Summer College Programs For High School Students

OVERVIEW

• Nearly every college and university offers a summer program for high school students.
• Students challenge themselves — both personally and academically — by taking college courses, living in a dorm, and meeting new friends.
• Juniors and seniors can test out the responsibilities of college, while earning undergraduate college credits, which in most cases are transferable.
• Attending a college summer program and performing well is not a guarantee of admission, but it will strengthen a student's application to any college or university.

CONSIDERATIONS

• Summer college programs vary in length — some are for 2 weeks, 4 weeks, or 5-8 weeks.
• Check the starting date. Many college summer programs begin before Stuyvesant is finished giving Regent Exams. (Cornell Summer School offers NY State Regent Exams for high school students.)
• Summer programs have demanding work loads. Colleges cram a semester's worth of work into a 4-8 week summer course. (Example: Harvard 4-week summer course: classes meet 4 days a week for 2 and 1/2 hours each day, curriculum includes a reading list of 8 books, with a 500 word essay due every day the course meets, and a 1,000 word essay due on the fifth day.)
• Know the maturity level of your child; students are living on their own, often times with minimal adult supervision, no curfews, and are not required to attend classes.

COSTS

• Approximate cost is about $1,000 per college credit, which includes room and board. ($2,000-$8,000 for the summer.)
• Scholarships are available, but they are limited and students need to apply early.

CHOOSING A PROGRAM – WHAT TO LOOK FOR

• Choose a college your child is possibly interested in attending.
• Choose a college where actual professors from the college are teaching courses. (Many colleges employ teachers from other universities to teach their summer programs.)
• Students should choose a course with a limited enrollment of about 15-20 students, so the professor can get to personally know the student.
• At the end of the course, the student should ask the professor for a recommendation to the college.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

• Each college has their own application requirements. Some colleges want a transcript, letters of recommendation from student's current teacher, and a graded writing assignment. Other colleges want just a financial commitment.
• Students may submit applications starting in January of 2009. Many popular college summer programs have long waiting lists — apply early to first choice schools.
Popular Summer College Programs For High School Students

Questbridge Full Scholarships to Summer School Programs at Harvard, Stanford, or Yale
http://www.questbridge.org/cps/awards/summer_school.html

Harvard Summer School For High School Students
http://www.summer.harvard.edu/2009/programs/ssp/

Yale Summer Pre-College
http://www.yale.edu/summer/application/information/precollege.html

Stanford University High School Summer Programs
http://summer.stanford.edu/highschool/summercollege.asp

University of Pennsylvania Summer Programs for High School Students
http://www.sas.upenn.edu/lps/highschool/summer

Columbia University Summer Programs for High School Students
http://www.ce.columbia.edu/hs/about.cfm?PID=4

NYU Summer School Programs for High School Students
http://www.nyu.edu/summer

Carnegie Mellon Pre-College
http://www.cmu.edu/enrollment/pre-college

Boston University High School Summer Programs
http://www.bu.edu/summer/program_high_school_students

Cornell Summer College Program For High School Students
http://www.sce.cornell.edu/sc

Brown University Summer College Programs
http://brown.edu/scs/pre-college/overview.php

Syracuse University Summer College
http://www.summercollege.syr.edu

Barnard Pre-College Programs
http://www.barnard.columbia.edu/pcp/

Marymount Manhattan Summer College in NYC
http://summer.mmm.edu/summer-college-nyc.html

Georgetown University Summer Programs For High School Students
http://www12.georgetown.edu/scs/sphs/index.cfm

George Washington University Summer Scholars Pre-College Program
http://www.gwu.edu/summer/scholars

Tufts University Summer School Programs
http://ase.tufts.edu/summer

Northwestern University Summer College Prepatory Programs
http://www.scs.northwestern.edu/collegeprep

Ithaca Summer College For High School Students
http://www.ithaca.edu/gps/summer_college