



FERGUSON-FLOISSANT SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROBE Center
201 Brotherton Lane
Ferguson, Missouri 63135-3105

Phone: (314) 595-3910
Fax: (314) 506-9801
www.fergflor.org

Ferguson-Florissant Probe Program F.A.Q

Frequently Asked Questions:

What is the Probe Program & how does it work?

Probe is a pull-out gifted services program for grades 2-5 held at STEAM Academy at McCluer South Berkeley High School. Students who meet state and district criteria will attend the program one day each week. The program is designed to meet the academic needs of fast learners while supporting their social & emotional development.

What should I tell my child?

At Probe, we tell our students that they are fast learners. Since they learn classroom skills faster than some other students, school can become too easy. Probe will provide opportunities for their brains to be challenged. Our goal is to provide more and different challenges than they receive in the traditional classroom to strengthen their thinking skills. Sometimes these activities will be difficult or frustrating, but that is when your child will know they are learning the most.

How will my child get to and from Probe?

Students are picked up by a district bus at their home school and transported to Probe. The drop-off and pick-up point is on the east side of the building, parallel to the football field. Monday through Friday students in grades 3 - 5 will arrive at 9:00 a.m. and depart at 2:00 p.m., while second-grade schools arrive at 9:30 a.m. and depart at 2:00pm. Homeschool parents can drop off their children at the start time for their child. Please join the pickup line after our buses have arrived, or park in our lot near our entrance.

If your child attends a school outside of our district boundaries, transportation will be the responsibility of the parent or guardian. Our boundary maps can be viewed [here](#).

What if my child is late or misses the Probe bus?

You are welcome to transport your child directly to the Probe Program. We are located at 201 Brotherton Lane in Ferguson. If your child arrives after 9:00 a.m. (9:30 a.m. for 2nd graders) please use the last side door on the east side of the building next to the football field (door 12). It is your responsibility to contact the home school and let them know that your child went directly to the Probe Program. If you do not contact the home school, your child may be marked absent.

Please note, that any students dropped off after **10:00 a.m.** will need to enter through the front entrance of Steam High.

Are uniforms required for Probe?

We are adhering to Ferguson-Florissant's uniform policy. Students who attend a FFSD school or are homeschooled will be required to wear their district-approved uniform to attend Probe. Students who attend a non-public school will be able to wear their uniform from that school. You can read more about the district's uniform policy [here](#). Students who choose not to wear a uniform to their homeschool should not board the Probe bus.

Are clear book bags required for Probe?

The district requires clear bookbags for all students K-12. Information about clear book bags can be found on the following link: <https://www.fergflor.org/Page/5344>

What about lunch?

Lunch and recess are both provided for our Probe students. Please remind your student to bring appropriate outdoor weather attire to Probe. Students are offered a free meal through a grant so there is no charge to families. Students may also bring lunch if they prefer. Lunch menus are available online at [Food Services / Menus](#).

My child takes medicine, what should I do?

A student is allowed to turn in prescription medicine to the school nurse. All medicine should be accompanied by a medical release from parents so that the medications may be taken on the premises as prescribed. Students are not allowed to carry their medications with them while at school. At Probe, we would like to keep the necessary medications in our building. Transporting medication to and from homeschool on the bus is not feasible. We recognize that this can be a financial burden; please contact us if this is a concern. You can reach the McCluer South Berkeley nurse at 506-9800 ext. 5830.

What if I need to take my child out early?

If necessary, you may pick your child up before 2:00 at STEAM High at McCluer South Berkeley, 201 Brotherton Lane 63135. If you know you will be picking up early, please notify the Probe office at 314-595-3910/314-824-2422 or send an email to the Probe teacher. Only parents or persons listed as emergency contacts should pick up a child. Picture ID may be required. Students can be picked up from the main entrance.

What if my child attends a non-public school or is home schooled?

As long as your child qualifies and is enrolled in the FFSD school district, they can participate in the Probe Program. To have your child enrolled, you can register online at <https://www.fergflor.org/admissions>, or visit the admissions office located at the Vogt Welcome Center at 200 Church Street, room 106. To complete registration, you need to have the required documents such as:

- an occupancy
- permit (less than 30 days old)

- a copy of your leases/mortgage
- parent ID and the child's birth certificate
- immunization records
- social security card and last report card.
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If you have any questions or concerns regarding enrollment, you can reach our admission office at 314-824-2035 between the hours of 8 am and 3 pm.

How do I contact the Probe Program?

The best way to contact the Probe Program is to call the Probe office directly:

314-595-3910/314-824-2422

Our office manager will relay messages to classroom teachers as necessary. If the matter is urgent and our office manager is not at her desk, you may try to call your child's classroom teacher. For general purposes, you are welcome to phone the classroom teacher before 9 a.m. and after 2:00 p.m. or contact by email at any time of the day.

Ms. Karen Doering, 506-9852 kdoering@fergflor.org

Mrs. Roxanne Provence, 506-5852 rprovence@fergflor.org

Mrs. Pamela Gerlach, 595-3913 pgerlach@fergflor.org

Mr. Michael Vordtriede, 595-3912, mvordtriede@fergflor.org

Will my child remain in Probe in future years?

A child who qualifies for gifted services in our district will always be a "gifted" child in our district. (Other school districts have their own qualification procedures.) Gifted students will continue to receive gifted services unless there is a reason to discontinue. See academic and behavior expectations below.

Does my child have to attend Probe?

Attendance is of the utmost importance. We expect that all students who qualify for gifted services will attend our program. If there is a concern, please contact us. We would like to help your child work through the difficulty. We recognize that bright students are sometimes anxious or work-shy, but the goal of gifted services is to help students with all their needs, social-emotional as well as academic. We would like to teach them strategies to manage challenges today and in the future. If it becomes necessary for your child to discontinue participation, a form for parents to complete will be presented.

Are there academic, attendance, and behavior expectations to remain in the Probe Program?

Yes, please see the link that follows for these expectations: [Probe Expectations](#)