



## **2018 Student Application**

“We are Breakthrough. We are achievers, leaders, learners, and teachers. We are a diverse, safe, and close-knit community, dedicated to excellence in life-long learning. We work hard, take risks, and have fun.”

**Prepare for college!  
Make new friends!  
Have fun as you learn!**

**Student application due:  
Wednesday, March 7, 2018**

**Please give completed applications to your teacher,  
or send to:**

**Breakthrough Santa Fe  
1101 Camino de la Cruz Blanca  
Santa Fe, NM 87505**

## **Frequently asked questions about Breakthrough Santa Fe**

### **What is Breakthrough?**

Breakthrough is a six-year academic enrichment program for highly motivated middle school students from Santa Fe Public Schools. Breakthrough students work hard, develop leadership skills, and have fun in the process. Designed to help students excel academically and socially, the program prepares and encourages its students to enter and succeed in competitive college preparatory classes in high school. Breakthrough students are college-bound!

During their six years at Breakthrough Santa Fe, students will participate in:

- Six-week summer sessions held at Santa Fe Prep during middle school
- One to two-week summer sessions at Santa Fe Prep during high school
- Super Saturday sessions during 7<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> grades
- Field trips and other enrichment opportunities.
- One-on-one college counseling

### **You are NOT alone! Breakthrough is located in the following cities across the U.S.!**

Atlanta	Fort Worth	New Orleans	Sacramento
Austin	Hong Kong	New York	San Francisco
Birmingham	Houston	Norfolk	San Juan Capistrano
Boston	Manchester	Philadelphia	Santa Fe
Cincinnati	Miami	Pittsburgh	Silicon Valley
Denver	Minneapolis	Providence	St. Paul

### **Who are the students?**

Students just like you! Breakthrough students come from many different backgrounds. They all share a love of learning and want to go to college. Breakthrough students strive to do their best and are always open to new ideas and experiences.

### **Who are the teachers?**

Teachers who are only three to ten years older than you! All of the teachers are talented high school and college students. They work long hours to make learning exciting, challenging, and rewarding. Our teachers are special because they possess a love of learning and a desire to share their time and ideas with younger students. They teach all classes and lead all activities. Imagine learning math and English with eighteen-year-old teachers!

### **What are classes like?**

Core classes have no more than 6 students per class; therefore students receive a great deal of individual attention. Students take 4 courses: Reading, Writing, Science, Math, and two academic electives (i.e. journalism, mythology, Japanese). These classes prepare students for challenging middle and high school courses.

### **What about homework, tests, and grades?**

Homework and tests are essential to learning. **Breakthrough students complete TWO - THREE hours of homework a night during the summer program.** The teachers design assignments and tests that are thought provoking. Teachers may grade assignments, but there are no final grades. Instead, students receive written evaluations from their academic teachers. Mandatory parent conferences are also scheduled during the summer.

**Are we in class all day?**

No! In the afternoon, students have an opportunity to choose new activities or to do ones they already love. There are also exciting field trips and special events every Friday!

**Who gets accepted into Breakthrough?**

Admission to Breakthrough will be selective. The goal of the admissions committee is to select a class of committed and motivated students who are economically and ethnically diverse. There is no specific quota per public school. **Space will be limited to 36 students.** You should not be upset if you do not get a space; instead be proud that you took the risk to apply.

**Acceptance letters will be sent out by Friday, April 13, 2018.**

**What type of student applies to Breakthrough?**

Students **currently in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade** are eligible to apply. Students who exercise good behavior, want to earn good grades, have a strong desire to learn, and want to enroll in college preparatory classes are encouraged to apply. Breakthrough students are willing to make a commitment to their education. They love learning and new challenges.

**What will it cost?**

Breakthrough is a **free** academic year-round educational program. **All Breakthrough costs you is hard work, good behavior, and attendance.**

**What is the commitment?**

You and your family **must agree** that, if you are accepted, other activities will be scheduled around the dates of the program. **Attendance is required every day during the summer program.** Also, **you will be expected to attend our school year programs:** Saturday events during 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> grade, tutoring if necessary, and special events by grade throughout the school year.

**How should I fill out the application?**

Your application should be handwritten and legible. You must complete the student pages by yourself; your parents have their own pages to complete. However, you should feel free to get help from your teachers/mentors. You are also required to have your teachers fill out the recommendation form, and make sure we get your grades and test scores from your school.

**Is transportation provided?**

Yes. A bus will pick you up at various elementary schools in the morning and return you there in the afternoon. During the school year, parents share the responsibility of transporting their student

Complete this application neatly by hand!

**Student Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Cell (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity:  
 Hispanic/Latino     Native American     Caucasian  
 Multi-racial     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Is English your 1<sup>st</sup> language? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, what language is? \_\_\_\_\_

Current School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

List the extra-curricular activities that you participate in (sports, music, dance, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you know anyone who has gone to Breakthrough?

Their name (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to you (friend, cousin, sister, etc): \_\_\_\_\_

**Short Answers:** Answer the following short questions with detail and in complete sentences. You should try to fill the space provided. You may continue on another sheet of paper if necessary.

**When you are not in school, what do you like to do in your free time?**

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**What is your favorite book and why?**

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**Name someone you especially admire and explain why.**

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**What are some things that make you laugh?**

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**If you could take a class on ANYTHING, what would you choose? Why?**

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**What things do you like best about school, and why?**

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**What things do you like least about school, and why?**

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**Express Yourself!** Please use this box to tell us about yourself. Fill it up! Be creative!  
Draw, write a poem, do a math problem, write a rap or anything that describes you.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying the majority of the page below the instructions. It is intended for students to draw, write, or create something that describes themselves.

## Summary page for your records

We are delighted that you are interested in the new challenges, fun experiences, and exciting opportunities offered by Breakthrough Santa Fe. In order for your application to be complete, **all 3 sections need to be finished**. Use this page as a checklist to keep track of which parts of your application have been completed.

### STUDENT SECTION

Please complete these pages in your own handwriting. Be sure to use pen, not pencil. Do a rough draft on a separate piece of paper and have someone proofread it, not write it for you, before you fill out the application form in pen. Don't forget to express yourself! *Give this section to your teacher when you finish it, or send it directly to the address below.*

### PARENT/GUARDIAN SECTION

Have your parent(s) or guardian(s) complete these pages. *Give this section to your teacher when you finish it, or send it directly to the address below.*

### SCHOOL SECTION

Have your parent(s) or guardian(s) complete the first page and the top of the second page. *Then hand this packet to your teacher. Make sure an academic teacher completes your recommendation.*

Feel free to call Allie Cooper, Director, Breakthrough Santa Fe (505) 795-7517 or email her at [acooper@sfprep.org](mailto:acooper@sfprep.org) with any questions.



**Good Luck!**

<p><b>Name of Student:</b> _____</p> <p><b>Current School:</b> _____</p>
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Your child is applying to Breakthrough Santa Fe, a **six-year**, tuition-free academic enrichment program. This program seeks highly motivated students to participate in its two six-week summer sessions during middle school and shorter summer sessions during high school. Breakthrough Santa Fe will also provide school year support including 10 Super Saturday sessions each year.

**Family involvement is an essential part of the Breakthrough Santa Fe experience.** If your child is accepted to the program, you will be expected to attend a variety of family events during the summer and school year, including orientation, a summer goal setting conference, and Celebration evening. **You will also be expected to plan family events, such as vacations, around these events. Attendance is mandatory.**

During the summer, The Santa Fe Public Schools and Breakthrough Santa Fe will provide transportation to and from the program. **During the school year, it is your responsibility to provide transportation for your child.**

**Important Mandatory Program Dates:**

Family Orientation - Saturday, May 12, 2018 (3:00 - 6:00 p.m.)  
Summer Program - June 25-Aug 3, 2018 (8:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m., M-F)  
Celebration - Saturday, Aug 4, 2018 (7:00 - 9:30 p.m.)

Should my child be accepted into the program, I will plan my family events around these dates, including Celebration. **I understand that my child's attendance is mandatory.**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Are Parents:  Married  Separated  Divorced  Single-parent  Widowed

Household income:

Less than \$10,000  \$10,001 to \$20,000  \$20,001 to \$30,000

\$30,001 to \$50,000  \$50,001 to \$70,000  \$70,001 and above

Mother or guardian's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity:  Hispanic/Latino  Native American  Caucasian  
 Multi-racial  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Highest level of education that you achieved:

High School or less  Some college/  
2 year degree  4-year college degree  Masters +

Father or guardian's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity:  Hispanic/Latino  Native American  Caucasian  
 Multi-racial  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Highest level of education that you achieved:

High School or less  Some college/  
2 year degree  4-year college degree  Masters +

**Emergency Contact Information:** Please fill out BOTH emergency contacts.  
These should NOT be you!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Information:**

What is the primary language spoken at home?  
\_\_\_\_\_

List all brothers or sisters of the Breakthrough applicant *and their ages*:

NAME	AGE
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Short Answer Questions:**

Why do you want your child to become a Breakthrough student?

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Consider the following scenario: Your student is now in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. You get his/her first progress report, and notice one D, two Cs, one B and one A.  
What would you do?

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Consider the following scenario: Your student is now in 10<sup>th</sup> grade. You overhear him/her talking with their friend about dropping out next year to get a job to help you with the bills. What would you do?

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**Fill out this page and the top of the next page. Then  
give this packet to your teacher!**

**Transcript Release Form:**

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of your child's school principal)

School: \_\_\_\_\_

My child, \_\_\_\_\_, is applying to Breakthrough Santa Fe program. Breakthrough is a tuition-free academic program, which is held for rising 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at Santa Fe Preparatory School. The program seeks highly motivated students who receive good grades in behavior and have regular classroom attendance. **Students participate in two six-week summer sessions**, one after 6<sup>th</sup> grade and one after 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Students must participate in the school year program, which includes tutoring, educational counseling and enrichment activities during 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Breakthrough is committed to a diverse student body representing the variety of ethnic and geographic backgrounds in our diverse Santa Fe community.

Parent/Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**The following information has been requested for the Breakthrough Application:**

1. Transcript
2. Most current report card. (Please, send us photocopies with the student's name clearly visible).
3. The most recent standardized test scores.

Please send information so it arrives by **March 7, 2018** to:

**Breakthrough Santa Fe  
1101 Camino de la Cruz Blanca  
Santa Fe, NM 87505**

**If you have questions please contact:**

Allie Cooper, Director  
(505) 795-7517

**School Section  
Teacher Recommendation**

**Breakthrough Santa Fe  
Due Date: March 7, 2018**

<p><b>Student's Name:</b> _____</p> <p><b>Student's Address:</b> _____ _____</p> <p><b>School:</b> _____</p>
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The above student is applying to Breakthrough Santa Fe, a tuition-free, academic program, which is held for rising 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at Santa Fe Preparatory School. The program seeks highly motivated students who demonstrate good behavior and have regular classroom attendance. Students participate in two six-week summer sessions, one after 6<sup>th</sup> grade and one after 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Students must participate in the school-year program, which includes tutoring, Super Saturday sessions, and enrichment activities. Breakthrough is committed to a diverse student body representing the variety of ethnic and geographic backgrounds in our Santa Fe community.

We would appreciate your candid responses, which will be kept confidential. If you have any questions regarding the program, please contact **Allie Cooper, Director, Breakthrough Santa Fe at 795-7517**. You can mail your reference forms for all of your students in one envelope instead of sending them in individually if you prefer. Please complete this form, sign over the seal of the envelope, and mail it to:

**Breakthrough Santa Fe  
1101 Camino de la Cruz Blanca  
Santa Fe, NM 87505**

<p><b>Your Name (Teacher):</b> _____</p> <p><b>Grade(s) you teach:</b> _____</p>
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**Short Answer Questions:**

<p><b>Describe this student's academic performance and potential.</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
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School Section  
Teacher Recommendation

Breakthrough Santa Fe  
Due Date: March 7, 2018

**What makes this student distinct from all other students in the class?**

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**How motivated is this student? Does s/he turn in homework in on time?**

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**Please describe parental involvement with this student's education:**

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**Does this student receive free or reduced lunch?**     Yes     No

**Is this student in special ed. or gifted classes?**     Yes     No  
(if so, please indicate which)

**School Section  
Teacher Recommendation**

**Breakthrough Santa Fe  
Due Date: March 7, 2018**

**Academic Qualities:** Please **circle** the number that best suits the student in relation to other students.

**Key: 1- Below Average 2- Satisfactory 3- Average 4- Outstanding**

<b>Attitude toward homework:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Writing skills:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Reading skills:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Math skills:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>

**Personal Qualities:** Please **circle** the number that best suits the student in relation to other students.

<b>Ability to be a group leader:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Ability to do independent work:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Reaction to criticism:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Behavior:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>

**How often does this student work beyond your expectations? Explain.**

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**Please add comments or anecdotes that will help us better understand this student.**

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**Teacher's signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher's email:** \_\_\_\_\_