

**Lincoln Academy Honors Application**  
**Process for Guidance Counselors**  
**Spring 2021**

1. The Lincoln Academy Guidance Department will deliver the honors applications to the individual sending schools during the first week in February.
2. Students who decide to apply to the program will complete the cover page, self-evaluation and essays. We recommend that this step is completed by the end of February vacation. The student portion of the packet is submitted to the Guidance Counselor or designated faculty member.
3. Students distribute the appropriate teacher recommendation forms to their teachers. Teachers complete the recommendation forms and return them to the Guidance Counselor or designated faculty member. **This should be completed by March 5th.**
4. **Guidance Counselors or designated faculty members gather completed packets from students by March 6th and return them to Lincoln Academy by March 10th.** Guidance Counselors will let the Lincoln Academy Guidance Office know of any special circumstances that may result in a delay with individual applications.
5. Guidance Counselors or designated faculty members should reach out to the Director of Curriculum and Instruction or the Lincoln Academy Guidance Office if there are particular situations that have impacted an applicant's academic performance.

# Lincoln Academy

## 9th Grade Honors Application Packet

This packet contains all the necessary information and forms to apply to take the following Honors level courses in the 9th grade:

- Honors English I
- Honors Biology
- Honors Algebra I or Honors Geometry
- World Languages: Honors Spanish I or Honors French I

Packet Contents:

1. Information about the different types of programs and entrance requirements
2. Application Cover Sheet
3. Student Self Evaluation
4. Application Essay Prompts
5. Teacher Evaluation Forms *please note that teacher evaluation forms are specific to the program(s) to which students are applying for admission*

**This packet should be completed and submitted to your school's guidance counselor or other designee by March 5th.**

You will receive written notification about the application decisions to the address provided on your Application Cover Sheet. If you have any questions, please contact the Guidance Office at 563-3596, ext 125 or 128 or email the appropriate Department Head directly.

English: Bryan Manahan [manahan@lincolnacademy.org](mailto:manahan@lincolnacademy.org)

Math: Susan Levesque [levesque@lincolnacademy.org](mailto:levesque@lincolnacademy.org)

Science: Betsy Grannis [grannis@lincolnacademy.org](mailto:grannis@lincolnacademy.org)

World Languages: Alison Welch [welch@lincolnacademy.org](mailto:welch@lincolnacademy.org)

## **Honors Courses and General Academic Courses**

### **What is offered and how to choose...**

Freshmen at Lincoln Academy have the opportunity to choose between honors and general level courses in several departments. The honors level courses are listed below, however, there are some broad distinctions between honors and general courses that may help you select the best courses for your educational experience. Please note, while this is a single application packet, admission to each program is determined separately. Similarly, you may choose to take as many (or as few) honors courses as you wish, selecting the areas that best meet your interests and strengths. Taking an honors class in your freshman year does not necessarily determine your courses in subsequent grades.

Honors courses typically.....

- Have a more rigorous reading level. Students are expected to not only comprehend what they read on a literal level, but also to interpret texts and construct their own meaning
- Require writing that is more persuasive and analytical
- Expect a higher level of independent work and self-advocacy from students
- Demand active participation in classroom activities
- Are graded more rigorously and have more demanding homework expectations
- Are a pathway to further honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses

Students who are successful in honors classes typically:

- Have a genuine interest in the subject area
- Possess a dependable, independent work ethic
- Have strong teacher recommendations and standardized test scores (such as NWEA scores)
- Are willing to complete summer work in preparation for the honors courses

### **Honors Courses offered for Freshmen at Lincoln Academy:**

*Please note that more detail about these courses and their role in a 4-year progression of courses can be found in each department's section of the Lincoln Academy Course Guide.*

### **Honors English I**

A student interested in applying for Honors English I should meet the following criteria:

- Are proficient in all areas of 8th grade Language Arts and Reading and frequently moving beyond proficiency
- Read challenging literature with comprehension and have the desire to interpret stories beyond the literal and obvious meanings
- Have an interest in expository, analytical and persuasive writing, not just creative writing

## **Honors Algebra I and Honors Geometry**

Honors Math students typically excel in mathematics, possess a significant interest in math, wish to be challenged, are willing to think deeply and progress at an accelerated pace, and have a strong work ethic.

Placement into Lincoln Academy's Honors Math Program requires completion of the Honors Math Placement Exam. The exam will be administered at Lincoln Academy on Thursday, June 3, 2021, from 3:30 - 4:30 pm and again on Saturday, June 5, 2021, from 10:00 - 11:00 am (please select one date on the Cover Sheet).

Most of the questions on the placement test are from 8th-grade standards (or pre-algebra). The placement test also has questions from high school algebra 1 standards such as operations with polynomials and radical expressions as well as exponential, quadratic and radical functions and equations. Students who demonstrate proficiency in the 8th grade standards are candidates for honors algebra 1 while students who demonstrate proficiency in algebra 1 are candidates for honors geometry.

Past history has shown that students with NWEA scores of 250 or higher tend to have success in Lincoln Academy's Honors Math Program. Students who have completed a full year of algebra 1, including linear, quadratic, exponential, and rational functions, and operations with polynomials, and radicals tend to have success in Honors Geometry.

## **Honors Biology**

The Honors Science Program is designed for students who have a significant interest in and excel in math and science. The curriculum is designed to prepare these students to take AP level science classes by their junior and senior year. Acceptance to the Honors Science Program is made independently from the Math program and is primarily based on the recommendation of the 8th grade Science teacher as well as the student essay and self-evaluation.

## **Honors Spanish I and Honors French I**

The Honors World Language Program assumes that **you have no prior knowledge of Spanish or French**. Rather, your choice should be based on your desire to challenge yourself and your interest in the language and culture. The course will cover the Level I World Language syllabi at a more accelerated pace. More complex reading, listening, speaking, and writing activities will be included. Participation in the National Spanish/French Exam is required.

## Lincoln Academy 9th Grade Honors Application Cover Sheet (Please type or write clearly in pen.)

Student Name:	
Sending School:	
Parent/Guardian Names	
Home Mailing Address	
Parent Email Address(es)	
Home Phone Number	

Please Check the Honors Programs you wish to apply for:

<b>Honors Program</b>	<b>Current Teacher in this Discipline (this will be the teacher who completes your recommendation)</b>
_____ Honors English I	
_____ Honors Algebra I _____ Honors Geometry <i>Please indicate which date you are planning on taking the Math Placement Exam. You may change dates later if necessary.</i> _____ <i>Thursday, June 3rd, 3:30-4:30pm</i> _____ <i>Saturday, June 5th, 10:00-11:00am</i>	
_____ Honors Biology	
_____ Honors Spanish I _____ Honors French I <i>Please indicate below if you have prior experience learning/speaking a World Language. Please list the language:</i> _____	<i>A language arts teacher should complete this form.</i>

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent /Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***By completing this information you are acknowledging and agreeing to the admissions process and program expectations and giving permission for your child to enter the selected Honors Programs if admitted.***

***Parents: please feel free to add any comments, questions, or concerns to this packet.***

**Lincoln Academy**  
**9th Grade Honors Application Packet**  
**Student Self-Evaluation and Essays**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please rate yourself on the following characteristics on a scale of 1 (low) to 5 (high).

Characteristic	1 2 3 4 5	Comments
Self-motivation	1 2 3 4 5	
Willingness to seek extra help outside of class	1 2 3 4 5	
Completing assignments on time	1 2 3 4 5	
Quality of completed work	1 2 3 4 5	
Organization	1 2 3 4 5	
Persistence in the face of challenges	1 2 3 4 5	

Program Specific Ratings (Please only complete the self evaluation for the specific programs you are applying to.)

**English**

Characteristic	1 2 3 4 5	Comments
Competent skills in grammar and mechanics	1 2 3 4 5	
Enthusiasm for reading more challenging texts	1 2 3 4 5	
Ability to collaborate with others	1 2 3 4 5	
Willingness to improve the quality of your writing through the writing process	1 2 3 4 5	

**Math**

Characteristic	1 2 3 4 5	Comments
Problem Solving Ability	1 2 3 4 5	
Fluency with adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions	1 2 3 4 5	
Fluency with adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing signed numbers	1 2 3 4 5	

**Lincoln Academy**  
**9th Grade Honors Application Packet**  
**Student Self-Evaluation and Essay**  
**Continued....**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Essay**

*Please answer the question below. Your response should demonstrate both your writing abilities, and your thinking. Readers will be looking at organization, the ability to express yourself clearly, and your ability to support your claims with evidence and examples. You may attach pages or write your responses directly on this sheet. **Please type or write clearly in pen.***

Choose an issue of local, state or national importance and take a position on what should be done to address this issue. You should make a claim and support it with evidence.

## Honors Math Program Math Teacher Evaluation

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Sending School: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Math Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in Math: \_\_\_\_\_

NWEA Score (or other standardized test score): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*This student will take a math placement test in the spring. Are there any accommodations or concerns that we should be aware of in regards to test-taking?*

1. Please briefly describe this student's 8th grade math class. For example, what text/curriculum is used, is it a regular pace or accelerated pace class, etc.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. In a few sentences, please comment on the student's academic performance in your class.

Please rate this student on the following characteristics on a scale of 1 (low) to 5 (high).

Characteristic	1 2 3 4 5	Comments
Self-motivation to attempt challenging problems	1 2 3 4 5	
Problem-solving ability	1 2 3 4 5	
Fluency with adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions	1 2 3 4 5	
Fluency with adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing signed numbers	1 2 3 4 5	
Persistence and Work Ethic	1 2 3 4 5	
Organization	1 2 3 4 5	
Willingness to seek extra help outside of class	1 2 3 4 5	
Consistent preparation for class	1 2 3 4 5	
Responsible for making up work after an absence	1 2 3 4 5	



***Honors Science Program  
Science Teacher Evaluation***

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Sending School: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Science Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade in Science: \_\_\_\_\_

*This student is applying to the honors science program at Lincoln Academy. **In a few sentences, please comment on the student's academic performance in your class.***

Please rate the student on the following characteristics on a scale of 1 (low) to 5 (high).

Characteristic		Comments
Interest in Science	1 2 3 4 5	
Problem Solving Ability	1 2 3 4 5	
Completing assignments on time	1 2 3 4 5	
Quality of completed work	1 2 3 4 5	
Organization	1 2 3 4 5	
Ability to deal with challenges	1 2 3 4 5	

*Is there anything else we should know?*

# Honors English and/or Honors World Languages Program Language Arts Teacher Evaluation

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Sending School: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Language Arts Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade in Language Arts: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in Reading \_\_\_\_\_ NWEA Score \_\_\_\_\_

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Dear Language Arts Teacher,

The student listed above is interested in taking Honors English and/or an Honors World Languages course in high school. Please comment on this student's work habits and expertise:

### Skills

Characteristic	1=Poor, 3=Average, 5=Excellent	Comments
Understanding of language, grammar, usage and mechanics	1 2 3 4 5	
Reading Ability	1 2 3 4 5	
Ability to write narrative pieces	1 2 3 4 5	
Ability to write expository, persuasive and analytical essays	1 2 3 4 5	
Uses the writing process to improve a piece of writing	1 2 3 4 5	

### Work Habits

Characteristic	1=Rarely, 3=Usually, 5=Daily/Regularly	Comments
Completes homework/assignments on time	1 2 3 4 5	
Willingness to read more challenging texts	1 2 3 4 5	
Participation in class and collaboration with others	1 2 3 4 5	
Studies for tests/quizzes	1 2 3 4 5	
Works independently	1 2 3 4 5	
Is self-motivated	1 2 3 4 5	
Takes responsibility for making up work after an absence	1 2 3 4 5	