



**Appalachian
Entrepreneurship
Academy**
an ARC initiative

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How much does it cost to participate in the Appalachian Entrepreneurship Academy?

A: The Appalachian Entrepreneurship Academy is a no-cost opportunity. There is no application fee or tuition. Student travel, meals, and lodging are also covered by the program. Most students will bring some money for incidentals or souvenirs, but that is not required.

Q: I live in an ARC county, but I am homeschooled. Am I eligible to apply?

A: Yes! All students who live and attend school in Appalachia, and will be in 10th-12th grade in Fall 2024 are eligible to apply. That includes public, charter, private, and homeschool students.

Q: I don't have a business idea and I'm not sure I'm an entrepreneur, should I apply?

A: Yes! You don't need a business idea to participate in the program and you'll learn about entrepreneurship with your fellow campers. The skills learned in this program can help no matter where your career takes you later in life.

Q: Where do the students stay?

A: Housing is provided in the Living Learning Center using suite-style organization, where a common living area serves 2-4 suitemates with private sleeping areas. Dormitories provide large meeting areas for social activities and are equipped with hi-speed wifi and furnishings. Linens are provided for students, including bundles of bedding and towels.

Q: Will there be extracurricular activities as part of the program?

A: Yes! In addition to lessons and group activities on entrepreneurship, the two-week program will feature several extracurricular activities including a trip to Grandfather Mountain, High Gravity Adventures, and an outdoor game competition to name a few. Accommodations are available for all activities for students who need them.

Q: What, if any, changes are being made to the Appalachian Entrepreneurship Academy in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?

A: The AEA team is monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic and are developing plans in accordance to CDC guidance. If the case rates across the region make it unsafe to host AEA in-person, we are prepared to host a virtual program and will work with selected students on those arrangements.

Q: I'm a parent who would like to talk to someone about the program. Is there someone I can talk to?

A: Yes! Feel free to reach out to the ARC team at academies@arc.gov and we will be happy to set up a time to talk about this program.

Other questions? Email us at academies@arc.gov.