



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

**2020 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:**

- All participants must be U.S. citizens. (Required to obtain necessary security clearance to enter ORNL facilities.)
- Student participants must currently attend a public school in (in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade) 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 2020-2021 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 Emela Halilovic, Program Analyst, Appalachian Regional Commission, 1666 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20009-1068; telephone 202-884-7773; e-mail [ehalilovic@arc.gov](mailto:ehalilovic@arc.gov).

All applications are to be submitted through Zintellec (application portal) by **Friday, March 6, 2020**. A link to the application portal and further information is available on the ARC Web site at <http://www.arc.gov/summerSTEM>.

*Program is dependent upon availability of funding.*