GITA APPLICATION FOR 2015-2016

Admissions Process Timeline for the 2015-16 School Year

January 2015	**Admissions Process and Application Packet Made Available on bohs.bousd.us/gita**
Early February, 2015	**School Messenger Communique Sent to Targeted 8th Graders at BJHS**
Friday, February 6, 2015	**Mr. Salesky and Current GITA Students Visit BJHS**
Friday, February 13, 2015	**School Messenger Communique Sent to BJHS 8th Grade Families (Regarding the BOHS 8th Grade Family Information Night & Open House)**
Sunday, February 15, 2015	**School Messenger Communique Sent to BOHS 9th-12th Grade Families (Regarding BOHS Open House)**
Tuesday, February 17, 2015	**8th Grade Family Night and BOHS Open House @ 5:45 in the gym**
Friday, February 27, 2015	**Deadline for BOHS to Receive Candidate Application Package (4:00 pm)**
March 2-5, 2015	**Candidate Applications Reviewed by School**
March 5 or 6, 2015	**Students Chosen for Interview Will Be Notified Via Email (Mini-Project Must Be Brought to Interview)**
Friday, March 6, 2015	**8th Grade Visitation Day at BOHS (Note: Students Who Do Not Attend BJHS Should Contact BOHS Counselor, Mrs. McDonald at bmcdonald@bousd.us to attend. Please contact her by March 2, 2015). This visit is for students only.**
March 9-11, 2015	**Candidate Interviews (Date, Time & Location to Be Announced)**
Friday, March 13, 2015	**Candidates Notified by Email on Acceptance, Conditional Acceptance, or Denial**
Monday, March 23, 2015	**Deadline to Return Signed Acceptance Letter and Affidavits**
March – April 2015	**Course Selection Process for Incoming 9th Graders**

Questions? Please contact:

Mr. Jerry Halpin, Principal
Email: jhalpin@bousd.us or phone: 714-990-7850 x1206

Mr. Todd Salesky, GITA Instructor
Email: tsalesky@bousd.us or phone: 714-990-7850 x2221

Mrs. Beth McDonald, Ninth Grade Counselor
Email: emcdonald@bousd.us or phone: 714-990-7850 x1209

GITA APPLICATION FOR 2015-2016

PART 1: STUDENT INFORMATION (Please type or print neatly.)

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
Street Address	City	Zip Code
Date of Birth	Place of Birth (City, State, Country)	Gender (circle one) **MALE** or **FEMALE**
Student Email Address	Home Phone Number	Student Cell Phone Number
Current School		School Phone Number

Has the student ever been suspended or expelled? (circle one) *If yes, please attach an explanation.*	**NO** or **YES**

PART 2: FAMILY INFORMATION (Please type or print neatly.)

With whom does the applicant currently live? (circle one) **BOTH PARENTS FATHER MOTHER GRANDPARENT GUARDIAN**	
Parent/Guardian #1 Last Name, First Name	Home Phone Number
	Cell Phone Number
Email Address	Work Phone Number
Parent/Guardian #2 Last Name, First Name	Home Phone Number
	Cell Phone Number
Email Address	Work Phone Number

GITA APPLICATION FOR 2015-2016

PART 3: CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS

Any student interested in applying for a spot in the Global Information Technology Academy (GITA) is encouraged to do so; however, we have identified the following qualifications which would provide the foundation for student success in GITA:

1. **ACADEMIC STANDING** – 3.5 total GPA or better
2. **MATH PREPARATION** – Satisfies one of the following:
   a. Completion of Algebra 1 (or Algebra 1B) with an "A" grade for each semester and currently taking Geometry with an "A" or "B" grade for the first semester

   OR
   b. Completion of Geometry with an "A" or "B" grade for each semester and currently taking Algebra 2 with an "A" or "B" grade for the first semester
3. **STUDENT RECORD** – Students should have a record of exemplary attendance, citizenship, discipline, and work ethic verified by a school counselor, administrator, or other designee. Note: If the student does not have an exemplary record, the school official should not sign below and the student will need to provide an explanation with their application.

School Official's Signature:_____ Date:_____

Students should check **one** of the following boxes, attach any information requested, and provide the appropriate signatures.

☐ *"I meet the qualifications listed above which would provide the foundation for my success in GITA and have attached copies of supporting documentation."* (Please note that current BJHS and BOHS students do **not** need to provide supporting documentation since it can be found in our district database. Supporting evidence would include report cards, transcripts, standardized test scores, and any other pertinent information.)

☐ *"I do **not** meet the qualifications listed above but have attached a letter explaining which qualifications are not meet and why that came to be, and have provided any other supporting evidence regarding why GITA should consider my conditional candidacy. I understand that the GITA program may choose not to interview me because I have not met the qualifications listed above."* (Please note that evidence provided for this application is **not** forwarded to the Guidance Department for enrollment purposes. Students will need to provide enrollment documentation again when they officially enroll at BOHS.)

Student's Signature:_____ Date:_____

Parent or Guardian's Signature:_____ Date:_____

GITA APPLICATION FOR 2015-2016

PART 4: STUDENT ESSAY (Please attach a separate sheet.)

Candidates must type a well-developed, five-paragraph essay answering the following question:

Why should you be considered for the GITA program and how can you contribute?

PART 5: CONFIRMATION OF UNDERSTANDING

Students selected for the GITA program must meet the following **STUDENT EXPECTATIONS**:

- Commit to 40 credits of rigorous GITA elective coursework (GITA/Computer Science 1-3 & AP Computer Science)
- Maintain a 3.0 GPA, solid attendance, satisfactory citizenship and good discipline.
- Participate in GITA functions including, but not limited to community service projects, summer programs (may include overnight visits), business visitations, conference presentations, as well as research and internship projects.

"I confirm that all information provided with this application is accurate and complete. I understand that Brea Olinda High School can deny or revoke a student's admission or enrollment into the Global Information Technology Academy if any information is found to be inaccurate, incomplete, or misrepresented. I understand that failure to meet the student expectations listed above is grounds for dismissal from the program. I confirm that I will support the GITA program through student and parent/guardian participation in various activities including but not limited to community service projects, fundraisers, competitions, and booster club involvement."

Student's Signature:_____ **Date:**_____

Parent or Guardian's Signature:_____ **Date:**_____

SUBMISSION DIRECTIONS:

1. Please complete parts 1-5 of the application (include essay and other attachments if necessary), place in an envelope, and mail or hand-deliver to:
   Mr. Jerry Halpin, Principal
   RE: GITA Application
   Brea Olinda High School
   789 Wildcat Way
   Brea, CA 92821
2. All applications must be *received no later than 4:00 pm on Friday, February 27th*. *(Please note that the BOHS Main Office closes at 4:00 pm.)*
3. Applications will be reviewed March 2-5.
4. Applicants will be notified by email on Friday, March 6th regarding whether or not they have been selected for an interview as well as the day, time, and location. Students will need to complete Part 6 and bring it to the interview (see Part 7).

PART 6: MINI-PROJECT (Please bring this to your interview on a flash drive. Please bring a printed copy of each webpage. Please bring a printed copy of the coding involved.)

Using a text editor or other web-developing software, please create two web pages in HTML which include:
- Two paragraphs
- Four graphics
- Five links
- Multiple types of text
- Must have an active link to your email account
- Must have a link (graphic or text) that links to another website

Try including any or all of the following:
- JavaScript implemented
- CSS-Styling
- Animated Graphic embedded

The content of the **FIRST PAGE** should creatively tell us all about you. The content of the **SECOND PAGE** should creatively tell us about a new technology that interests you. These web pages do not need to be published on a server. Just save them on a flash drive as an html file. All graphics and sounds must be saved on the flash drive as well; otherwise, they will not work when you show use your webpages. Candidates should know how to locate and show the code sources for each webpage and tell the panel how they learned it.

Please Note: There is no expectation of previous programming experience. Tutorials are available online at www.w3schools.com. Feel free to use other online resources as well

PART 7: PANEL INTERVIEW INSTRUCTIONS

GITA students actively participate in technology showcases and conferences. Developing good **"people skills"** is an integral part of the curriculum; therefore, part of our application process involves a panel interview. Interviews will be held Monday, March 9th-11th. The interview is not the sole determining factor for acceptance since candidates are judged on overall merits. The interview rubric found below should help candidates prepare. On Thursday, March 13th, students will be notified by email whether they have been accepted into the GITA program. Students will have until Monday, March 23rd to return their acceptance materials.

Competency	NEEDS WORK	BETTER	BEST
First Impressions	Shows up late for the interview, does not shake hands, and/or chews gum; does not bring a copy of the mini-project	Shows up on time for the interview with a copy of the mini-project	Shows up early or on-time for the interview with a copy of the mini-project on flash drive and a hard copy in hand
Personal Appearance	Dressed far below what is expected or "overdoes it" with too much makeup, jewelry, cologne, etc.	Dressed similar to what students would wear or in business casual clothes	Dressed in appropriate business attire; no sandals, sneakers, t-shirts, shorts, short skirts, etc.
Personal Attributes	Overbearing, overaggressive, egotistical; or shy, reserved, and overly nervous	Somewhat nervous, some lapses in eye contact; speaks too loudly or softly	Good eye contact and poise during the interview; confident
General Attitude	Lack of interest and enthusiasm about the program; passive and indifferent; or overly enthusiastic	Seems interested in the program but could be better prepared or informed on certain topics	Interested in the program and enthusiastic about the interview
Preparation	Knows nothing about the program or seems to make up information as he/she goes along	Knows some general information about the program and/or its purpose	Has researched the program thoroughly and is apparent by the answers given
Responses	Answers with "yes" or "no" and fails to elaborate or explain; talks negatively or pessimistically	Gives well-constructed responses, but sounds rehearsed or unsure	Gives well-constructed, confident responses that are genuine

GITA APPLICATION FOR 2015-2016

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about GITA at BOHS

1. Is GITA only for those who want to major in Computer Science?

Of course not! GITA students represent the diversity of the BOHS community—students are actively involved in athletics, journalism, leadership, instrumental and vocal music, and much, much more. Through GITA, students not only learn about computer programming, but also learn transferable skills they can apply in a variety of careers.

2. How will my student benefit in this program?

GITA will give your student opportunities to learn, reinforce and extend various skills which will make them more attractive candidates in the increasingly competitive college market. Students need to be actively involved in meaningful experiences to demonstrate their commitment to learning and growth over time. Grades, standardized test scores, letters of recommendation, and a list of membership in clubs are often not enough.

3. Will the GITA courses cause problems in my student's schedule?

The master schedule is constructed based on student course requests. Potential conflicts are examined and the scheduling program determines the best possible schedule so that each student can have their course requests honored; however, there are conflicts which cannot be avoided and students will need to make choices. If there is any conflict with your student's schedule, our guidance counselors will work with your student for the best possible outcome.

4. Will my student still be able to participate in electives such as ASB, athletics, band, choir, dance, or journalism?

The typical ninth through eleventh grade schedule contains six classes while seniors have only five. Because your student is in a special program (GITA), he or she will be allowed to take up to seven classes per year. GITA students commit an elective course for each year in high school and still must fulfill the graduation requirements. Most GITA students realistically may be able to have one other elective in addition to GITA; however, this may depend on the coursework required for each school year. All students are encouraged to create a four-year academic plan so that they can plan ahead. Your student's counselor is a valuable resource for this process.

5. How difficult is the course work and program for students?

GITA is very challenging because students must utilize time management skills in order to complete assignments in the project-centered curriculum. Many GITA students take other rigorous honors courses and are actively involved in other school activities. GITA students are also expected to commit many hours towards community service. Balancing these responsibilities is challenging. The application process helps predict whether your student can accomplish these responsibilities while maintaining a healthy worldview.

6. How will my student receive high school credits from this class?

Each GITA course is a year-long class fulfills ten elective credits, five of which are issued at the end of each semester if the student receives a passing grade. All GITA courses are honors courses and the grades earned are weighted. All senior GITA students are expected to take the AP Computer Science A exam in May.

7. Are there any ways that my student can get help if he/she is having trouble?

Yes, of course. Students need to communicate with Mr. Salesky about their individual needs or issues. GITA students are supportive of each other and are available for peer tutoring. When students are struggling, parents are always encouraged to talk to the teacher to discuss the best strategies for improvement.

Still have questions? Please contact:

Mr. Halpin, Principal, at jhalpin@bousd.us or Mr. Salesky, GITA Instructor, at tsalesky@bousd.us.

GITA APPLICATION FOR 2015-2016
Course Articulation

	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Incoming 9th Grade GITA Students	**Course #1501 GITA 1** **Note:** Articulated with Fullerton College course CIS 221 C# Programming I for 3 units	**Course #1503 GITA 2** **Note:** Articulated with Fullerton College courses CIS 152 Web Page Design II "HTML" for 2 units <u>and</u> CIS 154 JavaScript Programming I for 2 units	**Course #1505 GITA 3** **Note:** Articulated with Fullerton College course CIS 155 Web Page Multimedia Design I "Flash CS4 Pro" for 2 units	**Course #1507 AP Computer Science A** **Note:** Articulated with Fullerton College course CIS 226 Java Programming I for 2 units

	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Incoming 10th Grade GITA Students	Student applies and interviews for GITA in February/March	**Course #1501 GITA 1**	**Course #1503 GITA 2**	**Course #1505 GITA 3 & Course #1507 AP Computer Science A**

	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Non-GITA Students		**Course #1501B Computer Science 1 (same as GITA 1)**	**Course #1501B Computer Science 1 (same as GITA 1)** or **Course #1503B Computer Science 2 (same as GITA 2)**	**Course #1501B Computer Science 1 (same as GITA 1)** or **Course #1503B Computer Science 2 (same as GITA 2)** or **Course #1505B Computer Science 3 (same as GITA 3)** and/or **Course #1507 AP Computer Science A**

GITA APPLICATION FOR 2015-2016

Recommended
Four-Year Academic Plan

9th Grade (70 credits)
1. GITA 1
2. Geometry **or** Algebra 2
3. Earth Science **or** Honors Biology
4. Lit/Comp 1 **or** Honors Lit/Comp 1
5. World Language (Chinese, French, Japanese **or** Spanish)
6. PE **or** Athletics **or** Pep Squad **or**
   Marching Band (only worth one semester of PE credit) + Wind Ensemble (semester) **or**
   Masquerade **or** *Spellbound* Show Choirs (both qualify for one year's worth of PE credit)
7. Health/Skills for Success

10th Grade (70 credits)
1. GITA 2
2. Algebra 2 **or** Functions/Statistics/Trigonometry **or** Pre-Calculus
3. Honors Chemistry **or** Chemistry **or** AP Physics 1
4. Lit/Comp 2 **or** Honors Lit/Comp 2
5. World Language (Chinese, French, Japanese **or** Spanish)
6. World History **or** AP European History
7. PE **or** Athletics **or** Pep Squad **or**
   Marching Band (only worth one semester PE credit) + Wind Ensemble (semester) **or**
   Masquerade **or** *Spellbound* Show Choirs (both qualify for one year's worth of PE credit)

11th Grade (60-70 credits)
1. GITA 3
2. Functions/Statistics/Trigonometry **or** Pre-Calculus **or** AP Calculus AB **or** AP Statistics
3. AP Biology **or** AP Chemistry **or** AP Physics 1 **or** AP Physics 2
4. Lit/Comp 3 **or** AP Language & Composition
5. United States History **or** AP United States History
6. World Language (Chinese, French, Japanese **or** Spanish)
7. Optional Elective

Summer (10 credits optional)
CTE (Career Technical Education) Internship – If a student has secured a paid or unpaid job or internship which is IT-related, he or she should see Ms. Cordia, Assistant Principal, for information how to earn credit.

12th Grade (50-70 credits)
1. AP Computer Science A
2. Lit/Comp 4 **or** AP Literature & Composition
3. Government (semester) + Economics (semester) **or** AP equivalents
4. Optional AP Calculus AB **or** AP Calculus BC **or** AP Statistics
5. Optional AP Biology **or** AP Chemistry **or** AP Environmental Science **or** AP Physics 2 or AP Physics C
6. Optional World Language (Chinese, French, Japanese **or** Spanish)

Total Credits (250-280 credits)

Laptop System Minimum Requirements:

Proficient operating systems

- ► Windows 7 SP1 (x86 and x64)

- ► Windows 8 (x86 and x64)

- ► Windows 8.1 (x86 and x64)

Hardware requirements

- ► 1.6 GHz or faster processor

- ► 1 GB of RAM (1.5 GB if running on a virtual machine)

- ► 6 GB of available hard disk space

- ► 5400 RPM hard drive

- ► DirectX 9-capable video card running at 1024 x 768 or higher display resolution
- ► At least 2 high speed USB ports

- ► Wi-Fi capable

- ► Bluetooth capable

- ► Computer carrying case

- ► External Flash drive to back-up assignments

Please contact Mr. Salesky, GITA Instructor, at tsalesky@bousd.us if you have any questions on technical requirements.