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Dear Students and Parents:

Congratulations on being invited to apply for a sponsorship to the 20XX AAUW California Tech Trek, a STEM summer camp for girls entering 8th grade in fall 20XX. The program is supported by the American Association of University Women in California. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

**Requirements to apply for Tech Trek STEM Camp:**

1. Girls must be nominated by a math, science, or technology teachers at their school. Teachers will provide them with the application.
2. Students must be willing to attend the full week of camp, living in college residence halls and attending STEM classes and other camp events

**Steps in the process:**

1. Students complete an application which includes an essay. Applications are due February XX or before.
2. **S**tudents with the top scores will be invited to a personal interview, to be held at their school.
3. Following the interviews, students will be selected for Tech Trek sponsorships
4. Each sponsorship is for $1100, paid for by Branch of AAUW. We request a $50 family fee but it will be covered by the branch if it is a family hardship.

**The applications will be read by a committee from AAUW and evaluated on the following:**

* Application written in ink or typed, Looks neat and all questions are answered.
* Essay is well written and thought out. (Attention is paid to spelling and grammar, although minor errors will not affect the score. We are primarily interested in your ideas.)
* Essay is creative and indicates the student has genuine interest in STEM.
* Essay is more than a list; it needs to give examples or specifics about what you would do.
* If outside sources of information are quoted or referenced, they need attribution. Formal footnotes are not required, but a student should indicate in the text that she has used an idea from someone else or give a reference for statistics or similar factual information.
* Return completed application and essay via scan or email to ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Let your teacher know if you are unable to send your application electronically and it can be picked up at school on or before February XX. Be sure it’s been signed by parents or legal guardian.
* If you have sent an email/scanned copy by the due date, you will still need to submit a print copy since we need an original parent signature if you are selected. You may give your printed and signed application to your teacher for pick up at the school or mail it to ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Students and their families will be notified in mid-March whether or not they are selected for an interview. Students selected to interview will be asked what they know about Tech Trek. There are several resources to help you learn about the camp and whether it’s a good fit for you:

<https://aauw-ca.org/tech-trek/>

Good luck; we look forward to meeting you!

Branch, American Association of University Women, Tech Trek Committee:

(List Committee Members if desired)

Questions? Contact