



CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

TOM TORLAKSON

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

January 31, 2017

Dear County and District Superintendents and Charter School Administrators and High School Principals:

2017 NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE CAMP

The California Department of Education (CDE) is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for the 2017 National Youth Science Camp (NYSC) for high-achieving, science-oriented students.

Operated by the National Youth Science Foundation, the NYSC is a residential science education honors program for two graduating high school students from each state. The NYSC is offered at no cost to participants. All educational and recreational programming as well as meals, lodging, and round-trip air passage on scheduled airlines are provided free of charge to the delegates.

The NYSC will be held at a facility located in the Monongahela National Forest near Bartow in the eastern mountains of West Virginia. Delegates arrive in Charleston, West Virginia, on Wednesday, June 14, 2017, and depart on Saturday, July 8, 2017. More information is available on the NYSC Web site at <http://apply.nysc.org>.

The completed application and supporting materials must be submitted online at <http://apply.nysc.org> by **Wednesday, March 1, 2017, at 6 p.m. EST.**

To be eligible for consideration, an applicant:

- Must be a candidate for high school graduation between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017.
- Must demonstrate superior academic proficiency, including recognition in mathematics and/or the sciences.
- Must demonstrate an application of leadership abilities and social maturity through involvement in school and community activities.
- Must demonstrate skills and achievements outside the realm of science and outside the realm of academic pursuits.

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- Must demonstrate a curiosity and an eagerness to explore many and varied topics.

Selection criteria include demonstrated achievement in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and participation in school and community activities, with leadership potential.

As part of the NYSC program, scientists from across the nation present lectures and hands-on science seminars and linger to interact informally with student delegates. Delegates are challenged to explore new areas in the biological and physical sciences, art, and music with resident staff members.

Opportunities are provided for delegates to present seminars covering their own areas of interest and research. A visit to Washington D.C. permits delegates to visit some of the nation's premier scientific, governmental, and cultural facilities. The NYSC experience includes overnight expeditions into the Monongahela National Forest featuring backpacking, rock-climbing, caving, mountain biking, or kayaking opportunities.

If you have any questions about the NYSC program, please contact Dina Fong, Communications Division, by phone at 916-319-0551 or by e-mail at dfong@cde.ca.gov.

I encourage you to share this unique opportunity with your students.

Sincerely,



Tom Torlakson

TT:dc