



*Model Secondary  
School for the Deaf*

*a place  
with spirit,  
a place to  
build a future...*

**LAURENT CLERC  
NATIONAL DEAF EDUCATION CENTER**  
LOCATED ON THE CAMPUS OF  
GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

**W**elcome to the Model

**Secondary School for the Deaf**

(MSSD), a community of learners and achievers, where deaf and hard of hearing students have full access to instruction in the classroom and meaningful social interaction with peers, teachers, and staff through visual communication.

MSSD, a residential high school, offers a comprehensive educational experience tuition-free for deaf and hard of hearing students. The program prepares students both academically and socially so they are ready for the challenges of adult life after graduation.



## ...a place to grow,

Students at MSSD benefit from small class sizes with caring, knowledgeable teachers who integrate learning across the curriculum. The combination of a challenging academic program and an accessible communication environment helps to foster personal growth.

Students have access to a variety of support services, including:

- ◆ Health services
- ◆ Speech-language training
- ◆ Counseling and psychological services
- ◆ Family social work services
- ◆ Audiological services

MSSD serves students from every region of the United States. We ensure a close relationship between home and school in a variety of ways:

- ◆ School and dormitory staff contact parents regularly.
- ◆ Newsletters are mailed home.
- ◆ Family Weekend is held each year.
- ◆ Family educators facilitate communication between students and their families.
- ◆ Web pages are updated regularly.

- ◆ In addition to winter and spring breaks, students return home for scheduled long weekends.



## a place to learn,

Throughout their career at MSSD, students are encouraged to reach for the stars.

Classes are taught in sign language with a strong emphasis on literacy. Students have

access to the Internet at school and in the dorms. They learn to use technology to access courses online, such as the Earth System Science class.

MSSD's Honors Program is designed for students who will benefit from a rigorous and academically challenging level of instruction.

High achieving and motivated students can take honors and Advanced Placement courses in various content areas.

Students graduate with merit diplomas, standard diplomas, or Individualized Education Program certificates. MSSD is accredited by both the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and the Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf.



## a place to prepare for the future,

Congresswoman Woolsey and her staff show appreciation to an MSSD intern.

Studies show that students who have job experiences in their high school years are more successful. One of the unique aspects of MSSD is its intensive work experience program. The program provides students with a variety of job experiences that increase in responsibility.

Students have had off-campus internships in congressional offices, the

Library of Congress, the Capital Children's Museum, the Department of Education, Rock Creek Park, Providence Hospital, the Department of Justice, the Federal Aviation Agency, the U.S. Park Police Stables, and many other places.



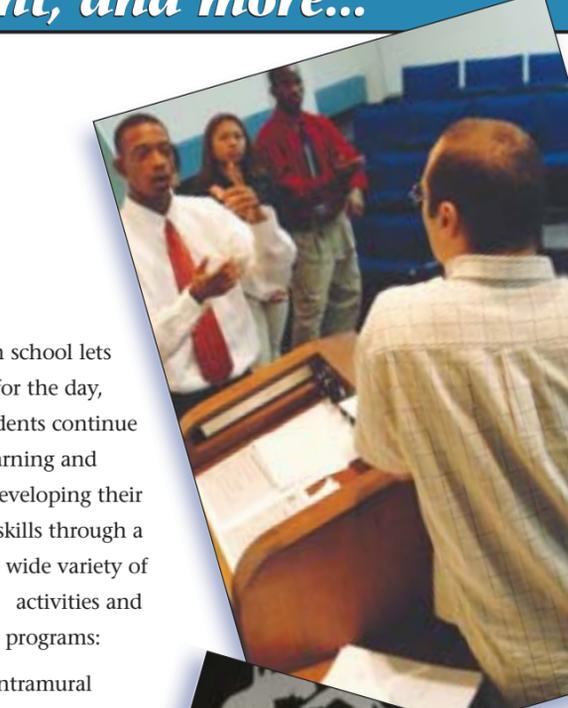
An MSSD intern shares sign language tips at the Capital Children's Museum.

## a place to join in sports, clubs, school government, and more...

When school lets out for the day, students continue learning and developing their skills through a wide variety of activities and programs:

- ◆ Varsity and intramural sports
- ◆ Clubs and organizations
- ◆ Student government
  - ◆ Theater and dance
  - ◆ Peer Mediator program
  - ◆ Apartment training program
  - ◆ Dedicated study time

Students participate in structured activities that match their current interests and have opportunities to try something new. These activities, provided by our creative after-school staff, are offered in the evenings and on weekends.



*...a place for friendship.*



When it's time to relax, students gather at the Eagle Center to meet friends at the snack bar, watch TV, play pool or computer games, or just chat. For personal recreation, students enjoy using the gym, the pool, and the weight room. **MSSD's** location in the nation's capital gives students the advantage of the many cultural offerings of the Washington, D.C., area for school field trips and after-school activities.



## *Come visit us!*

Deaf and hard of hearing students from the United States and its territories are welcome to apply to **MSSD** for admission. Students can apply throughout the year. We encourage students and their families to visit our campus. To arrange a site visit, contact the Admissions Office at (202) 651-5397 (V/TTY) or via e-mail: [admissions.MSSD@gallaudet.edu](mailto:admissions.MSSD@gallaudet.edu). For more information about **MSSD**, visit our website at: <http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu/MSSD>.

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**MSSD** Eagles