

Burnaby MACC Program FAQs

Contents

Program Description	2
What is the program and what is its purpose?	
Where is the MACC program located?	
Who is the MACC program for?	
How will the child get to and from the program?	
If a student accepts a spot in a non-preferred location, can they switch locations?	
How to Apply.....	4
Who can apply for MACC?	
Who puts in the application?	
Can a student who is twice exceptional apply to the program?	
Application Process.....	5
What are the components of the application process for MACC?	
Who will decide who is granted admission to the program?	
What is the cognitive screening assessment? Why is it being used for the application process?	
Is the cognitive assessment used for the MACC application the same as a psycho-educational assessment?	
Where will the results from the cognitive screening assessments be kept?	
Other Considerations.....	6
If a student is accepted into MACC, will they continue in MACC for the duration of their elementary school years?	
If a student chooses to leave the program, can they go back to their home school?	
If a student was previously in a choice program (e.g. French Immersion) prior to being accepted and attending MACC, then, if they choose to leave MACC, can they go back to the choice program?	
After a student completes the grade 7 year of MACC, what will be their options in secondary school?	
How are students in MACC programs going to be integrated into the community at their new elementary school?	

Program Description

What is the program and what is its purpose?

MACC is a rigorous program for creative, high-ability learners who are seeking a community in which to explore curriculum through cognitive challenges and greater depth, pace, and complexity. MACC will support high-ability learners whose intellectual, personal and social skills may be developing at varying rates.

Where is the MACC program located?

There are currently 4 MACC classes located in the Burnaby School District.

Grade 4/5 MACC at Capitol Hill Elementary

Grade 6/7 MACC at Capitol Hill Elementary

Grade 4/5 MACC at Suncrest Elementary

Grade 6/7 MACC at Suncrest Elementary

Students are required to leave their home schools and become a member of the school community at the MACC location.

Who is the MACC program for?

Elementary school students in grades 4-7 who demonstrate advanced learning characteristics that align with the program purpose.

Students who are successful in the MACC program demonstrate:

- Enjoyment when working in a collaborative learning environment
- High task commitment
- Ability to deal with complexity, divergent, open-ended tasks
- Willingness to reflect on their own learning
- Social responsibility and collaboration with others
- Passion and drive for learning and strong desire to be in this type of learning environment
- High intellectual and creative ability
- Flexibility in learning and a willingness to take risks
- Desire to become a self-directed learner and take responsibility for his/her learning
- Ability to be innovative and creative
- Strong problem-solving and critical-thinking skills

Things to consider:

- Student's willingness to work with others

- Student's ability to self-regulate
- Student's focus and perseverance during challenging tasks
- Student's social emotional well-being in an academically rigorous program
- Student's experience and ability to work on unstructured tasks independently

How will the child get to and from the program?

Transportation is the responsibility of the parent, and this is something that should be considered prior to application.

If a student accepts a spot in a non-preferred location, can they switch locations?

For initial MACC selection for upcoming Grade 4s, all of the spots are filled by the Selection Committee. Therefore, switching locations is not possible upon acceptance. If a student is offered a spot in a non-preferred location and does not want to accept the spot due to transportation difficulties, they will be placed on the Waitlist.

How to Apply

Who can apply for MACC?

Students currently in Grades 3-6 can apply for the following school year.

A "P" designation is not required to apply.

Please note: Currently, **all** MACC classes from Grades 4-7 are full. Applicants who wish to apply who are currently in Grades 4-6 will be placed on a Waitlist. In the case where a spot opens up in the appropriate grade level, the Selection Committee will review the Waitlist candidates and contact the parent and school for further information.

Who puts in the application?

Parents submit an application for MACC. Please notify your home school about the application since information from the school must be submitted to complete the application. Any incomplete applications will not be considered.

Can a student who is twice exceptional apply to the program?

Given the diverse nature of twice-exceptional (2E) learner profiles, 2E candidates are welcome to apply. If a student demonstrates the criteria for MACC listed above, and it appears the program would be a good fit for the student given their cognitive and academic abilities, then the student's name should be put forward. As with all student applications, class composition will also be a key factor in the selection process.

Application Process

What are the components of the application process for MACC?

- MACC Application Form (submitted by parents)
- MACC School Input Form
- Copies of the 2 most recent report cards (submitted by parents)
- If applicable: copies of IEP, SLP, and Psych-Ed Assessment
- Cognitive Screening Assessment and Written Assessment in December

Who will decide who is granted admission to the program?

A district selection committee will review application packages and cognitive test results in December and January for entry into MACC for the following school year.

What is the cognitive screening assessment? Why is it being used for the application process?

The screening assessment of the application is a norm-referenced test of cognitive ability and reasoning skills. As the MACC program is an academically rigorous program, the assessment will provide information regarding the applicant's innate cognitive abilities and will be used as a screening tool. It is not the sole criteria used to determine participation in the program and will be considered in conjunction with the rest of the information provided in the application package.

Is the cognitive assessment used for the MACC application the same as a psycho-educational assessment?

No the cognitive assessment used for the MACC application is not the same as a psycho-educational assessment. It is designed to give a snapshot of a student's cognitive profile but is not a comprehensive report of their cognitive abilities and the scores should not be interpreted as such.

Where will the results from the cognitive screening assessments be kept?

Classification results will be kept in the District's student file. Since the assessment is used as a screening tool, no scores will be available at this time.

Other Considerations

If a student is accepted into MACC, will they continue in MACC for the duration of their elementary school years?

Yes. If they are accepted, they will stay at the MACC program site and continue throughout the elementary grades.

If a student chooses to leave the program, can they go back to their home school?

The student must reregister at their home school.

If a student was previously in a choice program (e.g. French Immersion) prior to being accepted and attending MACC, then, if they choose to leave MACC, can they go back to the choice program?

There is no guarantee that once a student leaves a District Program there will be space available if they wish to return. Thus, the decision to leave and attend MACC must be carefully considered.

After a student completes the grade 7 year of MACC, what will be their options in secondary school?

After MACC, students will have the option of continuing in a similar program at the secondary level. The BETA Mini School program for high-ability learners is located at Alpha Secondary. There is a separate application for this secondary level program, and acceptance into MACC is not a guarantee of admission into the BETA Mini School.

How are students in MACC programs going to be integrated into the community at their new elementary school?

MAC classes will be housed amongst other grade 4-7 classes at their new school site. Students from MACC will participate as members of the whole school community through assemblies, school events, and specialty subjects such as music. In addition, the administration of these schools is committed to facilitating collaboration amongst teachers, such that there will be opportunities for MACC students to mix with other classes and there will be times for MACC teachers to collaborate with staff from the whole school.