to code a Bee-Bot using tangible programming

Discuss the function, design, and characteristics of Bee-Bot robots

Explore creative ways to represent Bee-Bot code, such as using symbols, blocks, and actions

Best Nest (Age 3)

What is a nest? What does "nesting" mean? How do birds build nests? What can people learn from birds? How can we build structures that are strong and comfortable? Pretend play as a bird and become a nest architect. During this class, students will:

Listen to stories about birds and their nests

Discuss the form and function of bird nests

Experiment with different designs, materials, and construction methods to create their own nests

CTD PATHWAY: Tadpole Academy provides opportunities for parents and young children to explore new and familiar topics together by engaging in critical questioning and thinking, preparing children for independent participation in early childhood coursework in science, math, technology, and language arts.



Furthest distance a family has traveled for CTD's weekend program

2,000+ miles



She had a fabulous time and learned a huge amount about a variety of science topics clustered around a creative theme. It was as though the course had been written for her.

CTD PARENT



Online Family Program

This program is for bright, busy, and inquisitive kindergarten through grade 3 students with parents or caregivers. Experience short, flexible, online modules taught by expert instructors with experience teaching academically talented students. These classes provide parents with playful, engaging curriculum to help them develop their child's critical learning skills and to instill a love of learning in their child. For more information, visit ctd.northwestern.edu/online-family. Sample course descriptions include:

Crash Course: The Physics of Collisions (Grades K-1)

Mass, force, and momentum can be used to describe some of the most important principles of physics. In this course, hands-on explorations introduce Sir Isaac Newton's ideas. Students are in the driver's seat to discovery as they observe, predict, and experiment with crashes and collisions. During this course, students will:

Explain *mass, force* and *momentum*, either through words or a demonstration

Show the difference between *force* and *momentum* by changing variables to affect one or both

Show the general relationship between *force* and *mass*, through a demonstration, illustration, or written explanation

Set up a series of reactions, such as those in a Rube Goldberg machine, then use physics terminology to describe how each reaction will play out

CTD PATHWAY: This course provides playful exposure to physical science concepts. Skills developed through experimentation and design thinking provide the foundation for ongoing study of laboratory sciences and engineering.

Playing Geometry: Spatial Reasoning for the Fun of It (Grades 2-3)

As our spatial visualization skills improve, so do skills in math and other academic areas. As with other things we do for fun, we get better at spatial reasoning with practice, so let's play geometry! Students and their families are invited to expand their understanding of the Platonic solids and exercise visualization skills through playful challenges and projects. During this course, students will:

Identify and define each Platonic solid (tetrahedron, octahedron, icosahedron, hexahedron, dodecahedron)

Explore solids and their nets through hands-on activities as well as visualization practice

Explore rigid transformations on and off the coordinate plane

Create a new game or challenge using spatial visualization and/or a grid or coordinate plane

CTD PATHWAY: This course provides opportunities for playful exposure to math concepts. Skills in spatial reasoning are foundational for ongoing study of engineering and math, especially geometry.

Seminars & Discussion Groups

CTD offers seminars for parents on a variety of topics. View our weekly in-person seminars held in Evanston, as well as our discussion groups held quarterly in Evanston, Chicago, Naperville, and Palatine at ctd.northwestern.edu/parent-seminars.

View all courses online at ctd.northwestern.edu/courses



Discovering Pathways



AMAYA is a fifth grader who has participated in Forensic Investigations; Spies: The Science of Espionage; Our Solar System & the Universe; and Zoology: Animal Behavior and Biology. Her favorite CTD course has been Forensic Investigations. Reflecting on her time in class, Amaya says, “we were able to do a lot of fun activities like dissect an owl pellet and analyze bone samples of different animals. These are things I’d never thought I’d do or learn about as a fourth grader, and things I have never learned in school!” Currently a yellow belt in Karate, Amaya has a wide array of interests outside of CTD. She enjoys taking family vacations, volunteering her time at Feed My Starving Children, doing arts and crafts, and reading anything from horror to fantasy. **Amaya hasn’t decided what she would like to do in the future but says, “maybe I’ll be a scientist or maybe I’ll be a writer—I’m not sure. But the classes make me want to learn more!”** As for the coming school year, Amaya is looking forward to being one of the oldest kids in school, so she can help all the younger students.



Poised to explore a future in medicine, **KAYLEE** credits a CTD Summer Program class with encouraging her scientific interests. Kaylee took Introduction to Biomedicine Honors three summers ago, and says she felt “immersed in the world of medicine” as she conducted lab work. **“Biomedicine gave me the resources and tools I needed to excel academically, and sparked my interests in medicine that have greatly influenced my future,”** says the rising high-school senior, noting that her plans for further study include medical school with a specialization in pediatric oncology.

For now, the self-described “inquisitive, driven, and passionate” Kaylee is actively seeking—and creating—opportunities for scientific engagement. Recently, she returned to the Northwestern campus to intern in a pulmonary research lab, and she plans to continue working with Northwestern through a neuroscience partnership with her school. The coming year also promises a journey to Costa Rica with her AP Biology class, where Kaylee will learn about biodiversity and conservation by exploring rainforests and assisting in research.

When not pursuing other passions—including learning Mandarin Chinese and performing with her school’s Latin dance team—Kaylee works to share her love of science with others. “I want to be a part of the wider efforts of making scientific education accessible to all students from all socioeconomic backgrounds,” Kaylee explains. She’s already founded a STEM club at an elementary school, drawing on her time in Introduction to Biomedicine as she leads the students. “CTD gave me the opportunity to explore science through many fun, hands-on activities, and my instructors always encouraged me to pursue my love of medicine,” she reflects. “From them I learned the importance of having strong role models in my life, and that led to me to strive to be that role model for the kids in my community.”



AVI is an eighth grader who has participated in ten different CTD courses, from Python Programming and Java Programming Honors to Effective Essay Writing and Pen to Podium. Avi says a honors-level writing course through CTD’s online program has been his favorite, “...because of the amazing writing questions the course gave, and how it improved my writing skills and made me rethink my writing process.” **Avi is a talented writer and public speaker, to which he credits his constant practice in school combined with the extra practice he receives from his CTD courses.** “Both these skills have not only been valuable to me academically but have also helped by giving me self-confidence,” says Avi. As an avid explorer of other cultures, Avi recently took a trip through Eastern Europe—finding the architecture, food, and people “amazing and interesting!” In the future, Avi would like to explore a career as a forensic scientist—a field he was introduced to through his experience in CTD’s Forensic Analysis course.

Age 4 - Grade 3 Sample Courses

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Deep Water Dive (Age 4)

What makes ocean creatures different from the animals that live on land? Young marine biologists dive into the wonderful underwater world to learn about animals and habitats from shallow waters to the deep sea. Through hands-on activities, dramatic play, and literature, students explore the oceans and make connections between their lives and the aquatic life on our planet. During this course, students will:

Listen to and/or read literature about what life is like under the water

Make and record (through emergent writing, dictation or drawings) observations of aquatic animals and the oceans they live in

Engage in dramatic play to explore how sea animals move through and thrive in their underwater habitats

CTD PATHWAY: This course provides opportunities for playful exposure to life sciences. Skills in asking questions, identifying important ideas, drawing conclusions, and making connections between their own lives and the natural world are excellent foundations for ongoing study across content areas, including the earth, physical, and biological sciences.

60+

unique courses
offered for
students
age 4-grade 3



Tangible Programming: Coding with your Hands (K-Grade 1)

How do you control a robot without written code? Students develop coding and spatial reasoning skills while using colorful, interactive block commands and hands-on tools. Gain practice with testing and debugging original programs while engaging with various robots like Primo Cubetto or Botley. Fundamental computer science concepts such as symbols and algorithms are explored through dramatic play, construction, engineering and storytelling. During this course, students will:

Compare and contrast how humans and computers operate, and the limitations of robots

Understand key computer science terms, such as sequence and algorithm

Develop skills and apply tools for representing code in different ways

CTD PATHWAY: In this course, students develop key computational thinking and computer science background knowledge. They learn the importance of commands, sequencing, and logic in designing increasingly advanced programs. This introductory course builds foundational knowledge required for more advanced robotics, coding, and engineering courses.

Young Author's Workshop (Grades 1-2)

How do great authors and storytellers hold the reader's interest? Budding authors develop original narratives and performances in this active class. By experiencing award-winning children's literature, and analyzing images and videos of skilled storytellers and actors in action, students create their own unique works. Independent and collaborative exercises focus on dramatic play, creative writing, storytelling and performance. Join other aspiring young writers to produce original stories and share them for an audience using a writer's workshop format to practice strengthening your writing through peer feedback. During this course, students will:

Analyze and discuss setting, plot, and characterization in literature

Apply elements of the creative writing process to write an original fiction story

Employ storytelling techniques that authors use to bring their words to life in written and oral formats

Learn and practice skills needed to constructively offer and receive feedback with others about their writing through weekly writer's workshops

CTD PATHWAY: This course exposes students to what makes words meaningful and allows them to see themselves as writers in preparation for more specialized English language arts courses, such as scientific writing, poetry, or persuasion.

This course is something that I will remember for the rest of my life.

CTD STUDENT

Start-Up Challenge: Building a Business (Grades 2-3)

What skills does a businessperson need to market and "sell" a new product or service? How does a business make money? Young entrepreneurs are introduced to the fundamentals of designing and running a business. Discover what skills a successful businessperson needs and create an original prototype of a new product or service. Join a simulation where supply and demand, products, services and taxes are all key components. During this course, students will:

Define vocabulary such as supply, demand, investment, marketing, and profit

Build a budget and business plan for an original idea

Participate in a simulated business world where students develop and market their original product to their peers (investors and buyers)

CTD PATHWAY: This course is for students who are ready to take their lemonade stand to the next level. Incorporating both mathematic and entrepreneurial elements, students gain a foundation for future study of finance, economics, and business development.

Zoology: Animal Behavior & Biology (Grades 3-4)

How do behavioral traits help animals survive and thrive in their ecosystems? Learn about the unique adaptations that animals have to their environments. Uncover the many behaviors animals use to claim a territory, find food, avoid predators, find mates, and raise their young. Students engage in hands-on investigations, analyze data, and draw conclusions about their observations to learn more about the background of animal behavior. During this course, students will:

Identify the principles and practices associated with ethology, or the study of animal behavior

Develop an understanding of instinct vs learned behavior

Generate questions, design and conduct scientific investigations, and formulate models

CTD PATHWAY: This course is designed for students with an interest in biology and animals, as provides an excellent foundation for future study of life science. It paves the way for future coursework in anatomy, classification, biology, and earth science.

Digital Architects (Grades 3-4)

How do architects use math, physics, and art to design buildings? Explore the architectural design process using math, physics, and visual-spatial reasoning skills. Through hands-on building projects, blueprint sketching, and digital modeling software such as SketchUp-Make® 3D, novice architects investigate how buildings come to be and how people interact with the built environment. Students experience how math and art come together as they design and create their own model buildings. During this course, students will:

Explore how the design process influences the engineering process

Articulate how the architectural design of a building impacts the surrounding community it is added to

Compare and contrast digital and tangible tools for drawing renderings

CTD PATHWAY: In this course, students gain experience working with the steps an architect takes from the initial design to the completion of a building through their own original building creation. Identifying and applying key steps in the design and building processes sets the stage for future exploration of technology and engineering applications, such as materials science and engineering and environmental engineering courses.

Critical Mathematics: From Googol to Infinity (Grades 3-5)

Examine the infinitely large and the incredibly small, and increase your understanding of ratio, integers, fractions, and exponents. Problem-based coursework, discourse and mathematical debate leads the learning in this course. Focusing on the Common Core Standards of Numbers & Operations and middle school goals of Ratios & Proportional Relationships and The Number System allows students to build their skills in these areas.

Explain the practical applications of exponents and scientific notation

Use ratios to solve problems and model real life mathematics

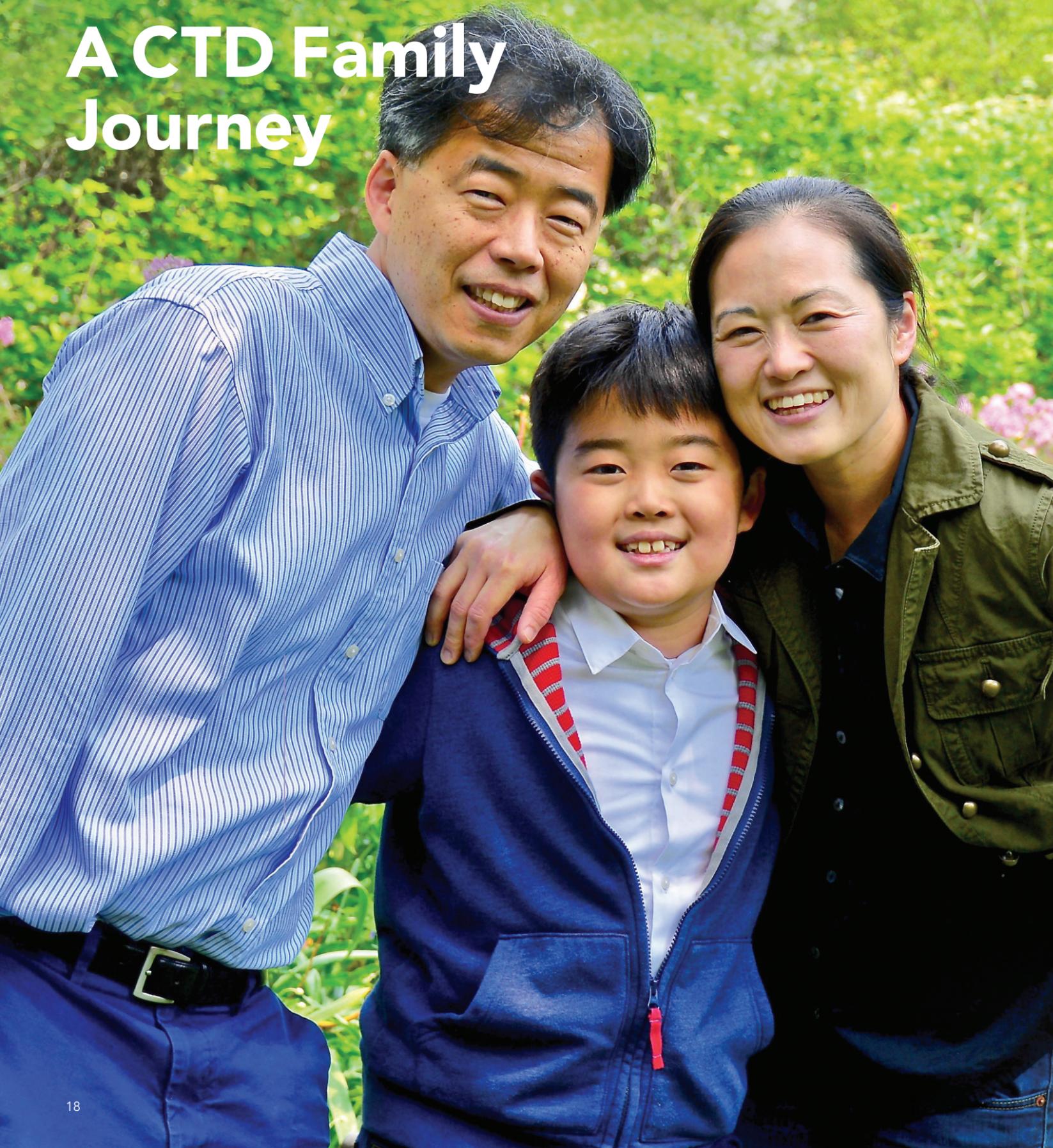
Play with fractals to discover patterns and begin understanding limits

CTD PATHWAY: This course is for students with a passion for numbers and an interest in learning how math helps us understand the world. The course prepares students for further study in middle school mathematics.

View all courses online
at ctd.northwestern.edu/courses



A CTD Family Journey



The Kim Family



MATTHEW KIM
MYUNG KIM
HYUNG KIM

Many CTD students apply to classes with specific goals in mind, and they finish their courses with detailed, thorough knowledge of a particular topic, becoming experts in chemistry, current events, or psychology in just a few weeks. Other lucky participants gain something greater: a way to engage with the world as lifelong learners. Eight-year-old **Matthew Kim** is one such CTD student. “Matthew learned to be curious,” shares his father, **Myung Kim**. Mr. Kim says Matthew has applied this skill to other areas of his life, from searching his local library for books on new and interesting topics to changing the way he observes his daily surroundings. “After he took the class about how to build bridges,” Mr. Kim explains, “he would look for bridges while we were driving.”

Though only in third grade, Matthew has already expressed his curiosity by building a diverse CTD transcript. In the Weekend Enrichment Program (WEP) courses, he’s learned about game design, physics, engineering, and programming. As a Summer Program student, he’s developed his interests with classes in technology and biology, namely systems of the human body and the brain. Matthew has been able to use kid-friendly tools to explore these concepts, as some of his classes utilized WeDo robotics and LEGOs.

Matthew’s family shares in his desire to learn. His mother, Mrs. **Hyung Kim**, and his father join their son in visits to the public library near their home in the Northwest suburbs of Chicago, and the trio enjoys exploring the world with trips to new cities, visits to museums, and time spent in nature. When considering courses at CTD, they work with Matthew to help him cultivate his interests. “We like to choose the next CTD class together based on course description and recommendations from friends who took them previously,” Mr. Kim says. Though Matthew sometimes chooses options with similar overall themes as his previous CTD courses, Mr. Kim said he “always found that he learned something new,” advancing his knowledge of a particular subject. In addition to learning new material, Mr. Kim shares that he hoped Matthew would “learn

a new way of thinking” at CTD; not only has Matthew developed an understanding of new topics, Mr. Kim says he’s observed the development of Matthew’s problem-solving abilities.

CTD has been a source of community for the entire Kim family. Mr. Kim explains that he first learned about CTD from a friend, and he’s gone on to recommend the experience to others. The Kims have met other families through WEP’s parent seminars, a free, weekly series available to parents in the Chicago area; recent seminars have included parent discussion groups, presentations on other CTD programs, and talks on educational and policy issues related to high-ability children. Mr. Kim found the seminars to be a “wonderful place to network and learn about various educational topics,” and he’s been pleased to count CTD staff as part of this widening circle of educators and like-minded contemporaries. “We met so many wonderful teachers,” Mr. Kim says, remarking on their “dedication” and “remarkable and caring” approach.

The Kims have also benefited from watching their son’s non-academic world expand through CTD participation. “Matthew has met so many friends from the weekend program and summer programs,” says Mr. Kim. **And in addition to a burgeoning sense of curiosity, Matthew has gained perspective that enriches his sense of possibility. “Among many aspects,” Mr. Kim shares, “we would say that the best part of CTD was to teach Matthew how to think and how to daydream.”**

Such development includes continuously challenging young learners like Matthew, and Mr. Kim suggests that other CTD parents urge their children to “try taking new topics” when selecting courses, even if the subject differs from their existing interests. Additionally, Mr. Kim urges prospective CTD students and parents to “continue enrolling in the program throughout the year.” Reflecting on advice for others and the importance of finding CTD programs—for Matthew and the Kim family—Mr. Kim says “we feel very lucky.”

Grades 4-8 Sample Courses

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Making Waves: The Physics of Light & Sound (Grades 3-4)

Why does sound travel through some objects and not others? How is it that the sky appears blue? Through inquiry, trial, and collaboration, discover the physics behind light and sound. Observe colors and explore light with prisms to create optical illusions. Gain a deeper understanding of how amplitude, frequency, and wavelength impact the way we see color and hear sound by manipulating their properties. During this course, students will:

Explain how sound is produced and how it travels through a variety of mediums

Describe ways in which light can be absorbed, reflected, or refracted by objects

Identify the characteristics of sound, including frequency, pitch, volume, and echoes

CTD PATHWAY: This course is for students with a passion for exploring optical illusions, the principles and characteristics of sound, and the effect that light has on objects. It is great preparation for future study in physics and design.



We feel like CTD's recommendations have been outstanding. They know our community, they know our teachers, they know our kids.

CTD DISTRICT PARTNER



Comparative Anatomy: The Animal Kingdom (Grades 5-6)

How does understanding and comparing anatomy help scientists determine the relationships between organisms? What is the shape of a squid's brain, and how does it differ from other cephalopods? How does that shape impact a squid's daily existence? In this hands-on lab course, young biologists dissect and compare a variety of animals of different species and taxonomic groups, from earthworms to mice. Discover the differences between endoskeletons and exoskeletons, organ systems both common and novel, and how anatomical adaptations are suited to an organism's environment. After participating in this course, students will be able to:

Identify the principles and practices associated with comparative anatomy, or the study of similarities and differences in the anatomy of different species

Develop an understanding of comparative anatomy, including evolutionary relationships, vestigial structures, different types of nervous systems, bilateral vs. radial symmetry, and more

Understand how comparative anatomy is important to scientists in determining relationships between organisms

CTD PATHWAY: This laboratory-based course is for students with an interest in biology, scientific investigations, and dissection. It is great preparation for future study in biology, pre-medicine, and other lab sciences.

Outbreak: Immunology & Infectious Diseases (Grades 6-8)

How does the human body fight an infection? This hands-on course explores the human body and the different mechanisms that allow us to fight diseases and everyday pathogens. Investigate different infectious diseases, the history of deadly outbreaks across the globe, and the diseases scientists are fighting today. The class will focus on both historical and current events while we investigate what causes different diseases, the mechanisms behind how they spread, and how the human immune system works to keep us healthy. During this course, students will:

Develop a working vocabulary of relevant terminology necessary for the discussion and comprehension of disease and epidemiology

Become familiar with microbes—both good and bad—including various infectious diseases

Understand the typical approaches to an outbreak investigation

CTD PATHWAY: This course is for students with an interest in medicine, epidemiology, and biology. It is great preparation for future study in the biological and/or medical sciences.



Think Like a Mathematician (Grades 6-8)

In this course, students will explore a vast universe of ideas, because mathematics is the study of patterns. Mathematicians are not human calculators. They are observers who learn to see what the untrained eye does not notice. Students will encounter challenging problems about number, symmetry, change, and infinity, and will develop innovative solution strategies and debate them with others. During this course, students will:

Connect geometric and algebraic representations of mathematical concepts

Persist in solving/investigating highly challenging, open-ended problems

Think precisely and communicate clearly about complex mathematical ideas

CTD PATHWAY: This course is for students who love math and will extend students' knowledge of middle-school arithmetic while making profound connections to deep math concepts from high school and beyond.

Smart Sensors: Engineering & Design (Grades 7-8)

What makes a sensor "smart?" We have already heard about driverless cars that will be able to navigate freeways and stoplights without human interaction, but can you imagine smart buildings that can sense earthquake vibrations and change the stiffness of their walls to withstand tremors? In this hands-on engineering course, students explore how many of our modern sensors work and investigate smart sensor materials that respond to heat and pressure. Using their knowledge of these properties, students design a prototype coin-counting device and invent a new smart sensor system of their own. Students will be able to:

Recognize the variety and complexity of commercial sensors in everyday life, and identify ways in which sensors are able to detect changes in the environment and signal a response

Construct a molecular model of PVDF piezoelectric polymer and describe the mechanism of how the piezoelectric film produces an electric signal in response to pressure or force

Create a human-centered, socially relevant, conceptual smart sensor solution to a social challenge

CTD PATHWAY: This course is for students with a passion for socially responsible design, electronics, and/or smart devices. It is great preparation for future study in electronics, design, and engineering.

CTD Hybrid: In-person and Online Courses

Hybrid courses combine in-person instruction with an online academic environment. These "blended" courses offer the flexibility to complete a course—some for high school credit and/or service-learning hours—by meeting face-to-face in addition to engaging with online course work.

Our Hybrid courses allow students to participate in meaningful hands-on work and in-person activities while continuing to engage with the topic along with their instructors and classmates online.

FOR 2019-2020: CTD offers a variety of Hybrid courses: stand-alone Hybrids, which consist of 9-week online courses with two weekends of in-person activities; Weekend Hybrids, which are credit-bearing, high school level honors courses that include several Saturday meet-ups over the year; and our Civic Education Project Hybrid, which combines online study and research with a 3-day, in-person service-learning opportunity. Below are a few sample Hybrid courses:

Pre-Med Honors (Hybrid)

Algebra I Honors (Weekend Hybrid)

Human Rights & Youth Advocacy (CEP Hybrid)

Please visit ctd.northwestern.edu/program/hybrid for more information on hybrid courses.

Community & Leadership: Be a Changemaker (Grades 7-8)

How do communities work together for change? Be part of a community with other inspiring young people, and explore Chicago to learn from local leaders and residents who are making change on critical issues their communities face. Develop leadership and teamwork skills by preparing and serving a meal to those in need or leading activities for neighborhood children. Learn what you can do to be a more active leader and advocate in your community and return home with a plan to make a difference! During this course, students will:

Gain knowledge about social issues affecting communities in Chicago

Develop communication, interpersonal, and leadership skills

Discover the motivation to make change in their communities

CTD PATHWAY: This course is for students who want to learn more about the issues facing their communities and develop leadership skills to be a Changemaker.

View all courses online
at ctd.northwestern.edu/courses



Nurturing Young Minds



A Pre-Algebra teacher in CTD's weekend program, **DANNA DOTSON** recognizes the importance of quality classroom instruction. She credits one of her own former teachers with encouraging her interest in the power of numbers and patterns. "I love the beauty of math!" Dotson shares. "I can directly tie this back to my high school physics teacher who made understanding and applying mathematical concepts something fun and appealing." She's built on this experience throughout her career, inspiring a new wave of math enthusiasts as a teacher at Chicago's Whitney M. Young Magnet High School, then guiding future educators as a Teacher Education Coordinator for Northwestern's School of Education and Social Policy.

Though she knew about CTD for years—even recommending its Summer Program to her middle school and high school math students—Dotson first began teaching CTD weekend classes in Evanston a year ago. In that time, she's witnessed the ways CTD students and their families benefit from the programs: at one Expo event, Dotson recalls watching her students and their families discussing probability and playing games as they explored topics in math. "It was very heartwarming," Dotson reflects.

Dotson's adventurous spirit fuels her in and out of the classroom: an avid traveler, she's crossed several destinations off her "bucket list of places to visit," with a journey to Durban, South Africa on the horizon. And whether investigating algebra, geometry, data analysis, or an entirely new topic, she shares a powerful sense of curiosity with her CTD students each weekend. **"The possibilities for exploring a wide variety of topics is an amazing part of participating in the CTD programs," Dotson explains. "Whether you love math, science, technology or more, there is something for everyone."**



A committed social justice advocate and accomplished scholar, **ASHLEY CURETON** began her CTD experience as a Teaching Assistant for the Civic Education Project (CEP) 11 years ago. Since then, Cureton has worked for 18 CEP initiatives, mostly as a Facilitator for CivicWeek on topics like immigration and public health, as well as the Civic Leadership Institute. Her academic career has grown alongside her deepening involvement with CEP. When she applied for her first CEP position, Cureton was a graduating DePaul University senior. Today, she is a PhD candidate and lecturer at the University of Chicago, poised to undertake postdoctoral work at Johns Hopkins, where she will continue her research on refugee and immigrant youth. "It is my goal to improve the well being of vulnerable individuals and communities through value-driven scholarly and creative social work education, research, and professional leadership," Cureton says of her plans for the future.

Cureton seeks to cultivate comparable values among her CEP students. **"I hope CEP students feel inspired to become active, engaged citizens in their respective schools and local communities," Cureton says.** She notes the "extraordinary intellectual capabilities" of CEP participants, calling them "some of the most thoughtful, driven, and intelligent students that I've encountered." She's found a similar sense of shared purpose among the staff, and fondly recalls connecting with "equally passionate" colleagues during program trainings.

Outside of her studies and her work with CEP, Cureton enjoys global travel, spending time with her nieces and nephews, and baking desserts. Pressing social justice issues are never far from her mind, however. Cureton is a podcast enthusiast, and she recommends her students explore the Refugees' Stories Podcast, Global Dispatches, and Status – Immigration & People. A prolific reader, her bookshelf includes such titles as *Child Migration and Human Rights in a Global Age* and *Lives in Limbo: Undocumented and Coming of Age in America*. And Cureton is bringing her globally conscious spirit to a new project, in which she'll work to improve education and access to feminine products for refugee girls in Iraq. In her life as a researcher, an educator, and an advocate, Cureton is engaged with addressing powerful human rights issues, and she wants to see her students motivated as well: "I hope CEP students feel inspired to create change to make a positive impact on the world."

Grades 9-12 Sample Courses

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Human Rights & Youth Advocacy (Grades 7-10)

How have young people organized and led impactful social movements? Explore the important tools and skills young people have used to create social change! Discuss and exchange ideas with other inspiring young people as you examine youth advocacy movements around issues like access to education, climate change, and housing and food security. Serve communities and learn first hand from individuals and organizations addressing social concerns. Identify issues in your own community and develop the knowledge, experience, and leadership skills to make a difference! This 9-week hybrid course blends online academic study with hands-on, in-person service-learning, creating a powerful learning experience. During this course, students will:

Explore historical and contemporary examples of youth advocacy and social movements

Examine human rights issues through online study and in-person service-learning experiences

Gain tools to create change in an area of interest that inspires you

CTD PATHWAY: This course is designed for students who want to learn more about methods of social change and learn firsthand from communities addressing social issues.

Students in CTD's Civic Education Project have provided over **165,000 hours of service** to local communities since the program's creation.

Community Health & Medicine (Grades 9-12)

How do we address individual and collective healthcare needs? Explore issues of community health through visits to cutting-edge medical facilities and neighborhoods underserved by healthcare resources. Consider the challenges facing families and communities, and work with professionals tackling health education, disease prevention, and issues of equity. Examine contemporary policy debates and learn about ways to address community health issues in our neighborhoods and our nation. During this course, students will:

Gain introductory knowledge about community health in Chicago

Develop communication, interpersonal, and leadership skills

Discover the motivation to become more active community members

CTD PATHWAY: This is a course for students who want to learn more about the health disparities facing our communities, and develop leadership skills to make a difference in an area of interest.

Pre-Med: Psychology & Behavioral Medicine (Grades 6-12)

This course exposes students to how psychological research is utilized by medical and health professionals. The course emphasizes thinking critically about the interdisciplinary fields that focus on the biological, psychological, and sociocultural factors that are relevant to the scientific study of health, well-being, and illness and how these impact prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation. During this course, students will:

Investigate the various methods psychologists utilize to answer research questions related to the prevention and treatment of illness

Become acquainted with significant findings in the fields of behavioral medicine and health psychology

Recognize the key components of critical thinking and scholarly research about health, well-being, and illness

CTD PATHWAY: This course is designed to introduce students to the many facets of psychology research and the impact of this work on other fields. It is a comprehensive introduction to behavioral medicine and can lead to further studies in the social sciences.

The most important thing I will take with me is the idea that anyone can be a leader by leading with their mind and heart.



CTD STUDENT

Literary Analysis Honors (Grades 6-12)

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to read and respond to eight different pieces of literature. These responses will develop students' abilities to master the objectives of expository and analytical writing. Students will reflect on their work to fully understand what is learned from the work and assess performance, efforts, and abilities in addition to participating in meaningful discussions and explorations that provoke perceptive observations and insights. All CTD Online Honors and Honors Elective courses are high school honors-level courses. Advanced middle school students seeking opportunities to accelerate academically are welcome to apply. Please see ctd.northwestern.edu/eligibility for details. During this course, students will:

Understand that close reading is a prerequisite for successful literary analysis

Explore universal themes by reading and reflecting upon major works of literature in the genres of fiction, poetry, essay, and drama

Expand their critical reading and writing skills through thoughtful analysis and written responses

CTD PATHWAY: This class will prepare students for the Advanced Placement® Language and Composition and Literature and Composition courses as they examine, analyze, and discuss how rhetorical and literary devices are used in works of literature.

Pre-Calculus Honors (Grades 6-12)

This course covers advanced topics in functions and graphs, trigonometry, discrete mathematics, combinatorics, and pre-calculus. Students are actively engaged in problem-solving, reasoning, connecting, and communicating mathematically. All CTD Online Honors and Honors Elective courses are high school honors-level courses. Advanced middle school students seeking opportunities to accelerate academically are welcome to apply. Please see ctd.northwestern.edu/eligibility for details. During his course, students will:

Solve, manipulate, and graph linear, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions

Apply vectors, sequences, series, and matrices to mathematical problem-solving

Use concepts from combinatorics and statistics to create mathematical models

CTD PATHWAY: This course prepares students for Calculus and for standard exams such as the ACT® or SAT®, as well as future courses in mathematics.

AP® Computer Science Principles (Grades 9-12)

This course offers a multidisciplinary approach to teaching the principles of computation. The course will introduce students to the creative aspects of programming, algorithms, large data sets, and cybersecurity concerns. AP® Computer Science Principles also gives students the opportunity to use current technologies to create computational artifacts for both self-expression and problem solving. Together, these aspects of the course make up a rigorous and rich curriculum that aims to broaden participation in computer science.

Research the impact computing and computer science has had on society, innovation, and the economy

Use a text-based programming language to create programs that use variables, classes, and conditional statements

Create a program that uses variables, decision-making, and iteration to process a list of values

CTD PATHWAY: This college-level course was designed to focus on creativity, communication, and collaboration. While it prepares students to take the AP® Computer Science Principles exam, it is also an excellent CS course that does not require previous CS experience.

AP® Government & Politics: U.S. & Comparative (Grades 9-12)

This course provides students a college-level introduction to key political concepts, institutions, policies, interactions, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States, as well as introduces students to fundamental concepts used by political scientists to study the processes and outcomes of politics. The course aims to illustrate the rich diversity of political life, to show available institutional alternatives, and to communicate to students the importance of global political and economic changes. During this course, students will:

Define and describe major comparative political concepts

Perform data analysis as it relates to American government and politics

Analyze typical patterns of political processes, behavior, and consequences

CTD PATHWAY: This college-level course is designed to prepare students for the AP® Government & Politics: U.S. & Comparative exams in May and to develop their critical thinking skills in relation to global political and economic changes.

View all courses online
at ctd.northwestern.edu/courses



Looking Ahead



Patrick

**NORTHWESTERN
WCAS '20**
Political Science

Though his experiences at CTD led to wide-ranging academic pursuits and long-standing friendships, **PATRICK RYAN** was initially hesitant about his first weekend course. "At first, no part of my seven-year-old self wanted to 'go to school on Saturdays,'" he shares, "but after taking a couple classes and realizing how fun they were, my opinion did a complete 180-degree turn." Now a junior majoring in political science at Northwestern University, Patrick recalls his time with CTD as collaborative, project-driven, and full of notably "interactive" classes. Through CTD, Patrick studied animals, pharaohs, immigration, global children's literature, and architectural design, in addition to a host of scientific subjects. "They are a fantastic introduction to the more specialized topics that are covered in high school and especially college coursework," he says of his experience with CTD classes, "and they are taught in a way that is very fun and engaging for all students."

In Patrick's most memorable course, he studied human biology. "I remember this class vividly because our final project involved creating a life-sized recreation of all the anatomical systems and how they interact with each other," Patrick shares. This favorite subject was one of many topics he would go on to explore: currently, Patrick is interested in learning about constitutional law. "Even though I did not end up choosing a science-related field for my career," he says, "this class was still very influential on my development."

The programs helped him grow personally as well as academically. The college student describes himself as "diligent, passionate, and hard working," and, though some of his CTD experiences are now distant memories, he recognizes their effect on his present-day character. "I can say with certainty that my CTD classes were very influential in instilling these values in me at a very early age," Patrick says, adding that the program helped him connect with others.

"One valuable thing that I learned through my CTD classes was the skill of interacting and collaborating with peers, which is perhaps the most important professional skill any person could have. I have very strong collaborative skills at this point in my life, and this skill was introduced to me while taking CTD classes."

One of those peers has turned out to be a lifelong connection. At 6 years old, Patrick met his best friend in his first CTD class. The two grew up together in the northwest suburbs of Chicago, attending elementary, middle, and high school together. Today, they are roommates at Northwestern.

Though his roommate is a familiar face, college has still provided Patrick with new opportunities to grow. He's discovered an ability to thrive under pressure, cultivating valuable time-management skills. "At first, deadlines always scared and frustrated me," Patrick admits, "but as I continued taking classes and writing papers, it became easier and easier to write creatively in a short time frame."

He applies this same focus to life outside the classroom as a busy musician. Patrick has played the trumpet for 12 years, and contributes to his own band, the Northwestern University Jazz Orchestra, and the orchestras of campus musicals. Such an active schedule has motivated Patrick to be a more productive artist. "Ultimately, this pressure has made me a much stronger musician because I am able to get pieces performance-ready in a creative way much faster than I ever could before" he shares.

In addition to coursework and music, Patrick fills his time with sports, travel, and exploring new ways to advance his career. The avid White Sox fan also enjoys basketball and playing golf with his family and friends, and hopes to cap his college graduation with a long European vacation. But this summer, Patrick will be staying close to home: the self-motivated learner will intern at a regional bank, gaining an introduction to corporate law and finding another way to build on his many varied interests.



Other Opportunities for CTD Students



CTD Backpack™

CTD Backpack is the center's **online community** for academically talented students and their families. Members of CTD Backpack are able to engage with their peers and experts in the field of advanced education, access weekly content tailored to the needs of parents, and learn about upcoming opportunities. Students in CTD Backpack can **collaborate with other fellow students**, work on their **online learning pathways**, and earn digital badges through informal learning activities.

Note: Complimentary access to CTD Backpack is provided to families enrolled in a Center for Talent Development program, including NUMATS. For those not enrolled in a program, CTD Backpack is available through a paid membership.

For more information on CTD Backpack, visit ctd.northwestern.edu/ctd-backpack.



Summer Programs

The Center for Talent Development (CTD) summer programs allow academically talented students to delve deep into a subject of interest, build upon their strengths, and connect with a **community of peers**. From fast-paced enrichment options to accelerated, credit-bearing offerings, there is something for students age 4 through grade 12. **Residential and commuter programs** provide challenging enrichment, honors, and Advanced Placement® courses taught in a highly supportive environment. PreK through grade 3 students can take part in CTD's Leapfrog program, which includes enrichment courses for young students who have demonstrated a keen, early interest in learning. Students in grades 4 through 12 have the opportunity to participate in a variety of residential and commuter programs throughout the summer.

Visit ctd.northwestern.edu/summer for more information. The summer program application opens on January 1.



Service-Learning

CTD's Award-winning service-learning program, **Civic Education Project (CEP)**, offers students opportunities to develop the knowledge, experience, and leadership skills they need to make a positive impact on the world. CEP's CivicWeek program is held during **Spring 2020 and Summer 2020**. CEP's **Civic Leadership Institute** is held during **Summer 2020**.

To learn more about the Civic Education Project, visit ctd.northwestern.edu/cep.



Annual Family Event

Each summer, Center for Talent Development's annual family event features stimulating workshops and presentations designed to help academically talented students and their parents **plan for the future**. Adults enjoy a keynote address and sessions led by experts in education for advanced learners. Students in grades 4 through 12 attend workshops, focusing on new perspectives in current areas of study as well as **future career opportunities**. Children age 4 through grade 3 are invited to participate in fun, supervised learning activities led by CTD's summer staff.

For more information or to register, visit ctd.northwestern.edu/family-event.

Follow us on social media for updates on this conference and other family opportunities!

Reaching into the Community



MISHAL QURESHI, one of CTD's Program Assistants, served as the founding Project Assistant to develop Blue Tin Production, a sewing co-operative in Chicago centered on refugee and low-income immigrant women, which takes an economically just approach to labor and fashion production.



MARGEAUX McREYNOLDS, one of CTD's Assistant Program Coordinators, serves as a board member and scholarship chair for the Clay Evans Scholarship Foundation, a nonprofit organization committed to providing financial support to graduating high school students in Chicago, IL and Brownsville, TN. This foundation focuses on providing support to C average students who may not qualify for other grants or scholarships but who have a desire and potential to succeed in their pursuit for higher education.



ANDREW BAUER, CTD's Online Content and Community Manager, is a founder and currently serves as the director of operations for Pangea Educational Development, a nonprofit committed to empowering schools and unifying communities through sustainable education initiatives.



MICHELLE WIELGOSZ, one of CTD's Assistant Program Coordinators, serves as teacher mentor for both the National and Illinois Art Education Associations—nonprofit art organizations committed to supporting diverse communities of visual arts educators and their students through instructional coaching and development. She also serves on the Advisory Council for Center of Community Arts Partnerships/Columbia College Chicago.



DAVID JOHNSON, CTD's Marketing & Communications Manager, serves on the Associate Board for 826CHI, a nonprofit committed to providing equal access to free tutoring and literary arts education for students across Chicago.



RHODA ROSEN, one of CTD's Associate Directors, also serves as Associate Professor, adj. at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, one of the premier art schools in the country. In addition, she is co-founder and co-director of Red Line Service, an artist/curatorial collaborative that creates cultural experiences for and with Chicagoans with a lived experience of homelessness.

At the heart of our work, CTD values community engagement and collaboration. Staff reach beyond the walls of the classroom to connect with and serve their communities. These experiences inform and inspire the work we do inside the center.

Admission Requirements and Eligibility

CTD programs require submission of a completed application. A student may apply as a new applicant with qualifying test scores, returning applicant, or portfolio applicant. Except for Tadpole Academy, 4-year old courses, and the Online Family Program, all academic-year courses have eligibility requirements to ensure that courses provide students with an academic environment which is matched to their readiness to learn.

Before beginning an online application, determine which type of applicant your student is, the eligibility requirements for your student's first-choice course, and any supporting documents required (e.g., test scores, educator recommendation, report card, etc.) Information on eligibility is available on our website at ctd.northwestern.edu/eligibility.

In general, for advanced enrichment courses, students should be achieving in the top 5-10% academically compared to grade-level peers as demonstrated by achievement test scores, grades, or other performance measures. To be eligible for accelerated, credit-bearing courses, students need to be able to demonstrate readiness for above-grade-level course work and/or a faster pace of learning. This readiness can be demonstrated through above-grade-level test scores (e.g., SAT® or ACT® taken in middle school through Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search or similar program), grades, or a portfolio of student work.

For detailed eligibility information for each individual program and grade level, please visit ctd.northwestern.edu/eligibility.

Application Process

Online applications are available through the MyCTD portal found at my.ctd.northwestern.edu.

Completed applications are reviewed as they are received. Courses are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Although Center for Talent Development (CTD) tries to accommodate late applications, enrollment may not be possible.

Please be sure to complete the application online, including all supporting materials, as applications are reviewed only after all supporting documents and information has been received. Incomplete applications are not reviewed nor do they reserve a seat in the desired course, regardless of whether or not payment is included.

Once an enrollment decision is made, the Admissions staff will notify the applicant via e-mail. The process takes approximately four weeks from the time a completed application is received.

“I was a student here for four years when I was a teenager. It's now the place I go in the summer to work with these amazing, talented, energetic writers. I look forward to it all year long.”

CTD INSTRUCTOR



Tuition and Fees



TUITION

Center for Talent Development (CTD) tuition rates and fees vary by program, program length, course requirements, and application date. Tuition, dates, and locations can be found on pages 8-11 of this catalog. For detailed information about tuition, payments, refunds, and withdrawal policies, for each individual academic year program, please visit ctd.northwestern.edu/tuition.

Note: In the event CTD cancels a course in advance of a program start date, families will be contacted immediately, offered other course options, and will be provided a full refund if no available course options are feasible for the family.

ASSESSMENT FEES

Fees for assessments taken through CTD vary by test. Please see the website at ctd.northwestern.edu/tuition for details. For students taking the PSAT™ 8/9, SAT®, or ACT® through Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS), the fee consists of two components: the test fee and the NUMATS fee. The test fee is the charge for the test as determined by the testing agency. The NUMATS fee includes registration processing and covers access to all CTD and NUMATS community resources, including score reports and interpretive materials, programming recommendations, and CTD Backpack, which is our interactive online community for students and their families. Detailed NUMATS tuition and fee information is available at ctd.northwestern.edu/numats.

Financial Aid

TALENT SEARCH ASSESSMENT

Registrants for Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS) are able to apply for financial aid. Aid may consist of one or more of the following:

NUMATS fee waiver

Test fee waiver

Jack Kent Cooke Young Scholars test fee waiver

To qualify for a fee waiver, families need to demonstrate eligibility for a federally subsidized program, such as free or reduced-price lunch. Qualified students are eligible for one NUMATS fee waiver and one test fee waiver per academic year. More information on NUMATS and test fee waivers can be found at ctd.northwestern.edu/financial-aid.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Need-based financial aid is available for most academic programs. Applications are reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. Families who wish to apply for financial aid must first complete a program application and then the appropriate Financial Aid Application through FACTS, our online system. All supporting materials must be included in the financial aid submission to the FACTS account in order for an application for financial aid to be considered complete. Incomplete applications are not reviewed. Requests for financial assistance typically exceed resources available, so families seeking aid are encouraged to apply early. For more detailed information on financial aid opportunities, please visit ctd.northwestern.edu/financial-aid.

For Educators

Advanced learners need enriched and accelerated instruction that requires educators who are knowledgeable about talent development and gifted education's best practices. It also requires schools to provide a range of specialized services and implement strong policies and practices.

Center for Talent Development (CTD) supports educators and schools in meeting the needs of advanced learners in a variety of ways:

Professional development

Job opportunities

Program reviews

Supplemental programming

Professional Development

CTD's professional development programs focus on practical and timely topics that help teachers and administrators identify and meet the needs of gifted students with an emphasis on equity and access. Professional development options include the following:

Annual educator conference facilitated by experts in the field

Customized workshops on topics including using assessment data effectively, increasing rigor in your curriculum, and best practices in identification

Gifted Education Boot Camp, which provides an introduction to the most important knowledge, skills, and concepts in the field

To learn more about professional development opportunities, visit ctd.northwestern.edu/professional-development.

Spotlight on Gifted Education

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), signed into federal law in 2015, provides incentives for schools and districts to address the needs of gifted students. ESSA:

Permits the use of Title I funds for identifying and serving gifted students

Requires that state and district plans for Title II funds include training to meet the needs of gifted students

Makes Title IV funds available for underrepresented students to receive enrichment

Requires K-8 schools to have an additional academic indicator (measure of student growth)

School Services

Schools have the opportunity to collaborate with CTD in ways that benefit both faculty and students. CTD's School Services team members will help develop a package of tailored services that may include program reviews, professional development workshops, enrichment and acceleration programming for students, seminars for parents, policy writing support, or assessment tools and data analysis.

For more information, visit ctd.northwestern.edu/school-services.

Special Group Tuition Rates for Schools

Special group tuition rates are available to schools enrolling five or more students in online CTD courses. Email gll@northwestern.edu for details.

Custom-Designed Service-Learning and Leadership Programs

CTD's Civic Education Project (CEP) offers one-day to one-week customizable programs for schools, districts, and organizations that want to offer their students opportunities to engage in meaningful service, learn about pressing social issues, and develop skills for leadership and civic engagement. Additionally, CEP's professional staff provide training for educators, youth development professionals, and other practitioners on service-learning, social justice education, and youth development.

To learn more or to arrange a consultation, contact CEP at cep@northwestern.edu.

Job Opportunities

We believe that the best educators don't just teach; they inspire young people to think big, take risks, and believe in themselves. These are the educators gifted students need, and these are the educators we hire. Working with CTD helps educators hone their craft and experience the rewards of working within a vibrant learning community that nurtures students and helps them develop their strengths.

A wide range of positions is available year-round. Visit CTD's Job Opportunities web page for more information and to apply.

New Gifted Education Boot Camp!

For those new to gifted education or looking for the latest research and practices, CTD has created Boot Camp to help classroom teachers and administrators develop the knowledge and skills they need to identify exceptional academic ability in young people, provide these advanced learners with appropriate services and instructional support, and help them achieve optimal growth. Contact CTD to register for an upcoming session or learn how to bring Boot Camp to your school!

Accreditation

Center for Talent Development (CTD) at Northwestern University has been accredited as a Nonpublic-Supplementary school by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI) since April 1, 1994. NCA CASI is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and has more than 100 years of experience in improving educational quality. In 2006, AdvancEd assumed oversight of the accreditation process and now manages the external review and continuous improvement reporting process. CTD's online program is approved by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), which enables student athletes to participate in online courses and earn high school credit. Accreditation not only means CTD adheres to high quality standards, it also means CTD can offer academic credit for high school courses taken online, and in CTD's summer programs. To learn more about CTD's accreditation and what accreditation means, visit ctd.northwestern.edu/accreditation.

Policies and Disclaimers

Students associated with Center for Talent Development are held to all responsibilities of members of the Northwestern University community. Northwestern University and Center for Talent Development reserve the right to change without notice any statement in this brochure concerning, but not limited to, rules, policies, tuition, fees, courses, and faculty.

Northwestern University does not discriminate or permit discrimination by any member of its community against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, parental status, marital status, age, disability, citizenship status, veteran status, genetic information or any other classification protected by law in matters of admissions, employment, housing, services, or in the educational programs or activities it operates. Read the full Non-discrimination Statement online at <https://www.northwestern.edu/equal-opportunity-access/policies/non-discrimination-statement.html>.

Program participants will receive notifications of other programs and services provided by CTD. We hope you enjoy hearing about other opportunities. If you do not wish to receive e-mail messages promoting programs or services from CTD, contact us at ctd@northwestern.edu to request that your name be removed from our e-mail lists.

For more information on policies, visit ctd.northwestern.edu/policies.

Contact CTD

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please contact the CTD main office:

**Center for Talent Development
at Northwestern University**
617 Dartmouth Place
Evanston, IL 60208

P: 847-491-3782

F: 847-467-4283

E: ctd@northwestern.edu

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

**For admissions related questions,
please contact the CTD Admissions
and Advising Office:**

P: 847-467-1575

F: 847-467-4283

E: ctd-admissions@northwestern.edu



Every year our staff continues to grow with CTD's help. We are better able to look at our data and provide opportunities for more and more kids...We are so grateful.

DR. JEAN SOPHIE
SUPERINTENDENT, LAKE BLUFF SCHOOL DISTRICT 65, ILLINOIS

“

She had a fabulous time and learned a huge amount about a variety of science topics clustered around a creative theme. It was as though the course had been written for her.

CTD PARENT



One of the aims of our program is to give students freedom, to give them independence of thought—to enable them to be critical thinkers where they can say 'These are the types of things I'm interested in. These are the types of questions I want to ask.'

CTD INSTRUCTOR

This program has been a game changer for our daughter. It has helped with self-esteem and is a way for her to be challenged without the anxiety of grades or test results.

CTD PARENT

I fit in with people who cared about their academic experience as much as I did. This was a new feeling...it was an amazing experience that definitely changed me.

CTD STUDENT

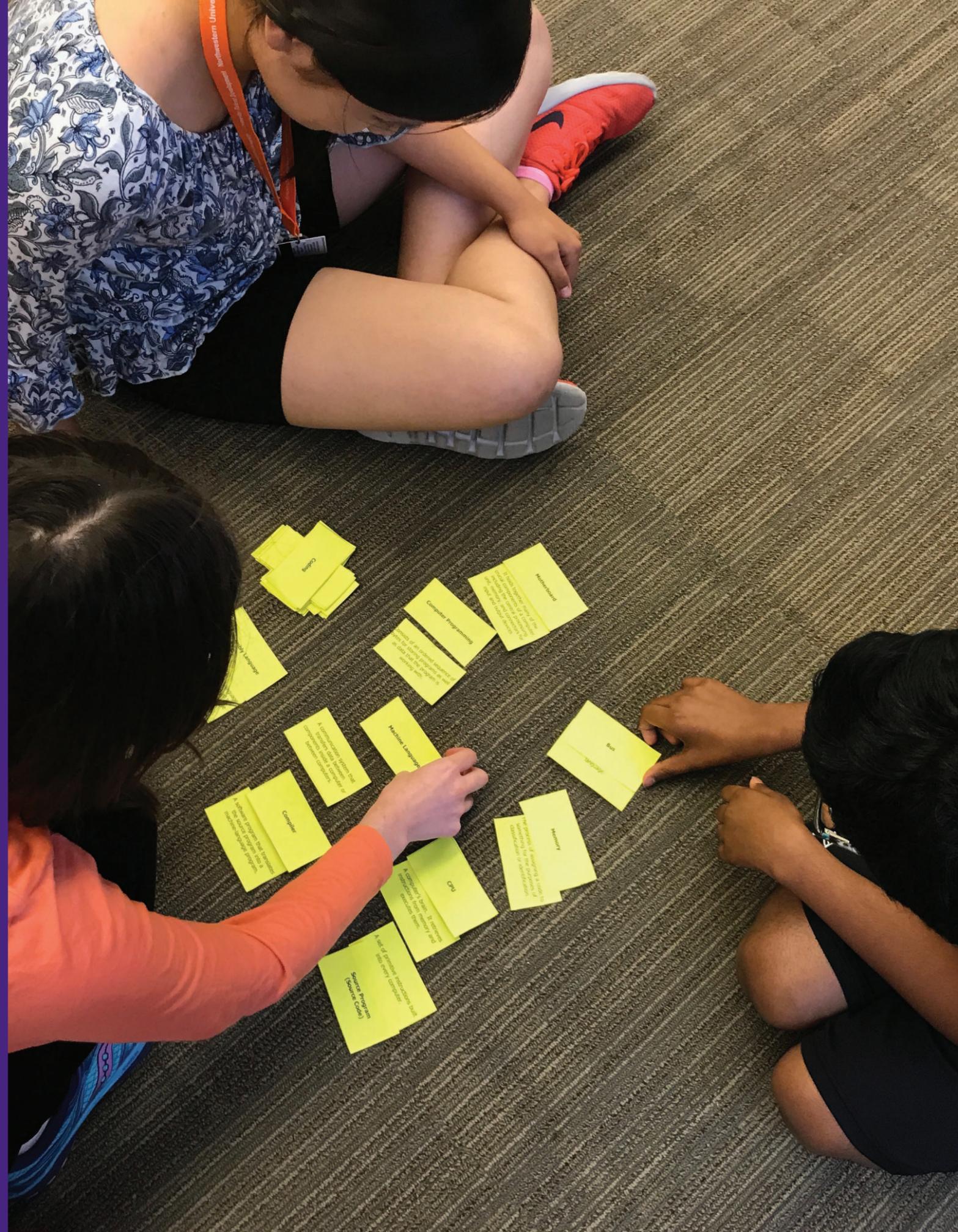
”

CTD finds a way to intrigue and challenge each student. My child can't wait to go back.

CTD PARENT

We were encouraged to collaborate and problem solve...we weren't just meant to absorb information and memorize it for tests; we were using information to make projects.

CTD STUDENT



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at Northwestern University**

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FOLLOW US



The teachers, course content, and exposure to other students was rich beyond measure. CTD PARENT

