***Governor’s Institutes of Vermont***

***Recommendations Student Selection Process***

Hello! **Thank you** for serving as a Governor’s Institutes talent scout! Because the Institutes offer extraordinary opportunities for advanced study, education and career exploration, and because students often need encouragement to take advantage of them, your task of selection is a crucial and important responsibility.

**What is the Governor’s Institutes of Vermont?**

The Governor’s Institutes of Vermont is an equal-access provider of world-class, accelerated learning opportunities for Vermont high-school students. We give all Vermont students an opportunity for motivated, hands-on, intensive learning residencies on college campuses, with the goal of giving students specific subject-matter expertise, exposure to a creative/intellectual community of peers and professionals, and confidence and direction around future academic and career paths.

**Student Referral Process**

The referral process changed several years ago. **We now encourage you to send us as many students as are interested, and help us to prioritize who most deserves the limited spaces.**

GIV collaborates with Governor Scott’s office to give each school the opportunity to name up to eight **Governor’s Scholars**. These students should be selected for their achievement, motivation and potential in a particular field of study and their interest in attending a 2020 Summer Governor’s Institute in that subject. They will receive certificates signed by the Governor, and also will be given guaranteed or priority acceptance to the Institute of their choice. (Because of the small size of some Institutes, we cannot guarantee acceptance to any specific Institute.)

You will likely have a close pool of Semi-Finalists for some of these slots. You may nominate all of them to GIV as Semi-Finalists, and all will be enrolled as space permits.

Finally, we recognize that every school has students with high potential whose academic record to date has not stood out. You may identify those students, or they may come to you based on their interest in a GIV subject area. We welcome your referral of these students along with recommendations of why they are a good addition to the summer GIV community, and they will be given consideration for remaining spaces.

All Institutes are open to students who have completed ninth grade through eleventh grade. Some schools choose to give priority to the older students who may not have another opportunity.

Students may attend more than one summer Institute. However, most Institutes do not allow students to repeat that same Institute a second year.

**Process and Timeline**

For all of your candidates:

* Review all completed student applications
* Identify Governor’s Scholars, semi-finalists, and referrals and list on the enclosed sheet
* Return sheet along with applications from all nominees (with a non-refundable $25 application fee from each student unless a completed financial aid application is enclosed) to the Governor’s Institutes by **April 1.**

You will be able to review applications and nominate students electronically online or on paper. If you are new to the online application system or need a refresher, please contact us!

You are welcome to contact Barry Steyling, at barry@giv.org or 802-865-4448, with any questions or concerns.

We realize the selection process takes time and are deeply grateful for the attention each Talent Scout gives their assignment. Your thoughtful selection is the vital first step to extraordinary Institutes that can make all the difference in students’ lives. **Thank you!**