



Northeast Academy for Aerospace and Advanced Technologies

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Who is eligible to attend the school?

Any student who resides (or will reside) in North Carolina is eligible to apply. Students are selected through an open, public lottery. The school is currently accepting applications from rising 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th graders.

Q. What costs are associated with Northeast Academy?

None. NEAAAT is a **free, public school** and all students living in North Carolina are eligible to apply. We offer **transportation at no cost**, and we also subsidize lunches for families who qualify for **Free or Reduced Lunch** pricing. When students meet admission criteria at Elizabeth City State University and/or College of the Albemarle, they may also take **college courses for free** for credit at the college/university and NEAAAT (dual enrollment, dual credit).

Q. What does it mean that this school is an innovative school?

NEAAAT maintains close partnerships with colleges and universities, business and industry, state and federal agencies, and non-profit organizations to create new approaches to instruction. Our coaches (teachers) and support staff are expected to work with partners to develop powerful learning experiences that challenge and engage students in learning. **Simply put, we "do school differently" at NEAAAT.**

Q. Why is NEAAAT centered on STEM education?

STEM education calls for schools that provide tools and space for exploration and invention and that foster a culture of inquiry, collaboration, and innovation among students and teachers. STEM courses are designed to develop the creative design, collaboration, and problem solving skills that are so highly valued by employers. NEAAAT's learning environment emphasizes work and accountability in small teams, hands-on construction of real products and prototypes, and pervasive use of technologies that support learning both within the school and flexibly anywhere. By offering students a variety of options for **hands-on, real-world learning**, NEAAAT prepares students for the higher education and growing career opportunities available in our area and beyond.

Q. How do I know if this school is a good fit for my child?

Students who are ready to be challenged generally thrive at NEAAAT, as do students who are able to work with others to learn. Students who are considering careers in aviation, healthcare, IT, and advanced manufacturing will find very unique opportunities to dig deeper into these areas at NEAAAT.

Q. Are students able to participate in the same sports and arts activities as they do at a traditional school?

NEAAAT does not yet participate in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) or similar athletics associations, and we do not yet have an established marching band. We are currently exploring future program participation. In the meantime, NEAAAT **does offer** students opportunities to participate in athletic and arts activities through a comprehensive offering of clubs, such as the Soccer Club, Basketball Club, FIRST Lego League and Robotics Competition Teams, Chess Club, Drama Club, Hunter Education Team, etc. Club offerings are informed by students each year and available both after school *and* during the regular school day.

Q. Will the bus come to my house? How will my child get to school?

NEAAAT offers multiple pick-up sites across the Albemarle region, and parents are included in planning site locations. We also have an active parent carpool. We do not offer traditional, door-to-door transportation.

Q. Does each student have a computer to use for school?

Yes, NEAAAT provides **laptops to students at no charge**. Students have access to a device 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. During our Remote Learning Days, students actually learn from home! Optional damage insurance is available.

Q. What makes this school different from traditional schools?

Where do we start! Innovative remote learning activities, flexible scheduling, work-based learning, service learning, student voice and choice, teaming ... just to name a few. We invite you to attend one of our upcoming events to learn more about what "doing school differently" really means!

We appreciate your feedback! As additional questions arise, we'll publish responses to them on our FAQ page located at www.northeastacademy.org/admissions. Please see the FAQ page for the most up-to-date information.