



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DATE: January 6, 2023

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Jillian Balow, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: National Youth Science Camp Application Open

The [National Youth Science Camp](#) (NYSCamp) is a residential science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) program designed to honor and challenge some of the nation's rising student leaders and provide them with opportunities to engage with STEAM professionals and participate in exciting outdoor activities. The 2023 NYSCamp, hosted by the National Youth Science Academy, is a hybrid experience, with students participating virtually for the first five days, followed by two and a half weeks in-person.

Two students will be selected to represent Virginia as delegates to the NYSCamp. Eligibility has been extended for the 2023 NYSCamp to include current Juniors and Seniors. Graduating Seniors must graduate from high school between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023. Rising Seniors (current Juniors) in high school must plan to graduate between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024.

Each applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Must have documented superior academic proficiency, including recognition in STEAM.
- Must have documented leadership abilities and social maturity.
- Must have documented skills and achievements outside STEAM and academia.
- Must demonstrate a curiosity and an eagerness to explore new topics.
- Must intend to pursue higher education and a career in a STEAM-related field.
- Must be willing and able to participate daily for the entire duration of the NYSCamp program:
 - Virtual dates are June 19, 2023 to June 23, 2023; and
 - In-person dates are June 24, 2023 to July 23, 2023.

During both the virtual and in-person aspects of camp, delegates are expected to participate in daily camp activities for the entire duration of camp. The NYSCamp is offered to each selected participant at no cost so that talented students may attend regardless of their financial ability.

Applications must be submitted through the [NYSC application portal](#) by **February 28, 2023**. Applications will be reviewed by an expert panel based on the criteria required in the application. Applicants will be notified by **March 15, 2023**, regarding their selection status for the 2023 NYSCamp.

For more information on the National Youth Science Camp, please contact Anne Petersen, VDOE Science Instruction Coordinator, at Anne.Petersen@doe.virginia.gov or Brian E. Kinghorn, Ph.D., NYSCamp Director, at Brian.Kinghorn@nysacademy.org.

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