

Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Sciences



Sponsored by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Education

and by the PGSS Campaign, Inc. (alumni and friends of the PGSS)



Program Overview

The Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Sciences (PGSS), is a 5-week summer residential program for talented high school students of science and mathematics, which emphasizes cooperative learning and hands-on laboratory research. Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and hosted by the Mellon College of Science at Carnegie Mellon University, the PGSS offers an enrichment experience in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The major goal of PGSS is to encourage young talent to pursue careers in STEM-related fields.

Academic program

The PGSS academic program has five components:

- **Core courses** – lecture-based courses in biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics and computer science constitute a common educational experience for all PGSS students.
- **Laboratory courses** – each student chooses a hands-on laboratory course in biology, chemistry, physics or computer science.
- **Elective courses** – each student may choose up to three additional courses on various topics in STEM-related fields (topics will vary depending on specific faculty interests).
- **Team research project** – each student chooses a research project, carried out cooperatively with a team of 5-6 students, under the direction of a faculty advisor.
- **Guest lectures** – invited talks by experts in various STEM-related fields.

Faculty and facilities

The PGSS faculty are recruited primarily from Carnegie Mellon University, and from leading institutions in the surrounding area. The PGSS program of formal instruction and team research is conducted entirely on the Pittsburgh campus of Carnegie Mellon University.

Details

When: June 29, 2014 - August 2, 2014

Where: Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA

Who may apply:

- Must be a current **junior** at time of application.
- Must be a resident of Pennsylvania, attending a public, charter, cyber or non-public secondary school, or be homeschooled.

Selection process:

- Application form is available at the PGSS website (see URL below).
- Applicant must demonstrate excellence in academic achievement, as evidenced by transcript and standardized test scores.
- Applicant must demonstrate sustained interest and involvement in the sciences or mathematics both in and outside of the classroom, as evidenced by resume, essays and letters of recommendation.
- 56 participants will be chosen from the pool of qualified applicants

Cost and commitment:

Successful applicants receive a full scholarship to the PGSS program. The cost is underwritten by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, with matching funds provided by the PGSS Campaign, Inc., through generous donations from PGSS alumni, parents and corporations. Scholarship includes housing, meals, and all instructional materials. Families are responsible for cost of transportation to and from the program, personal items and spending money. Students must commit to being in residence on the Carnegie Mellon University campus for the duration of the program. Trips home during the program are not permitted.

Information

For further information, please visit our website:
<http://www-pgss.mcs.cmu.edu>