

December 3, 2019

New Mexico Science and Math Teachers: Please nominate 7th grade girls from your school who are excited by STEM to apply for the AAUW Tech Trek NM summer science camp!

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is proud to announce our 7th annual week-long residential STEM summer camp for rising eighth grade girls **June 14-20, 2020** at New Mexico Tech in Socorro, NM.

The cost to each girl selected is only \$50. AAUW Tech Trek NM is a diverse and inclusive science camp experience for New Mexico girls who may not have had exposure to STEM programs.

We invite you to nominate up to 4 girls per school. If multiple teachers at your school participate, they should agree on the girls nominated.

We ask that you **rank** (1 being high) your nominees on how well they exhibit the qualities listed below. Please consider what you know about each girl and whether she would truly benefit from a weeklong summer science camp. The best students academically are not necessarily the best fit for Tech Trek. Some students show their true potential in a setting such as Tech Trek.

Submit nominations by **Friday, January 31, 2020** to: techtreknm@gmail.com. OR to PO Box 92643, Albuquerque, NM 87199.

Qualities of a Tech Trek Camper:

- Is excited by science and math with the potential to excel;
- Has at least a “B” average;
- Will benefit from exposure to STEM opportunities;
- Has not participated in a week-long STEM camp;
- Demonstrates maturity when interacting with her peers;
- Adapts well to new situations like being away from home for a week;
- Shows interest in learning new things, especially in science and/or math;
- Follows directions well and shows patience and persistence in task completion;
- Works well in group situations and is willing to help other students;
- Cooperates with teachers, shows respect for others and participates in class;
- Demonstrates responsibility, self-control, and has no serious discipline issues;
- Makes positive choices for herself, in and out of class;
- Willing to try a challenging task and complete it.



2019 Geology Field Trip

In early February, we will send application packages to every girl nominated. The deadline for submitting the completed application is **Friday, February 28, 2020**.

Every girl who applies will be interviewed with her parent(s) or guardian(s) by two AAUW-NM members in March.

Our selection committee will review the completed applications and then select up to 60 girls to attend the 2020 camp. It is our priority to select girls who may not have had an opportunity to participate in an inspiring STEM program. We also strive to select a group of campers who reflect the demographics of New Mexico with a mix of urban and rural girls of all ethnicities and races.

The AAUW Tech Trek NM environment provides girls with women STEM role models and many opportunities for learning and practicing new skills both individually and as members of a team. Girls take a core class in subjects ranging from astronomy to coding to robotics to probability and statistics. They also participate in field trips and workshops in a variety of areas. Our instructors and staff are women STEM teachers and professionals. Please visit our webpage at <https://techtrek-nm.aauw.net/> to learn more.

AAUW Tech Trek builds on issues illuminated in AAUW's research report, *Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math*, which demonstrated that camps like Tech Trek increase girls' interest and confidence in STEM fields. You can download the report free at: <http://www.aauw.org/resource/why-so-few-women-in-science-technology-engineering-mathematics/>. The link is on our webpage.

We look forward to receiving nominations from your school.

If there are other teachers or administrators at your school who you think would be interested in AAUW Tech Trek NM, please share this letter and other information with them.

Thank you!

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AAUW Tech Trek NM 2020
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2019 Campers with NM Sec of Education