

Intellectual Leadership Program

by Maryland Mensa



Maryland Mensa developed the Intellectual Leadership Program to help gifted youth challenge and hone their intellectual potential and gain experience with the types of project management skills they will need as adults. Participating youth, known as Owls, choose from one of two tracks:

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN RENAISSANCE INTELLECTS TRACK

Designed for youth with a broad range of interests, this track requires completion of projects in each of the following areas:

- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) *2 separate projects*;
- Social Sciences;
- Arts/Humanities; and
- Leadership/public policy.

ALBERT EINSTEIN SPECIALIZED INTELLECTS TRACK

Designed for young Mensans whose interests are already focused on a particular field, this track requires completion of a(n):

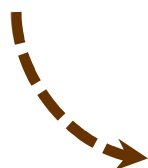
- Advanced project in chosen field of study;
- Presentation of project findings;
- Scholarly paper;
- Apprenticeship; and
- Leadership/public policy project.

Owls receive *Atom Awards* as they achieve track milestones and the *Maryland Mensa Distinguished Scholar Award* upon completion of the program.

STEP 1 – Register. Parents can register interested youth by e-mailing Kristine Poptanich, the Maryland Mensa Gifted Youth Coordinator, at Kristine dot Poptanich at gmail dot com. Please be sure to include the youth's name and his/her desired track.



STEP 2 – Project Design Phase. Owls outline their project using a provided template and submit the proposed project for approval first by a parent and then by the Maryland Mensa Gifted Youth Coordinator. Grant funding is available to help Owls complete their projects via the Maryland Mensa Intelligence Deserves Enrichment and Support (IDEAS) grant program. Owls will repeat Step 2 for each project required by their track, and assistance will be provided to Owls that need help deciding on an appropriate project or with their project design.



STEP 3 – Implementation. Owls will execute their project, as outlined during Phase 2, and provide quarterly updates on their status. Upon completion of their project, Owls will submit a project summary using a provided template and receive an *Atom Award* in recognition of their achievement. Owls will repeat Step 3 for each project required by their track.