

Student Application Due: February 2, 2018

Breakthrough New Orleans supports motivated students on the pathway to college with:

- six-year, tuition-free, college preparatory programming
- three-year rigorous academic enrichment in middle school
- intensive high school placement and coaching for the top college prep schools in the city and country
- continued academic and extracurricular support throughout high school including college guidance and placement
- access to role models and mentors that are successful college and high school students

Applicant requirements:

- current enrollment in 5th grade at a public or charter school in New Orleans
- Resident of Orleans Parish
- Current US citizen or Green Card holder

Breakthrough New Orleans students are:

- motivated to learn and want to go to college (students who are focused, driven and enthusiastic about learning)
- positive community members (students who exhibit positive leadership skills and respect their community)
- high academic achievers (students who are in the top 20% of their class)
- from families that would benefit from tuition free programs (students eligible for free and reduced lunch; students with limited summer and after-school opportunities)



Breakthrough is a rigorous program that requires dedication and hard work. It is YOU (not your parents, not your teachers, not your classmates) who will have to show up every day and put in this hard work. Be sure that you are willing to commit yourself fully to the program before applying. Thank you for showing dedication to your education. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions and please remember to proofread your work and make sure it is neat and presentable.

Breakthrough New Orleans located at Isidore Newman School

1903 Jefferson Avenue New Orleans 70115

[P] 504.896.6393 [F] 504.896.8597 [E] AlbionSumrell@newmanschool.org [W] www.btnola.org

About Us

Mission:

Breakthrough New Orleans maximizes academic performance and builds leadership skills of motivated, middle school students with limited opportunities. We support our middle school students on their path to college and inspire high school and college students to pursue careers in education.

Model:

Breakthrough New Orleans is a tuition-free, year-round enrichment program for highly motivated middle school students with limited educational opportunities. The program seeks to prepare the students for challenging, college-preparatory high schools and college. Once accepted to Breakthrough New Orleans, the students make a three-year commitment during middle school, which includes a rigorous academic summer program, educational enrichment classes, after-school tutoring, mentoring, high school placement guidance and post-high school placement support and opportunities. During high school, students continue to receive academic, social and extracurricular opportunities through Breakthrough and our partner programs as Breakthrough supports them on the pathway to college.

What makes us unique? Our students-teaching-students model.

Breakthrough New Orleans at Isidore Newman School hires high school and college students to teach small classes that match their academic strengths and passions. They are trained by professional teachers in the craft of teaching, from curriculum development, to classroom management and student assessment.

Our teaching internship is consistently listed as a Princeton Review Top Ten Internship, along with the White House, the Supreme Court and MTV.

Program Components:

Summers 2018, 2019, 2020	Six week summer institutes consisting of rigorous academic and elective classes aimed at increasing student skill level and sparking student interest in learning.
School Year 2018-19	Mandatory after school tutoring and test preparation classes once a week. Saturday School once a month.
School Year 2019-20	Mandatory after school tutoring and test preparation classes once a week. Saturday School once a month.
School Year 2020-21	Mandatory after school tutoring, test preparation and high school admissions counseling. Saturday School once a month.
High School	SAT test preparation, college guidance, college trips, tutoring and referrals to summer opportunities.

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The Breakthrough Collaborative:

Breakthrough New Orleans at Isidore Newman School is affiliated with a national collaborative of sites who are engaged in the same students-teaching-students model. As one of 26 sites nationwide, we work closely with our national collaborative to share ideas, recruit teachers, and coordinate fundraising.

To find out more about our national collaborative, check out the Breakthrough Collaborative’s website www.breakthroughcollaborative.org.

Still have questions? Check out our website at www.btnola.org or feel free to call Executive Director, Albion Sumrell for more information.

Breakthrough Middle School Calendar:

Final Application Due:	February 2, 2018 at 5pm	
Interview Day:	March 10, 2018 (time to be determined)	
Acceptance Notification:	April 9, 2018	
Summer 2018:	June 6 - July 20 July 2 - July 6 (4th of July Holiday)	Mondays-Fridays (8:00am-3:45pm)
School Year 2018-2019:	September-May	Saturday(9am-12pm)
Summer 2019:	TBD	Mondays-Fridays (8:00 AM-3:45 PM)
School Year 2019-2020:	September-May	Saturday(9am-12pm)
Summer 2020:	TBD	Mondays-Fridays (8:00 AM-3:45 PM)
School Year 2020-2021:	September-May	Saturday(9am-12pm)
Summer 2021:	TBD	Mondays-Fridays (8:00 AM-3:45 PM) (9th grade mini-program)

Your Application Checklist (Please note: incomplete applications will not be accepted.)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Personal Information Section
(completed by student and parent/guardian) <input type="radio"/> Student Section (completed by student alone) <input type="radio"/> Parent/Guardian Section
(completed by parent/guardian) <input type="radio"/> 5th Grade Math Teacher Recommendation <input type="radio"/> 5th Grade English Teacher Recommendation <input type="radio"/> Optional Recommendation (not mandatory) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Educational Release Form
(signed by parent or guardian) <input type="radio"/> Student’s Most Recent 5th Grade Report Card <input type="radio"/> 4th Grade LA Standardized English Test Score <input type="radio"/> 4th Grade LA Standardized Math Test Score <input type="radio"/> One Sample of Graded Writing from 5th Grade <input type="radio"/> Student Application Essay <input type="radio"/> Copy of Parents/Guardian(s) Income Tax Return Form (1040 from 2016 or 2017) |
|---|---|

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Student Section

Due: February 2, 2018

1. STUDENT INFORMATION

FIRST NAME | LAST NAME | MALE FEMALE

MAILING ADDRESS | CITY | LA STATE | ZIP

HOME PHONE # | STUDENT CELL # | PRIMARY EMAIL

MM | DD | YYYY | BIRTHDATE | BIRTHPLACE (COUNTRY) | IF BORN OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES, HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN THE U.S.?

CURRENT SCHOOL | GRADE

Racial and Ethnic Background: Check all that apply (optional)

- Caucasian
- Hispanic/Latino/a
- South Asian
- South East Asian
- African American
- Specify: _____
- East Asian
- Eastern European
- West Indian
- Multiethnic/Multiracial

LANGUAGE(S) SPOKEN AT HOME | SIBLING OF A BREAKTHROUGH STUDENT: YES NO

MATH TEACHER RECOMMENDATION BY: | ENGLISH TEACHER RECOMMENDATION BY:

2. SHORT ANSWERS Please answer the following questions on your own. If you run out of room, continue on another sheet.

1. Breakthrough isn't right for every student. Based on what you know of the program, what aspects of Breakthrough interest you the most and why do you think Breakthrough is a good fit for you?

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2. If you had the opportunity to learn about something new, what would it be?

3. Thomas Edison said, "Success is 10% inspiration and 90% perspiration." What does this quotation mean to you? Give one example of how this has been true for you.

4. What are your future career goals? Will going to college help you reach these goals, why or why not?

5. What do you do in your spare time?

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3. CREATIVE SAMPLES

Please choose from ONE of the two choices below: (attach to this application)

A. Use an 8.5 x 11 inch sheet of paper to create something. You can blueprint your future home, create a new product, draw a cartoon strip, design a costume or a theatrical set, compose a score or do something entirely different. Let your imagination wander.

B. Use one of the following topics to create a short story (1-2 pages):

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| a. The Best Magic Trick Ever | c. Year 3008 |
| b. Elephants Take Over America | d. The New Haircut |

4. ESSAY (Essays must be approximately 500 words to be considered. This means two pages hand written or one page typed, 12 fonts)

Respond to the essay question below: (attach essay to this application)

At Breakthrough, we understand that our middle school students are faced with important decisions every day. Please write an essay about one difficult decision you made.

Points to consider:

- Describe the situation and the decision.
- How did you resolve the decision and what were the consequences of your decision?
- In which ways did this decision affect your life?
- If you were ever faced with the same decision again, would you decide differently, why or why not?

5. GRADED WRITING

Please submit photo copied piece of graded writing you are most proud of. (attach sample work to this application)

- Sample work must be from 5th grade.

6. REPORT CARDS

Please attach a copy of your most recent report card (5th grade) and final 4th grade ELA and Math Statewide Test scores.

7. STATEMENT OF INTENT

I understand that Breakthrough New Orleans at Isidore Newman School is a six year college prep program. I am prepared to make the three-year, year round middle school commitment. I will attend three consecutive six-week summers in addition to a Saturday school program (once a month 9:00am-12:00pm). I will also work hard to maintain an average of 80% or above in all of my core classes.

I will be present and on-time every time I come to Breakthrough. I will commit myself fully by bringing a positive attitude, respect, and the ability to work hard and make sacrifices.

If I am accepted, my family and I agree not to plan events during the dates and times of the middle school program.

	MM DD YYYY		MM DD YYYY
STUDENT'S SIGNATURE	DATE	PARENT'S SIGNATURE	DATE

Please attach a recent photo to this page.

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Parent/Guardian Section

Due: February 2, 2018

Dear Parents and/or Guardians,

Thank you for supporting your child's application to Breakthrough. While we look for the motivation and hard work to come directly from the students, we depend on your support and guidance to be effective.

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Breakthrough is a rigorous program that requires dedication and hard work. It is the student (not parents, teachers, or classmates) who will have to show up everyday and put in this hard work. Be sure that your student is willing to commit herself/himself fully to the program before applying. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Best,



Albion Sumrell
Executive Director

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Parent/Guardian Section

Due: February 2, 2018

NOTE: Please put this section (pgs. 9-13) in a signed sealed envelope before returning to school or Breakthrough as these questions are confidential and will be shredded after the application process. This information will not be shared with any individuals aside from the BT Admissions team.

1. FAMILY INFORMATION

FIRST NAME OF CHILD APPLYING		LAST	
FIRST NAME OF PARENT 1 / GUARDIAN 1		LAST	
MAILING ADDRESS		CITY	STATE LA
HOME PHONE #	CELL #	EMAIL	
WORK PHONE #	WORK HOURS	CAN YOU RECEIVE CALLS AT WORK? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	
EMPLOYER	PLACE OF BRITH (COUNTRY)	OCCUPATION	
		LANGUAGE(S) SPOKEN	

Highest Level of Education

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Grade | <input type="radio"/> One or Two year college: <u>NAME / LOCATION</u> |
| <input type="radio"/> High School /GED | <input type="radio"/> Four year college: <u>NAME / LOCATION</u> |
| <input type="radio"/> Limited Formal Education | <input type="radio"/> Master's Degree: <u>NAME / LOCATION</u> |
| | <input type="radio"/> Doctoral Degree: <u>NAME / LOCATION</u> |

FIRST NAME OF PARENT 2 / GUARDIAN 2		LAST	
MAILING ADDRESS		CITY	STATE LA
HOME PHONE #	CELL #	EMAIL	
WORK PHONE #	WORK HOURS	CAN YOU RECEIVE CALLS AT WORK? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	
EMPLOYER	PLACE OF BRITH (COUNTRY)	OCCUPATION	
		LANGUAGE(S) SPOKEN	

Highest Level of Education

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Grade | <input type="radio"/> One or Two year college: <u>NAME / LOCATION</u> |
| <input type="radio"/> High School /GED | <input type="radio"/> Four year college: <u>NAME / LOCATION</u> |
| <input type="radio"/> Limited Formal Education | <input type="radio"/> Master's Degree: <u>NAME / LOCATION</u> |
| | <input type="radio"/> Doctoral Degree: <u>NAME / LOCATION</u> |

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Please circle any/all of the following that describe your child's situation:

Child lives with:

- | | | | |
|--|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Both Parents | <input type="radio"/> Parent 1 | <input type="radio"/> Parent 2 | <input type="radio"/> Grandparent(s) |
| <input type="radio"/> Parent 1 but visits Parent 2 | <input type="radio"/> Parent 2 but visits Parent 1 | <input type="radio"/> Aunt/Uncle | <input type="radio"/> Foster Parent |
| <input type="radio"/> Legal Guardian | <input type="radio"/> Siblings | | |

Parents or Guardians are:

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Together / Married | <input type="radio"/> Single Parent | <input type="radio"/> Separated | <input type="radio"/> Divorced |
| <input type="radio"/> Never married live separately | <input type="radio"/> Parent 1 Deceased | <input type="radio"/> Parent 2 Deceased | |

Please describe family situation if it would be helpful:

2. FAMILY INCOME

Breakthrough seeks to increase educational opportunities for motivated middle school students from New Orleans public schools. We ask about family income to help us assess whether your family might have access to other opportunities aside from our program. Answering these questions are mandatory.

Is your child eligible for (choose one):

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Free lunch | <input type="radio"/> Reduced lunch | <input type="radio"/> Full lunch |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|

HOW MANY PEOPLE LIVE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD (INCLUDING YOURSELF?)

HOW MANY FAMILY MEMBERS ARE ATTENDING TUITION-CHARGING SCHOOLS (PRIVATE ELEMENTARY, HIGH SCHOOLS OR COLLEGE?)

NAME OF SIBLING	SCHOOL
NAME OF SIBLING	SCHOOL
NAME OF SIBLING	SCHOOL
NAME OF SIBLING	SCHOOL

Annual Household Income

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Please check one of the following statements that describe your child's situation:

- My child is a US Citizen
- My child is a Permanent Resident of the US (Green Card holder)
- My child has a US Visa
- Other:

Social Security Number of child: _____

If your child has a US Visa, when does this Visa expire? Are you eligible for a Green Card?

3. TAX INFORMATION

Please photocopy and attach first page of 1040 form from 2016 or 2017 (or any other pertinent documents that will help explain student's financial situation) to this page. All information will be shredded after the application process.

4. PARENT / GUARDIAN QUESTIONS

1. What specific aspects of Breakthrough make it a good fit for your student?

2. Breakthrough is a three-year, year-round commitment through middle school and a four year support system throughout high school. We expect our students to participate fully in the summer and school year programs throughout 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. Attendance is mandatory.

The summer program runs Monday through Friday, 8am-3:45pm at Isidore Newman School at 1903 Jefferson Ave. The school-year program runs once a month on Saturdays (9:00am-12:00pm). Along with these responsibilities students and families are required to communicate with the program through email, phone and in person.

Do you believe that you and your child are prepared for this commitment? Why?

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Do you foresee any problems with the dates of the program? No Yes

If yes, please explain any conflicts or concerns:

3. Tell us about a time your child didn't handle a responsibility properly (missing homework, not doing chores etc).
What steps did you take in order to get your student back on track?

4. Tell us about a time you were most proud of your child?

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5. What is one important value in your family and why?

6. Who was your child's best teacher throughout his/her educational career? What made this teacher effective for your child? Please be as specific as possible.

7. Breakthrough provides students with access to public transportation, but students often travel to and from the program alone.

Would you allow your child to travel alone on public transportation during the summers? No Yes

What about during the school year in the evenings (6:00pm)? No Yes

8. If your child is not admitted to Breakthrough, what other summer activities do you think your child will be involved in?

9. How did you hear about Breakthrough? Circle all that apply:

Your Child A Friend/relative Website School Other:

OPTIONAL: If there are any circumstances in your child's life that you feel are important for us to consider, please share them on a separate sheet of paper.

Do you foresee any problems with the dates of the program? No Yes

End of Parent/Guardian Section. Thank You.

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Educational Records Release

Dear Principal or Guidance Counselor,

Breakthrough New Orleans at Isidore Newman School supports motivated students for six years on the pathway to college with:

- tuition-free programming
- three year intensive academic enrichment in middle school
- continued academic and extracurricular support throughout high school

Breakthrough partners with public schools in New Orleans in order to serve students, who show motivation and potential to strive for academic and personal growth, yet lack the resources or support to realize their potential.

All the classes at Breakthrough are taught by talented high school and college students, trained and supported by professional mentor teachers. Our goal for our young teaching staff is to encourage them to pursue careers in education.

In partnering with you to support students, we appreciate access to their grades and citywide scores, and therefore we ask parents to sign the educational records release below.

We kindly request that you provide a copy of the student's latest report card and citywide test scores for their Breakthrough Application. If you have any questions regarding the application process, or the program in general, we would love to speak with you. Please call me at 504.896.6393.

Best,



Albion Sumrell
Executive Director

Parent Permission

I give permission to include my child's latest report cards and citywide test scores with her/his Breakthrough application. I also give permission for Breakthrough to access my child's future academic records.

NAME OF CHILD	MM DD YYYY	MM DD YYYY
SCHOOL	SIGNATURE OF PARENT / GUARDIAN	DATE

Parent/Guardian please sign and submit this copy to Breakthrough.

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Math Teacher Recommendation

Dear Teacher,

Your student is applying to Breakthrough New Orleans.

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- high academic achievers (students who are in the top 20% of their class)
- from families that would benefit from tuition free programs (students eligible for free and reduced lunch; students with limited summer opportunities)

We appreciate your candid responses, which will be kept confidential. Your perspective is vital in identifying the students who will benefit most from the Breakthrough program. If you have any questions regarding the process or the program in general, we would love to speak with you. Please call me at 504.896.6393

Best,



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Math Teacher Recommendation

Student Name _____

1. What are the first three words that come to your mind when you think of this student?

2. In your opinion, what is this student's greatest strength and challenge?

3. Is there anything we should know about the child's academic skills, family issues, social behavior, in specific?
(Feel free to attach a separate sheet.)

4. Please circle the response that best suits the student in relation to the other students you teach. Grading system below is based on 1: Below Average, 2: Average, 3: Above Average, 4: Outstanding.

Skill Level (General)	1	2	3	4	Motivation & Effort	1	2	3	4
Basic Arithmetic	1	2	3	4	<i>Please consider: drive, intellectual curiosity, enthusiasm, focus, class participation and work ethic.</i>				
5th Grade Math Comprehension	1	2	3	4	Citizenship	1	2	3	4
Critical Thinking	1	2	3	4	<i>Please consider: group work, respect for classmates and community.</i>				
					Behavior	1	2	3	4
					<i>Please consider: respect for class rules, past behavioral incidents and attitude.</i>				
					Overall Assessment	1	2	3	4

5. Given what you know of this student's parent(s)/guardian(s) please check the appropriate statements below. Grading system below is based on 1: Consistently, 2: Usually, 3: Seldom, 4: Not Observed.

Parents/guardians communicate about student's progress	1	2	3	4
Parents/guardians support school policies and procedures	1	2	3	4

6. Breakthrough is a program for hard-working, dedicated and motivated students who want to go to college. I recommend this student:

With great enthusiasm
 With confidence
 With reservation
 I do not recommend

	MM	DD	YYYY	
TEACHER'S SIGNATURE	DATE			EMAIL

Return directions: Please return recommendation to student in a sealed envelope with your signature across the seal.

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English Teacher Recommendation

Dear Teacher,

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English Teacher Recommendation

Student Name _____

1. What are the first three words that come to your mind when you think of this student?

2. In your opinion, what is this student's greatest strength and challenge?

3. Is there anything we should know about the child's academic skills, family issues, social behavior, in specific?
(Feel free to attach a separate sheet.)

4. Please circle the response that best suits the student in relation to the other students you teach. Grading system below is based on 1: Below Average, 2: Average, 3: Above Average, 4: Outstanding.

Skill Level (General)	1	2	3	4	Motivation & Effort	1	2	3	4
Reading Comprehension	1	2	3	4	<i>Please consider: drive, intellectual curiosity, enthusiasm, focus, class participation and work ethic.</i>				
Writing (structure, grammar)	1	2	3	4	Citizenship	1	2	3	4
Analytical Thinking	1	2	3	4	<i>Please consider: group work, respect for classmates and community.</i>				
					Behavior	1	2	3	4
					<i>Please consider: respect for class rules, past behavioral incidents and attitude.</i>				
					Overall Assessment	1	2	3	4

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Parents/guardians communicate about student's progress	1	2	3	4
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TEACHER'S SIGNATURE	DATE			EMAIL

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Optional Recommendation

Dear Recommender,

Your student is applying to Breakthrough New Orleans.

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- high academic achievers (students who are in the top 20% of their class)
- from families that would benefit from tuition free programs (students eligible for free and reduced lunch; students with limited summer opportunities)

We appreciate your candid responses, which will be kept confidential. Your perspective is vital in identifying the students who will benefit most from the Breakthrough program. If you have any questions regarding the process or the program in general, we would love to speak with you. Please call me at 504.896.6393.

Best,



Albion Sumrell
Executive Director

Breakthrough New Orleans located at Isidore Newman School

1903 Jefferson Avenue New Orleans 70115

[P] 504.896.6393 [F] 504.896.8597 [E] AlbionSumrell@newmanschool.org [W] www.btnola.org

Optional Recommendation

Student Name _____

1. Please explain your relationship with the applicant:

2. What are the first three words that come to your mind when you think of this student?

3. In your opinion, what is this student's greatest strength and challenge?

4. Is there anything else we should know about the child's academic skills, family issues, social behavior, in specific? (Feel free to attach a separate sheet.)

5. Please circle the response that best suits the student in relation to the other students you teach. Grading system below is based on 1: Below Average, 2: Average, 3: Above Average, 4: Outstanding.

Motivation & Effort	1	2	3	4	Behavior	1	2	3	4
<i>Please consider: drive, intellectual curiosity, enthusiasm, focus, participation and ethic.</i>					<i>Please consider: respect for class rules, past behavioral incidents and attitude.</i>				
Citizenship	1	2	3	4	Overall Assessment	1	2	3	4
<i>Please consider: respect for community.</i>									

6. Given what you know of this student's parent(s)/guardian(s) please check the appropriate statements below. Grading system below is based on 1: Consistently, 2: Usually, 3: Seldom, 4: Not Observed.

Parents/guardians communicate about student's progress	1	2	3	4
Parents/guardians support school policies and procedures	1	2	3	4

7. Breakthrough is a program for hard-working, dedicated and motivated students who want to go to college. I recommend this student:

With great enthusiasm
 With confidence
 With reservation
 I do not recommend

		MM	DD	YYYY	
TEACHER'S SIGNATURE	DATE				EMAIL

Return directions: Please return recommendation to student in a sealed envelope with your signature across the seal.

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