



Greater Cincinnati STEM Collaborative (GCSC) Applications for Summer of STEM 2018 Camps

Release Date: December 18, 2017

Greater Cincinnati STEM Collaborative (GCSC) helps prepare students for their futures and to join Greater Cincinnati's workforce through connected, robust STEM learning pathways. STEM learning is propelled by business, education, community collaboration and our culture of incubation, acceleration, and inclusion.

Our vision is that Greater Cincinnati continues its growth as a technologically rich, vibrant community with the most talented STEM workforce in the country that is representative of the region's population. GCSC prioritizes organizations serving higher percentages of students who are diverse, disadvantaged, and/or otherwise underserved for direct funding and support.

All Summer of STEM 2018 camp applications must be submitted by Monday, February 5, 2018.

Summer of STEM 2018

Summer of STEM combats summer learning loss ("summer slide") by creating opportunities for students to explore STEM learning and careers specifically during the summer months. GCSC funding mainly supports students who otherwise would not have access to high-quality STEM programs. Visit the [Summer of STEM webpage](#) to review previous summers' results, partners / supporters, and more.

Due to the generosity of GCSC's partners and incorporating lessons learned from the previous two summers, GCSC is pleased to offer "camps-in-a-box". Camps are designed by expert educators, both locally and nationally, and based on previous successful summer camps:

1. **Introduction to STEM: Design and Making Camp** - Students will choose a technology-related passion project designed to grow their critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration skills while increasing their interest in STEM. They will present what they learn to an authentic audience. [Link to overview](#)
2. **STEAM Academy: Rockin' Robots Camp** - Students will tap their creativity and be empowered to learn new skills as they create their own basic robots and learn how they work. They will gain the programming fundamentals to create and control both virtual and real-world characters. [Link to overview](#)
3. **Computer Science Camp** - Students will think algorithmically, computationally, creatively, and critically while collaborating and communicating with others. They will learn about Computer Science and have the opportunity to explore their interest in the ever-changing and rapidly growing Information Technology (IT) field. [Link to overview](#)
4. **STEM Bicycle Club Camp** - Students will experience GCSC's STEM Bicycle Club in the summer camp environment. Students will break down and re-assemble bicycles they get to keep. The club builds student confidence as well as problem solving and persistence skills. [Link to overview](#)
5. **C-STEM Girl Camp** - Girls will be motivated to learn computing and STEM concepts through a fun and exciting robotics-based curriculum. Girls will grow their leadership and communication skills, meet inspiring women leaders, and gain exposure to the variety of future opportunities. [Link to overview](#)
6. **Other (write-in)** - GCSC will award several mini-grants, up to \$3,500 each, to support programs designed to engage students in two additional ways:
 - a. New, innovative STEM programs that will be prototyped in summer 2018 - and / or -
 - b. Programs designed to occur primarily outdoors, in nature's perfect science lab.

Applications Timeline

Milestone	Date
Application window opens	December 18, 2017
Applications due	February 5, 2018
Recipients announced	February 26, 2018
Camps Professional Development	March 9, 2018 (9:00am-3:00pm) – Jones Middle School May 10, 2018 (4:00pm-8:00pm) – University of Cincinnati <i>Camp leader(s) pick(s) one to attend</i>
Summer of STEM Community Debrief	August 9, 2018 (11:00am – 1:00pm)
Results (impact) report due to GCSC	October 1, 2018

Submitting Your Application

[Use this link to submit your camp application](#)

Once you're on the application site:

1. Make an account or sign in.
2. Begin filling out your information.
3. If you want to save a draft, scroll to the bottom of the application and click the "Save Draft" button. Access draft by logging into submittable.com, clicking the drop-down menu on the top right by your name, clicking "My Submissions," selecting "Saved Drafts" from the top bar, then clicking "Continue."
4. When your application is complete, click the orange Submit button. You will receive an email confirming your application has been received.

Partners may submit multiple applications for Summer of STEM 2018 Camps.

Questions? Contact GCSC

Contact GCSC at gcscstemed@gmail.com if more information is needed to complete an application. Inquiries should include a description of the information needed and full contact information (name, organization, email address, and phone number).

Selection Principles

1. **Inclusion and Access:** GCSC will award camps disproportionately to educators (and other partners) serving students who are diverse, economically disadvantaged, and/or otherwise underserved. GCSC will award camps broadly across the region, while meeting other principles.
2. **Readiness & Commitment:** Camp leaders and their sponsors must be committed to collaborate with GCSC to:
 - Maximize and measure positive student impacts
 - Share the story of camp and Summer of STEM success
3. **STEM engagement best practices:** Camp leaders will successfully employ [STEM Engagement Best Practices](#).
4. **Sustainability:** GCSC prioritizes funding applicants:
 - Willing to co-invest and cover at least a small portion of their camp costs. GCSC will help with partners' fund-raising as wanted (coaching / consultation, provide information needed for grant writing, and /or letters of endorsement).
 - Who will re-apply, and maximize the subsequent use of, resources and knowledge gained in Summer of STEM 2018.
5. **Innovation:** Up to 12% of GCSC's Summer of STEM 2018 funds will be allocated to support new, innovative approaches to using [STEM Engagement Best Practices](#) for students during the summer months.
6. **Sponsor Priority:** Funding will be awarded in line with sponsors' priorities: geographic location / diversity, student age and / or diversity, etc.

Camp Resources Provided By GCSC

1. Curriculum that includes coaches guide with lesson plans and student workbooks (see note a. below for C-STEM Girl Camp).
2. Tools and thought starters to support volunteer engagement, student recruitment, family engagement, and more.

3. Professional Development (PD) / training and consultation for camp leaders.
4. Camp materials, purchase and delivery coordinated by GCSC.
5. Student STEM Passports for all participating students.
6. As needed a small budget for camp food, staff stipend, and transportation to STEM / Design Fest event (if held, see note below).

NOTES

- a. C-STEM Girl Camp curriculum includes agenda, handouts, and electronic presentation files provided by University of California Davis.
- b. GCSC is not able to fund desktops, laptops, Chromebooks, mobile devices, or robotics equipment referenced in camp overviews. Applicants should ensure access to this equipment as part of submitting camp applications.
- c. Applicants applying for mini-grant funds via the "Other (write-in)" category will have access to resources described in #2 and #5 above. Applicants will provide all other resources, including with the funds provided by GCSC.
- d. GCSC is exploring options for an outdoor STEM / Design Fest to culminate Summer of STEM 2018. Partners interested to help plan and / or co-host are requested to contact GCSC at gscstemed@gmail.com.

