



**APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION/
OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY/
OAK RIDGE ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES**

2016 MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER SCIENCE ACADEMY

Criteria for Participant Selection

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), and Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) have established the following criteria for selecting participants for the Middle School Summer Science Academy. Appalachian states have the flexibility to add criteria, provided they do not conflict with those given below.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS:

- Student participants must be between 12 and 14 years old on July 17, 2016.
- All participants must be U.S. citizens. (Required to obtain necessary security clearance to enter ORNL facilities.)
- Student participants must attend a public school in a designated Appalachian county (see <http://www.arc.gov/counties>) and plan to enroll in a public school in an Appalachian county for the 2016–2017 school year.
- Children of employees of Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Oak Ridge Associated Universities are not eligible to participate.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

- Target Schools/Counties. States are encouraged to select participants from economically distressed counties and economically distressed areas.
- Schools Represented. States are encouraged to nominate two participants plus two or three additional students from the same school as “alternates.” Selecting students from the same school facilitates travel arrangements and enhances the experience; alternates are selected when one of the participant nominees is unable to attend or there are other openings.
- Participation in Other Programs. Students who have not had an opportunity to participate in previous Oak Ridge or similar math and science programs will be given priority.
- Family Income. ARC has not established income levels for participation. However, ARC requests that recruitment focus on those students whose families do not have the financial means to send them to such a program.
- Academic Requirements. ARC has not established academic requirements for participation. However, ARC requests that recruitment focus on “middle-tier” students—students who show potential in math and/or science and are not currently taking higher-level classes, but may consider taking such classes with additional encouragement. Priority is given to students who would be first-generation college-going. There is no minimum grade point average required for participation.

For further program information, please contact Jeffrey H. Schwartz, Ed.D., Education Program Manager, Appalachian Regional Commission, 1666 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20009-1068; telephone 202-884-7721; e-mail jschwartz@arc.gov.

All applications are to be *submitted to the ARC state program manager* of the state in which the participant’s school is located on or before **March 18, 2016**. Some states may have earlier deadlines. Faxed copies of application materials are acceptable if all information is legible. Prior to applying, contact your ARC state program manager for the specific application procedures for your state.

A list of all ARC state program managers, application forms, and further information is available on the ARC Web site at <http://www.arc.gov/summerSTEM>.

Program is dependent upon availability of funding.