



International Dual Enrollment Academy (IDEA) 2025 Program Overview

At-a-Glance

- Program: Global studies initiative by Birmingham Sister Cities, Miles College, and BCS
- Benefits: 9 college credits, international travel (Ghana), full scholarship & \$500 stipend
- Eligibility: Birmingham City Schools juniors (some sophomore exceptions), 3.0 GPA (flexible)
- Key Dates: Applications open Feb 3, close Apr 25; travel to Ghana in Fall 2025
- Contact: bhm.sistercities@gmail.com

About the Program

IDEA provides dual enrollment, cultural enrichment, and international travel, equipping students with leadership and global skills.

Benefits

- **Full scholarship covering tuition and program costs, nine (9) college credits at Miles College**
- **International travel to Ghana (tentative: Sept 30-Oct 11, 2025)**
- **\$500 stipend upon completion of courses, enrichment sessions, and Academy graduation**

2025 Key Dates

- Feb 3: Applications open | Apr 25: Applications close
- May 2: Cohort announcement | May 17: Kickoff at Miles College
- June 11-July 10: Summer session (Mon-Thurs, 9 AM-3 PM)
- Aug 11-Nov 26: Fall semester at Miles College
- Sept 30-Oct 11: Travel to Ghana (tentative)
- Dec 3: Presentations & Graduation

Coursework & Enrichment

- Courses: HI 101 (World Civilizations), RE 211 (World Religions), SPE 111 (Speech & Presentations)
- Enrichment Sessions: Birmingham representation, Ghanaian culture, travel preparation
- Campus & Transport: Classes at Miles College, BCS transportation, lunch provided

Eligibility

- Birmingham City Schools juniors (some sophomores considered)
- 3.0 GPA (flexibility for strong candidates)
- Commitment to all program dates
- Parent/guardian consent required

Application & Selection

- Apply online: <https://forms.gle/YUGdv51fow6FtoYCA>
- Deadline: April 25, 2025, at 5 PM CT
- Selection: 15 students chosen by community leaders

Partners & Sponsors

- Birmingham City Schools – Student & faculty support
- Miles College – Dual enrollment provider
- The Birmingham Chapter of The Links, Inc. – Financial & in-kind support
- City of Birmingham – Financial & in-kind support

Global Ambassador Role

Graduates will: Share experiences, participate in Sister Cities events, connect with international visitors, and mentor future IDEA participants.

About Birmingham Sister Cities

Birmingham Sister Cities fosters global relationships through diplomacy, education, and cultural exchange. Since 1982, it has partnered with 17 global communities to promote peace and understanding.

Learn more: www.sistercities.org

Contact

Birmingham Sister Cities

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