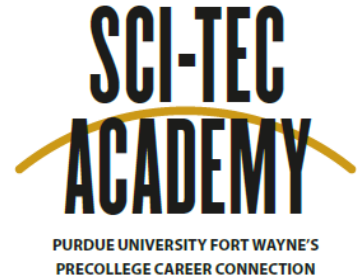


What is the Sci-TEC Academy?

A career and leadership program for youth in 6th grade through 12th grade which:

- Encourages pre-college students to pursue engineering, technology, and computer science interests and potential careers
- Recognizes and rewards participants for Academy and other STEM activities
- Builds a network of Sci-TEC friends for many years to come
- Connects young people with industry representatives and faculty to learn about careers and associated majors available in northeast Indiana



Is there a cost to participate?

There is no cost to apply but if you are notified of being selected for the Academy, your returned confirmation form must include an Academy fee of \$85 for new members or \$75 for returning members. If you are in financial need and offered membership, you may also apply for a partial scholarship to help reduce cost further.

What events are included in the Sci-TEC Academy program?

Sci-TEC Kick-Off: September 18, 2023: All members will preview Challenges and parents are invited to meet the ETCS Outreach staff. Kick-off will be held in Walb Student Union Ballroom from 5:30 – 7:30 PM.

Sci-TEC Academy Challenges: The fall challenge nights will be held in the ETCS building in October, November, February and March.

Sci-TEC Academy Award and Recognition Night: April 17, 2024 at Purdue Fort Wayne Walb Student Union Ballroom for all members.

What are the Sci-TEC Challenges?

The Sci-TEC Challenges focus on different themes related to ETCS (engineering, technology, and computer science) career fields. Mini-challenge activities created by Purdue University Fort Wayne faculty in collaboration with community professionals provide members the opportunity to learn about some of the majors/careers they represent as the students engage in a challenging, fun activity and held in the evening from 5:30pm-8:30pm.

Participants encounter a test of skills during each challenge. **Challenges may involve working with a team of other members but some may be individual due to the nature of virtual events this fall.** All Challenges include sharing results and the selection of Challenge winners. Past Challenges have involved many types of activities including (but not limited to): a computer activity, a team creation, seeing a demonstration, or brainstorming the solution to a perplexing STEM related problem.

What awards are available to Sci-TEC members?

Everyone is recognized for participation by earning Sci-TEC Certificates. These certificates are excellent additions to a student's admissions folder. **Participants who participate in the required minimum number of events (three of the four challenges and one of the other events, Kick-Off or Award Celebration) receive a Sci-TEC t-shirt. New members earn a Sci-TEC pin while repeat members receive a ribbon denoting year of participation.** Sci-TEC members receive a Sci-TEC lanyard for use with their earned pins and ribbons. Sci-TEC members who submit information about other non-Academy STEM activities, have the potential of earning additional awards called Sci-TEC Stars.

Must the student member participate in all of the Sci-TEC Academy activities/events? Members are encouraged to participate in as many of the activities as possible but we realize that sometimes there are conflicts or other demands on time. Members will receive an email invitation with an RSVP online link to indicate their participation before each Challenge. See the Awards section for the minimum participation needed to receive recognition awards.

Can anyone join?

The Sci-TEC Academy is for 6th through 12th grade students with demonstrated interest in STEM career paths. Often the number of applications for membership exceeds the number of open spots. In this case, the selection process includes the Sci-TEC Academy committee assessment of a short essay each student writes in his or her application and his or her identification of involvement in other STEM activities/events. These activities may include STEM Summer Exploration Camps, FIRST LEGO League or any FIRST program, Indiana Future City, NE Indiana Regional Science and Engineering Fair, Engineers Week Middle or High School Bridge Contest, Girls that Code, or attendance at a Purdue Fort Wayne Campus Visit Day. Notification of acceptance will occur about a week after the application period closes.

What's new this year?

Sci-TEC Academy has expanded the grade levels to engage more students interested in STEM programs. This year we are offering a Middle School Sci-TEC Academy for 6th – 8th grade students and a High School Sci-TEC Academy for 9th-12th grade students. The challenge nights will be held in the same months, but on two different nights. For the Sci-TEC Kick-Off and the Award and Recognition nights we will be combined together.

How do I apply to become a member?

Talk to your parent/guardian and get their permission to apply. Complete the online application with student profile listing past STEM activities and write a short paragraph describing your interest. This short paragraph is very important in the selection of members. **Even if you have been a member before please treat this as the "first time" and explain your reasons for applying. You may mention past participation. Past members are not automatically accepted. All applications are evaluated blindly (without names).** On the application, please provide the name of an adult other than a parent or family member or a member of the ETCS Outreach staff (example: teacher, guidance counselor, youth mentor, STEM competition coach, etc.) who would recommend you if we needed to contact someone.

Where should I apply?

Complete the on-line application **by the deadline of September 6, 2023** on the Purdue University College of Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science Sci-TEC page: pfw.edu/etcs/etcs-outreach

If you cannot complete the online version, **you may obtain a printable version if you contact** Janet North at this email: northj@pfw.edu or call at (260) 481-5756. A paper copy of the application must be returned **by the same deadline of September 6, 2023** to the following address:

Purdue Fort Wayne
ETCS Outreach, Janet North, ET 243F
2101 E. Coliseum Blvd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

What is the deadline to apply? **September 6, 2023**

For more information or other questions, you might have about Sci-TEC Academy please contact: Janet North, ETCS Outreach Program Assistant 260-481-5756 northj@pfw.edu

