



## MESA Application Form

Name of student \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_  
Person referring student \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to student \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your interest in the Maine Environmental Science Academy (MESA). Before you fill out this application, please review the MESA website ([mesa.msad72.org](http://mesa.msad72.org)), as well as the MESA Handbook. This document is intended to gather important information regarding the student you are referring, and begins the process of determining if the MESA program is a good fit.

***\*MESA is NOT a behavioral program. Due to the nature of the program, students with a history of behavioral issues will not be considered.***

It should be noted that this application is only one part of the overall process. MESA will review all applications, but also take into consideration the overall makeup of the program: the needs of the student will be balanced with the needs of the program. MESA does not have open enrollment. Typically, referrals are made and processed in the spring. Once applications are reviewed, students are invited to spend time shadowing during the school day (late spring) and live the life of a MESA student.

Sincerely,  
Megan Barry  
Carolyn Lewey  
Jotham Oliver

QUESTIONS?? email us at [mesa@msad72.org](mailto:mesa@msad72.org)

**5TH GRADE TEACHERS: PLEASE COMPLETE**

**PART I: Academic Performance**

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Programming:</b> Please list any GT, IEP, 504 accommodations or services used <u>or</u> referrals in progress	<b>Concerns:</b> Please list any academic concerns or interventions being used
Days Absent: _____  Previous attendance concerns:		

**Organization: How well does student organize (both physically and mentally)? (include daily preparation, self-starting and regulating behaviors)**

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**Work Habits: Please describe student's work affect. Are assignments completed to students ability?**

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**Part II: Behavior**

1. Please list any environmental, instructional and/or management needs.

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2. MESA spends a great deal of time learning in the outdoors. Does this student demonstrate any behaviors that would be unsafe to him/herself or others outside of the traditional classroom? (This could include ability to follow directions, self-control)

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3. It is a misconception that MESA is a “hands-on” program. Rather, it is an experiential program:

**Learning that is considered "experiential" contains the following elements:**

1. Reflection, critical analysis and synthesis
2. Opportunities for students to take initiative, make decisions, and be accountable for the results
3. Opportunities for students to engage intellectually, creatively, emotionally, socially, or physically
4. A designed learning experience that includes the possibility to learn from natural consequences, mistakes, and successes

Why would this student benefit from an experiential program?

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4. How might the MESA program benefit from this student? In other words, describe the student’s personality, motivation, leadership qualities, etc, that the student would contribute to the program.

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**MESA offers a unique opportunity to students in grades 6-8 to complete their middle school years in an experiential setting. Through a rigorous, ecology-based curriculum, students will develop [21st century skills](#). The objective of the program is to give students the opportunity to learn about their surrounding environment; to be introduced to the state curriculum standards through authentic experiences that bring standards to life; and to provide personal growth opportunities creating a culture of leadership and teamwork. Students will design, organize, and implement activities and programs which will enhance district schools and our surrounding towns.**

**PARENTS: PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS**

1. What does your child like most about school? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What does your child like least about school? \_\_\_\_\_

3. How much time per week does your child spend doing each of the following?  
playing outside \_\_\_\_\_  
reading \_\_\_\_\_  
watching tv/screen time \_\_\_\_\_

4. Can your child ride a bicycle yes no \*If no, are you willing to support your child learning to ride between now and next school year?

5. It is a misconception that MESA is a “hands-on” program. Rather, it is an experiential program:

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Please describe how your child would benefit from an experiential program:

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6. What are your child's strengths? \_\_\_\_\_

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7. What are some areas of growth you would like to see in your child? \_\_\_\_\_

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8. On a scale from 1 to 10, how comfortable is your child spending the night away from home? \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT: COMPLETE THIS PAGE**

Student Interest Inventory

Name (First & Last): \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite School Subject:

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a pet? If so, what is it? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you know how to ride a bike? \_\_\_\_\_

At home I have access to (circle all that apply): computer      Internet

What do you like most about yourself?

\_\_\_\_\_

What do you like to do outside of school?

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you like school? Why or why not?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you in any after-school clubs or sports? If so, which ones? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you want to go to college? Where?

\_\_\_\_\_

What do you want to be when you're older?

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Do you read for pleasure at home? If yes, what are some recent books or magazines you have read?

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What science topic(s) would you be interested in learning more about?

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Describe one really fun activity that any of your teachers have done in the past:

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Do you like working with a group or working alone?

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Why would you like to be part of MESA?

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In a paragraph, please describe a time in which you had to overcome a challenge.