

UF STUDENT SCIENCE TRAINING PROGRAM

Application Information

Read before applying

*Seven week residential program
June 11-July 29, 2023
Students entering grade 12*

Program Overview:

The University of Florida Student Science Training Program (UF SSTP) is a seven week residential research program for selected **students entering senior year and at least 16 years old by the program start date** who are considering science, medicine, math, computer science, or engineering careers. The program emphasis is research participation with a UF faculty research scientist and his or her research team. Students interested in attending the UF SSTP must possess a high level of maturity, an ability to live and learn independently, a desire to work collaboratively, and a sincere interest in research.

The UF SSTP is a rigorous and fast paced program for academically talented and motivated students. Students engage in the ongoing research of the faculty-mentor for 30 hours each week, attend a daily lecture series on current research topics, and participate in a UF honors seminar class. Additionally, students develop important interpersonal, leadership, professional communication, and organizational skills through academic, social, and service activities. Students enrolled in a Florida high school have the option to earn dual enrollment credit.

How to Apply:

The on-line application portal link is www.cpet.ufl.edu. Applicants must create an account in our online application portal in order to apply for any student programs offered by UF CPET. The online application portal is www.ufcpet.smapply.us. All components are submitted using the online application process unless noted. *After all the below components of the application are completed, student must log into their account and SUBMIT their application.*

A UF SSTP Application consists of:

User Information: Provide applicant and parent/guardian contact information.

Application Form: Provide additional information such as student involvement and responding to two writing prompts. The two writing prompts are as follows (each is limited to 500 words):

- **Prompt 1:** Which STEM field interests you most? For example: Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Science, Mechanical Engineering, etc. Describe your interest in this field.
- **Prompt 2:** Where do you see yourself academically and professionally in 10 years? How do you anticipate achieving these goals?

Teacher Endorsement Form 1 and 2: Two Online Teacher Endorsement Forms from a high-school or college-level math, science, research, or computer science teacher or mentor are required.

- Endorsers are asked to evaluate the student's maturity, collaborative learning capacity, and ability to work in a University-level research lab. Applicants should think carefully about which teachers know the student the best and will be able to evaluate according to the criteria.
- Endorsers will receive an automated request from noreply@smapply.io once a student has requested an endorsement in their online application. However, we recommend that students contact their teacher prior to filling out the online request.
 - If they do not receive an email from our system, please double-check that you have their correct email address before contacting us. *This is the #1 reason why teachers do not receive the endorsement form.*

Academic Record Form(Offline Task*, see note below): The Academic Record Form is to be completed by a Guidance Counselor or similar administrator. Students are not required to have taken pre-college entrance exams, such as the PSAT, SAT, or ACT. However, if previously taken, they should be reported. The Academic Record Form is available for download from the application portal (students will also receive this form as a PDF via email once an application portal account is made). **The Academic Record Form must be sent directly to the CPET Office by the Guidance Counselor or school office via e-mail, to our mailing address, or faxed.**

Official High School Transcript (Offline Task*, see note below): Hardcopy of a student's transcript must be mailed or faxed directly to the CPET Office by the school office. *Your Junior Year's first semester grades required.*

- Our mailing address is **UF CPET/SSTP, PO Box 112010, Gainesville, FL 32611.**
- Our **FAX is 352-392-2344** (Not sure how to FAX? Ask your guidance counselor for help.)

For additional information, please visit the UF CPET website: www.cpet.ufl.edu

UF STUDENT SCIENCE TRAINING PROGRAM

Application Information

Read before applying

Seven week residential program
June 11-July 29, 2023
Students entering grade 12

- Our fax machine gets really busy during application season, especially as deadlines approach. Make sure your fax sends before walking away!
- *Students are required to have started the UF SSTP Application before transcripts are received. Transcripts received without an associated on-line application account will be destroyed.*

Application Fee (*Offline Task**, see note below): The link to pay the \$50 Application Fee is available from www.cpet.ufl.edu. Students attending a Florida High School who qualify for free and reduced may request an Application Fee Waiver.

**Offline Tasks:* In the application portal, students are required to acknowledge the requirement of the each of these “off-line” portions by clicking “submit for approval”. The CPET office will log receipt of the each requirement. After the requirement is logged, students will need to complete the section by clicking “complete” in the on-line portal. After all portions are complete, students can then submit their full application.

Application Process:

There is no application deadline. Application review and selection will be in February. UF SSTP has a rolling admission process which means applications will continue to be reviewed until the program is filled.

Students will receive automated emails from noreply@smapply.io to the “Student’s E-mail Address” provided on the application confirming his or her application is complete. **It is the student’s responsibility to provide a working email address and check that email address regularly for communication from the UF SSTP program.**

Participant Selection: Notification of Selection will be made via email to the student email address provided on the application. It is the student’s responsibility to provide a working email address and check that email address regularly for communication from the UF SSTP program. Failure to respond to email in a timely manner may result in the student being placed on the wait list.

Students invited to participate are required to respond to the invitation within 10 days of the email being sent. Students accepting their invitation are required to make a \$500 non-refundable deposit to hold his or her spot in the UF SSTP. Final paperwork and fees (additional \$4,700) are due via e-mail form submission or postmarked April 28, 2023. The non-refundable deposit may be waived for students applying for a need-based scholarship. Students invited to attend, but not ready to commit to may defer his or her invitation. No deposit is required, however the student’s spot will not be held. At the time the student is ready to commit, he or she will need to call the office to inquire if a spot is still available.

The UF SSTP does not fill all available spots during the first rounds of application reviews. Therefore, students may be placed on a waitlist if not invited during the first time his or her application is reviewed. This is an active waitlist and applications will continue to be reviewed until the program is filled. Students must confirm their place on the waitlist to continue being considered. The waitlist is not ranked.

The UF SSTP program and CPET staff abide by FERPA and University application standards and therefore do not discuss applications, applicant data (individual or aggregated), nor selection with students or parents. Neither originals nor copies of a student’s application material will be returned. Once an application is submitted, students may view and download, but not edit, their application through the online portal.

Important Information: Students must make a commitment to attend and participate in the entire program (June 11 – July 29). Please confirm no other academic, school-related, sports, or family events will conflict with the program dates. Due to the program’s rigorous scheduling, departures from the UF SSTP for other commitments are not allowed. Weekend fieldtrips, social events, and service activities are important and enjoyable parts of the program. Should a one-time family event (such as a wedding) require a student’s departure from the program (departing Friday afternoon and returning Sunday), requests must be made in advance in Christy Rodkin, CPET Coordinator, Youth Programs.

Program Cost: \$5,200 which includes housing; staffing and supervision; program-related fieldtrips, social, and service activities; insurance (primary or excess depending upon parent coverage); and program-themed supplies. Daily meals are not included. See website for more details.

All interested and qualified students are encouraged to apply for the UF SSTP regardless of ability to pay. Limited scholarships, mostly need-based, are available for students attending a Florida high school. See website for details.

For additional information, please visit the UF CPET website: www.cpet.ufl.edu