Dear CTY Talent Search Family:

We're pleased that you've enrolled your child in the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY) 2015–2016 Talent Search.

CTY identifies and develops the academic talents of the most promising young people of the next generation. The founder of Facebook and the co-founder of Google are CTY alumni—proof that self-described “CTYers” grow up to lead their generation and shape the course of history.

Your child's next step with CTY is testing. This booklet spells out the test options available and lets you know how to sign up for the test of your choice.

CTY's Talent Search will provide you with new information about your child's academic development and serve as an entry point to CTY’s signature academic programs and resources. Welcome.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Albert
Senior Director, Academic Programs and Services
By participating in this year's CTY Talent Search, your child joins children from all U.S. states and 120 countries who have participated in our programs since CTY was founded in 1979.

**Accreditation**

The Center for Talented Youth is accredited for grades K through 12 by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.
Above-grade-level testing: What is it?

Above-grade-level testing is what makes CTY’s Talent Search different from the testing that students usually encounter. Typically, students will take a test tailored to their age or grade. This is true even for admission into most schools’ gifted and talented programs.

Very bright students often perform at the top percentiles or higher on grade-level tests. When they do, the tests may be imprecise measures of true ability. Why? Because students with these scores have “hit the ceiling” of the test. The test doesn’t discern whether the student has reached his or her level of ability or could answer even more difficult questions correctly.

When students at the top percentiles take an above-grade-level test, the resulting scores spread out into an (approximately) normal distribution. In other words, a curve develops, with most students performing in the middle range, and fewer landing at the low and high ends. This result highlights that students who originally scored at the top percentiles on grade-level tests were not all the same with respect to their abilities or academic needs.

The higher ceiling of an above-grade-level test allows us to test the limits of a student’s ability. For many highly able students, this is the first time they can see and appreciate the full extent of their own abilities.

Above-grade-level testing identifies students who have the greatest need for advanced-level and fast-paced coursework.

Good standardized test scores are objective measures of a child’s ability because they are not influenced by a teacher’s individual perception of a student, the “good student” bias, or parental aspirations for their child.

CTY offers second- through sixth-grade students the School and College Ability Test (SCAT). This is an above-grade-level test developed for students several years ahead of your child in school.

It assesses quantitative and verbal-reasoning abilities. Students in fifth and sixth grades have an additional test choice, the Spatial Test Battery (STB). The STB was developed by CTY and normed on a CTY population; it assesses spatial-reasoning abilities. Though taking more than one test is optional for fifth and sixth graders, students may want to take the STB in addition to the SCAT to get a more complete profile of their verbal, mathematical, and spatial abilities.

CTY research shows that scores on above-grade-level tests are highly predictive of a student’s success in advanced-level and fast-paced courses.
Visit: cty.jhu.edu/Testing

- Detailed information about each test
- Sample questions
- Registration instructions
Testing—A small step toward a big destination

Discover.
You’ll see a new way of looking at your math and verbal talents.

Participate!
You’ll open the doors to CTY, including courses for qualified students.
Be recognized.

You’ll receive a certificate to honor you for testing. Top-scorers are invited to special recognition ceremonies.

Grow confidently.

You’ll learn about yourself. Participants report stronger academic self-identity afterward.
Before the Test

The School and College Ability Test (SCAT)

**Test type:** Computerized
**Test length:** 60–75 minutes
**Test sections:** Quantitative and Verbal
**Testing dates:** By appointment July 1–June 30
**Test locations:** Prometric test centers
**Test fee:** Fees vary by country and range from $65-$195 (U.S.)
**Receive test results by mail:** From CTY five weeks after test
**View test results in MyCTY:** Five business days after test

- **HIGHLIGHTS**
  - Shortest testing time
  - Convenient option—fastest way to get results if attempting to qualify for CTY’s online courses or summer programs

**ABOUT THE TEST**

The School and College Ability Test is a timed, two-part test that contains math and verbal sections of multiple-choice items. Since 1985, the Center for Talented Youth has used the SCAT to identify talented students in elementary grades. In 1996, CTY computerized the SCAT and made it available at Prometric test centers.

After the test, you’ll receive information that shows how your child’s scores compare to those students in his or her grade as well as students in the higher grades for whom the test questions were originally designed.

**TEST SECTIONS AND QUESTIONS**

The SCAT has two sections: verbal and quantitative. Each section contains 55 questions, including five unidentified experimental items that do not count toward the student’s score.

The verbal section measures a student’s understanding of the meaning of words and verbal reasoning ability. Verbal questions are multiple-choice analogies, which require a student to choose the best pair of words to complete an analogy. It may appear that more than one answer fits the analogy, but the correct answer is the one that best completes the analogy.

The quantitative section measures a student’s understanding of fundamental number operations. The quantitative questions are multiple-choice mathematical comparisons, which require a student to compare two mathematical quantities and determine which is greater. Problems are intended to measure mathematical reasoning ability and thus often do not require computation.

**TEST TIMING**

The two sections are each 22 minutes long, with additional time for tutorials. They are separated by a 10-minute break. The break is optional and student-directed, meaning the test center administrator will not start and end the break. It is the student’s responsibility to return to the test on time. If students take any other breaks during the test, timing will continue. Your appointment time will be 90 minutes, but most students complete testing in one hour or less.

**Note:** Parents must show photo ID and remain at the test center during testing. If parents leave the test center for any reason, the test will be stopped and the scores canceled.

**SCORING**

Scaled scores on the SCAT range from 400 to 516 depending on the level of test the student takes. Scaled scores are based on the number of questions the student answers correctly out of 50. For more details on score ranges, please visit [cty.jhu.edu/talent/testing](http://cty.jhu.edu/talent/testing).
TEST REGISTRATION
See the SCAT Scheduling Worksheet on page 12.

PREPARATION
Review the sample SCAT materials available online at ctyj.hu/Testing.

RECEIVING SCAT SCORES
Parents and students may access SCAT results five business days after testing through their MyCTY accounts (ctyjhu.org/mycty). An official SCAT score report explaining the test results will be mailed to you within three weeks of the test date. Along with the scores, you’ll receive a certificate of participation and a resource booklet called After the Test. Information on the CTY programs for which your child is eligible will be sent separately. If you do not receive your score report, please call CTY at 410-735-6278.

SCAT RETESTING
Students may take the SCAT twice during an academic year. A new eligibility number is required to retest; you may request a new one through your child’s MyCTY account, ctyjhu.org/mycty.
STB (grades five and six)

**TEST SECTIONS AND QUESTIONS**
- Visual Memory—Learning Phase (15 shapes): 8 minutes
- Surface Development (30 questions): 12 minutes
- Block Rotation (20 questions): 12 minutes
- Visual Memory—Recall Phase (15 questions): 8 minutes

**TEST TIMING**
Each subtest will be timed separately. Within the subtests, easy tasks will come first and more difficult ones later. All items are multiple choice, and each task will only have one correct solution. A timer will indicate the time remaining in the subtest, and students should pace themselves accordingly, remembering that later questions are more difficult. Students may also skip tasks in the subtest and return to them later. Students who wish to change an answer to a task they’ve already completed may go back and do so (only within the subtest). An appointment time at the test center will be two hours; however, some students manage to complete the test in less than 30 minutes. Testing times of more than 90 minutes are the exception.

**Note:** Parents must show a photo ID and remain at the test center during testing. If parents leave the test center for any reason, the test will be stopped and the scores canceled.

**SCORING**
Each subtest is scored separately. Students will receive a percentile rank for each subtest. Students will also receive a scaled score from 200–800, which represents a total or overall score for the test. The scaled score determines a student’s eligibility into CTY’s math and science courses. (STB scores are not considered for humanities and writing course eligibility.)

**HIGHLIGHTS**
- Unique test that measures spatial ability
- Appropriate for students seeking to qualify for CTY math or science courses
- Results are available quickly
- Taken on computer at Prometric test centers worldwide

**ABOUT THE TEST**
The Spatial Test Battery (STB) was developed by The Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth after seven years of research on the critical components of scientific innovation.

Spatial ability is the ability to understand and remember spatial relationships among objects, manipulate images in space, and visualize how separate parts of complex physical systems interrelate. This ability can be viewed as a unique type of ability, distinguishable from verbal, mathematical, and other forms of intellectual talent.

This test is designed primarily for students with an interest, or demonstrated talents in, mathematical, computer, and scientific studies. Along with an assessment of verbal, mathematical, and other forms of ability, the recognition of spatial ability provides a more comprehensive profile of talents that can be used for academic and career planning.

**TESTING type:** Computerized  
**Test length:** 75–90 minutes  
**Test sections:** Four sections related to spatial ability  
**Testing dates:** By appointment July 1–June 30  
**Test locations:** Prometric test centers  
**Test fees:** Fees vary by country and range from $80–$223 (U.S.)  
**Receive test results by mail:** From CTY three weeks after test  
**View test results in MyCTY:** Five business days after test

**Be sure to check** the current dates and locations before registering for the test.

**Before the Test**
Before the Test

TEST REGISTRATION
See STB Scheduling Worksheet on page 13.

PREPARATION
Review the sample STB test materials available online by clicking “Sample Items” at [cty.jhu.edu/talent/testing/about/stb.html](http://cty.jhu.edu/talent/testing/about/stb.html).

RECEIVING STB SCORES
Parents and students may access STB results five business days after testing through their MyCTY accounts. An official STB score report will be mailed to you within three weeks after the test date. Along with the scores, you’ll receive a certificate of participation and a resource booklet called After the Test. Information on the programs for which your child is eligible will be sent separately. If you do not receive your score report, please call CTY at 410-735-6278.

STB RETESTING
Students may take the STB twice during an academic year. A new eligibility number is required to retest; you may request a new one through your child’s MyCTY account, [ctyjhu.org/mycty](http://ctyjhu.org/mycty).
Before the Test

PROMETRIC (for SCAT and STB)

Before scheduling your test at a Prometric testing center, be sure to watch the video “What to Expect on Test Day” for helpful tips and to familiarize yourself with test day procedures. Find it at ctyj.hu/PrometricTestDay.

CANCELLATION AND RESCHEDULING

If you know at least 48 hours before your testing appointment that you would like to cancel or reschedule, log onto prometric.com/JHUCTY/ or contact the Prometric Call Center at 800-688-5796 to speak with a customer service representative. (Note: A message cannot be left on voice mail to cancel or reschedule an appointment.)

If you determine less than 48 hours before your scheduled test time that you will not be able to make your appointment, please wait until the scheduled appointment time has passed, then call Prometric at 800-688-5796 and ask the call center representative to “reset your eligibility.”

Rescheduling Due to Illness or Extenuating Circumstances

If you missed your appointment because your child was ill or due to some other extenuating circumstance and can provide a doctor’s note or appropriate documentation to Prometric, you may not be required to pay the rescheduling fee. Please contact the Prometric Candidate Care Department at 800-853-6769. Make them aware of the situation, and then fax your documentation to Prometric Candidate Care at 800-853-6781. Make sure your contact information is clearly visible on your materials.

Lateness/No-show

If you do not show up for your test appointment or if you arrive more than 30 minutes late and cannot be seated, you will have to pay a rescheduling fee.

Rescheduling:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount of notice before test</th>
<th>10 or more days</th>
<th>2–9 days</th>
<th>48 hours or less</th>
<th>Missed appointment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full test fee is forfeited.</td>
<td>No fee.</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>$44</td>
<td>Full test fee is forfeited.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cancellation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount of notice before test</th>
<th>Full fee credited.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 or more days</td>
<td>No fee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2–9 days</td>
<td>$20. Balance of test fee credited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48 hours or less</td>
<td>Full test fee is forfeited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missed appointment</td>
<td>Full test fee is forfeited.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ACCOMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES

1. Obtain a Nonstandard Testing Accommodations form from CTY at cty.jhu.edu/disability/testing or by contacting us at 410-735-6278 or ctyinfo@jhu.edu.

2. Submit the form with documentation from a school official or other appropriate professional indicating a diagnosis and recommending accommodations to:

   - Emiko Kasahara, PhD
   - CTY Diagnostic and Counseling Center
   - McAuley Hall, Suite 400
   - 5801 Smith Ave.
   - Baltimore, MD 21209
   - Fax: 410-735-6631 or Email: dcc@jhu.edu

3. The Diagnostic and Counseling Center will decide on the request within 10 working days and inform parents of the decision.

4. Once you obtain approval from CTY, you will receive a telephone number to call to register through the Special Accommodations Department of the Prometric Call Center. Please contact Prometric at least 30 days before your desired appointment date to allow time for the requested accommodations to be made. Parents who fail to appear for their testing appointment will be charged any fees CTY incurred to arrange for special accommodation testing.

5. Prometric allows some items in without accommodations. Please review the list of pre-approved personal items. cty.hu/permissionitems

If you live more than 100 kms from the test center closest to you, please arrange to take a paper-based SCAT by following the directions on our website at cty.jhu.edu/gifted/dcc/InternationalSCAT.html.
PROMETRIC TEST CENTERS (for SCAT and STB)

Test fees are subject to change. Before scheduling, please check the Prometric website for the current fees and to find the center near you: prometric.com/en-us/clients/jhucty/Pages/landing.aspx.

For cancellation and rescheduling only:
United States, Canada, Latin America, and all other U.S. territories: 800-853-6769
Europe: 31-320-239-540
Middle East: 31-320-239-530
Africa: 31-320-239-593
India: 91-124-414-7700
Japan: 81-3-5541-4800
Asia Pacific: 603-7628-3333
SCAT SCHEDULING WORKSHEET

Know your SCAT eligibility number

Please have your child’s nine-digit SCAT Eligibility Number from CTY available when you call to schedule a SCAT testing appointment. If you received this guide by mail, that number is printed at the bottom of the letter accompanying this booklet. If you received it by email from CTY, your child’s eligibility number was in the body of the email. If you’ve lost or cannot find the eligibility number, you can access it by logging into MyCTY at ctyj.hu/MyCTYLogin.

Please make sure that the third digit in the eligibility number reflects your child’s current grade. If it does not, STOP, DO NOT REGISTER and please contact CTY immediately at 1-410-735-6278.

Record your nine-digit number here:  ____  ____  ____  ____  ____  ____  ____  ____

Choose your options

1. When would you like your child to test? ______________________________________

2. What testing location would be convenient for you? ________________________________

3. If paying by credit card, please have your credit card number, expiration date and the three-digit code on the back of your card handy. If paying by electronic check, have your checkbook available.

Now schedule your test appointment

You can make an appointment with Prometric online at prometric.com/jhucty or by phone at 800-688-5796. The call center is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST on weekdays. Fees vary by country and range from $65-$195 (U.S.) payable by credit card or electronic check. The fee will be charged immediately. Please call or go online at least three weeks before your preferred testing date. Students must test by June 30, 2016. However, if you are interested in 2016 Summer Programs, please test as early as possible. Registration for summer courses opens in January and spaces fill quickly.

You can record your appointment information below. If you are not sure of the location of the test center, ask for directions when you schedule your appointment.

Confirmation number: ____________________________

Test date and time: ____________________________

Test center address: ____________________________

Test center telephone: __________________________

Confirmation of Appointment

If you telephone to schedule an appointment, this sheet will be your only confirmation.

If you make an appointment online, you will receive an email confirmation.

Note: On test day, remember to bring this page to the test center. Please arrive 30 minutes before your scheduled appointment. Parents must bring a photo ID, and will be asked to sign a Prometric Parental Release Form when checking in. Parents must remain in the test center for the duration of the test. If parents leave for any reason, the test will stopped and scores canceled.

I agree to have my child take the SCAT.

Parent/Guardian Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________
STB SCHEDULING WORKSHEET
(for grades five and six only)

Know your STB eligibility number

Please have your seven-digit STB Eligibility Number from CTY before you call to schedule your STB testing appointment. If you received this guide by mail, your child’s testing eligibility number is printed at the bottom of the letter accompanying this booklet. If you received this guide by email from CTY, your child’s eligibility number was in the body of the email. If you have lost or cannot find the eligibility number, you can access it by logging into MyCTY, at ctyj.hu/MyCTYLogin.

Record your seven-digit number here: ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

Choose your options

1. When would you like your child to test? _________________________________

2. What testing location would be most convenient for you? (See the list of centers on page 11.) __________

3. If paying by credit card, please have your credit card number, expiration date and the three-digit code on the back of your card handy. If paying by electronic check, have your checkbook available.

Now schedule your test appointment

You can make an appointment with Prometric online at prometric.com/jhucty or by phone at 800-688-5796. The call center is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST on weekdays. Fees vary by country and range from $80-$223 (U.S.), payable by credit card or electronic check. The fee will be charged immediately. Please call or register online at least three weeks before your preferred testing date. Students must test by June 30, 2016. However, if you are interested in 2016 Summer Programs, please test as early as possible. Registration for summer courses opens in January and spaces fill quickly. You can record your appointment information below. If you are not sure of the location of the test center, ask for directions when you schedule your appointment.

Confirmation number: ____________________________

Test date and time: ____________________________

Test center address: ____________________________

Test center telephone: ____________________________

Confirmation of Appointment

If you telephone to schedule an appointment, this sheet will be your only confirmation.

If you make an appointment online, you will receive an email confirmation.

Note: On test day, remember to bring this page to the test center. Please arrive 30 minutes before your scheduled appointment. Parents must bring a photo ID, and will be asked to sign a Prometric Parental Release Form when checking in the student. Parents must remain in the test center for the duration of the testing. If parents leave for any reason, the test will stopped and scores canceled.

I agree to have my child take the STB.

Parent/Guardian Signature: ____________________________ Date: ________________
TEST DAY CHECKLIST

SCAT and STB:

☐ Test Scheduling Worksheets
   (SCAT page 12; STB page 13)
☐ Parent Photo ID

General Information

Center for Talented Youth
McAuley Hall
5801 Smith Ave., Suite 400
Baltimore, MD 21209
Phone: 410-735-6278
Fax: 410-735-6220
Email: ctyinfo@jhu.edu

En Español:
Phone: 410-735-6095

Hong Kong Office
Johns Hopkins University - Center for Talented Youth
833 Cheung Sha Wan Road
Room 608, Plaza Tower I, Kowloon,
Hong Kong
Email: Beatrix.Li@jhu.edu