



of the Berkshires

April 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Girls Inc. of the Berkshires would like to invite you to apply for the ***Eureka!*** program and join us in sparking your child's interest in science, technology, engineering & mathematics (STEM). The program is designed to encourage girls' excitement about STEM subjects through engaging them in fun year-round learning opportunities.

Eureka! is a five-year commitment and involves summer and school year experiences. We connect girls to the program at an early age and support them all the way through high school graduation. In her first two summers, your child will explore STEM, personal, and physical development in a 4-week summer camp. During the school year, she will attend monthly activities focused on building her knowledge and confidence. In summers three and four your child will be placed in a paid STEM-focused internship that will allow her to practice all she has learned. The fifth-year summer of ***Eureka!*** Girls Inc. of the Berkshires will support your child in applying to a college/university and accessing scholarships.

Eureka! 2018 Summer Camp:

- Morning sessions focused on STEM subjects through fun, hands-on activities
- Afternoon sessions focused on personal development and sports, including swim

Eureka! 2018-2019 School Year:

- Monthly STEM events

Girls Inc. of the Berkshires is seeking girls who will benefit from building stronger relationships with peers and enjoy an in-depth learning experience. Girls should have an interest or motivation to explore STEM. **Interested girls must be entering 8th grade by fall 2018.**

There is space for 20 participants in ***Eureka!*** for 2018-2019. To apply, girls and families must submit an application by **May 18, 2018** and participate in an interview. Families will also be asked to sign a commitment agreement to the 5-year program. **Applicants will be notified if they have been selected for an interview.**

Program Location:

Berkshire Community College
1350 West St
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Summer 2018 Program Details:

Dates: Mon-Fri, July 9th– August 3rd, 2018

Times: 9:00AM-4:30PM

Parent/Girl Orientation Dates: TBD

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Sidney Hamilton
Eureka! Program Coordinator
Girls Inc. of the Berkshires
sidneyh@brighamcenter.org
(413) 442-5174 ext. 19




of the Berkshires

Eureka!

Application Cover Page

Please make sure the following 5 items are included in your application and deliver to Girls Inc. of the Berkshires in one envelope with your full name on the front. Applications are due by June 1, 2018.

Applicant Name:

	Application Item	Details
	Application Cover Page	This form, with all items checked
	Eureka! Participant Application Questions	Both girl and parent questions completed
	General Girls Inc. Application	
	Middle School Transcript	
	Letters of Recommendation	2 letters from school personnel or volunteer experience

Application Due Date: May 31, 2018



of the Berkshires

Eureka!

Participant Application

Summer 2018

Student Information

Your Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Telephone _____

Age _____ Birthdate ____/____/____

School _____

Race/Ethnic Background (optional). Please check all that apply.

African American

European American

Latina/Hispanic

Pacific Islander

Asian American

Other: _____

Native American

Parent/ Guardian Information

Name(s) _____

Daytime Contact Information _____

Number: () _____ - _____ Number: () _____ - _____

Email: _____ Email: _____

***If parent/guardian address is different from yours, please print here:**

TO BE FILLED OUT BY PARTICIPANT

We are excited to get to know you better! Please respond to the questions below. This is an opportunity for you to share information about yourself in your own words. Relax, be honest, and do the best that you can. If you need more space you can add pages to the document, or you may also choose to type separately.

1. Why do you want to be part of the Eureka! Program?

2. How would YOU describe yourself?

3. How do you think OTHERS would describe you?

4. Are you on any sports team, either in or out of school?

Yes

No

If you are on any teams, please list them: _____

5. If you are involved in math, science, or computer activities (other than school classes) in or out of school, please list them: _____

6. List any other activities in which you have participated. (Girl Scouts, 4-H, youth groups, etc.)

7. Why do you want to learn more about science, technology, engineering and/or math? How do you think this program might help?

8. Is there a career (or job) you are excited about having when you are an adult?

9. What goals do you need to achieve to have that career (or job)?

10. Do you know how to swim? Do you enjoy swimming?

TO BE FILLED OUT BY PARENT/GUARDIAN

1. What are your personal hopes and goals for your child's education?

2. Why do you want your child to attend this program?

3. Can you commit your child to attending a full day, four-week, intensive STEM and leadership camp for the first two years of this program? Can you and your child commit to actively participate in this program until your child graduates high school? Explain.

4. Is there anything else you would like to share about your child?

5. Is your child receiving any additional services at school or is she currently in special education services? If so, please explain so we can make sure to provide activities that will work for her if she is selected to participate.

Parent or Guardian: Please READ and SIGN

If my daughter is accepted into the Eureka! Program, I will encourage her to participate fully in all activities and see that she regularly attends during the four weeks in summer and follow-up sessions. I will see that all the proper forms are completed and returned on time. I will support her by attending one or more of the following (Guardian/daughter Orientation, Field Trips, Graduation, Follow-up session, celebration showcase).

Signature_____ Date_____

Participant: Please READ and SIGN

If selected as a member of Eureka! I agree to participate fully in all aspects of this 5-year program, including orientations, the four week summer sessions, and monthly activities throughout the school year. I understand that my attendance is important for me to remain enrolled and fully benefit from the program.

Signature_____ Date_____



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Eureka!

At Girls Inc. of the Berkshires Recommendation Letter Request

Applicant's Name: _____

Your Name: _____ Daytime Phone _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____ Years known: _____

Eureka! Combines engineering, environmental science, math, computers, life skills, field trips, swimming, and other sports. Eureka! Will be held eight hours daily for four weeks during the summer on the Berkshire Community College Campus. Monthly follow-up sessions will be held during the school year. Transportation is available if needed.

This program has demonstrated that graduates persist in math and science courses in high school, assume leadership roles, and exhibit a high degree of self confidence in their abilities and potential for achieving academic and professional success.

Only 20 girls will be accepted into the Eureka! Program this summer. Eureka! Is a rigorous but rewarding experience. We are asking for a five-year commitment from the girls participating in this program.

Part of the Eureka! selection process requires a letter of recommendation from someone in an educational, work, or volunteer setting who can speak to the applicant's ability to commit to the program and enthusiasm for learning. These references will be used to help decide if the applicant will be a good fit for the program. By receiving this form, the applicant has requested a letter from you. Your letter is a critical part of our selection and awareness process. **In your letter, please provide answers and information for the following questions:**

- **Question 1:** Why do you believe that this applicant should be a part of Eureka!
- **Question 2:** How will Eureka! Positively influence the applicants life?
- **Question 3:** Do you think the applicant will be able to commit to the 5-year program? Please explain.
- **Question 4:** Does the applicant have an enthusiasm for learning? Please explain.



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