

2023 Tech Trek What's New? MUST READ



HEADING INTO 25 YEARS OF INSPIRING GIRLS IN STEM AND GOING STRONG!

Tech Trek – whether residential or virtual -- does make a difference in the lives of our campers, and so do you. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication. Without you, there would be no Tech Trek program. Here's what's new for 2023!

Many thanks to the 94% of you who completed the Branch Participation survey following the November 14th Branch Coordinator Peer Group session, and especially to those of you who took the time to attend. **It is clear from your strong response that Tech Trek has worked its way into the DNA of the AAUW California branches in a big way and we want to make sure that continues!**

What's New for 2023?

CampDoc

In 2022, we encountered challenges with our software for camp operations. In response to the issues you and our other stakeholders raised, we are pleased to announce that we will migrate to a new software platform! CampSite and REDCap software will be replaced with a single software program called CampDoc. CampDoc satisfies our core requirements and provides additional benefits such as:

- Improved technical support for users and administrators including a 24/7 help desk for participants, families, and staff
- Branch coordinator access to student/family records to provide assistance to them when needed
- Mobile-friendly
- Multiple language capability
- Cost competitive

Training for branch coordinators and camp staff will be provided.

You will be receiving further instructions over the next six weeks to help you understand the new process and tools, and beginning on January 20, 2023, we will be offering weekly Friday office hours from 12:30-2 to answer questions. Click [HERE](#) to register. Depending on demand, we may also offer evening sessions. Additionally, you can request special 1:1 sessions with schools, teachers, or families at techtrek@aauw-ca.org.

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Nomination Process

Branches will manage the nomination process directly with schools. It is no longer necessary to send your nomination spreadsheets to the Tech Trek program. However, an optional [nomination spreadsheet](#) is available for branch coordinators to use to track their nominations. Remember that you must maintain privacy of data for minors.

Branch members should not communicate with minors until the parent permission form is obtained.

Whether they just spend a few hours reviewing applications or are a Dorm Mom or camp counselor, all Tech Trek volunteers must complete the Volunteer Code of Conduct agreement [HERE](#). If prompted, the password is 'aauwca'.

Residential Camp Capacity and Allocation

We have received more requests for residential camp spaces than we have capacity to fill. An allocation model is being developed. You will be notified of your allocated residential spots. If that number is less than requested, the branch coordinator will be given the opportunity to reassign the balance to virtual camp.

Stanford campus is not currently offered, however we are working on expanding residential capacity and our numbers may change. As always, staffing is an ongoing challenge. More on this at the January 12, 2023 Branch Coordinator Peer Group meeting. Click [HERE](#) to register for the session.

Camp	Camp Dates	Camp Capacity	Requested #
Davis	TBD - July	90	161
Fresno	TBD - June	80	77
San Diego	June 25-30	120	123
Santa Barbara - Blackwell	July 16-22	80	85
Santa Barbara - Hypatia	July 23-29	80	78
Sonoma	June 18-24	90	167
Whittier	June 18-24	100	93
Virtual	July 23-28	100+	145
	TOTAL	790+	929

We are evaluating an additional camp location convenient to the SF Bay Area for 2024.

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Vaccination

At a minimum, all campers and staff will be required to provide proof of full vaccination or a medical waiver. See AAUW California [Covid Policy](#). It is important to remember, however, that we must remain flexible in response to changes in the Covid landscape and CDC guidelines.

Fees

The AAUW California Board of Directors will set the 2023 camperships fees at the January 2023 meeting. 2023 campus cost increases range from 5% to 25% so branches should be prepared for an increase at most camps. Camper funds must be sent to the camp treasurer where campers have been assigned, which may mean sending payment to more than one treasurer.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Process

The process has been streamlined and only branch presidents will be required to sign the MOU. They will:

- Confirm the number of camperships the branch has requested.
 - Agree to the policies set forth in the MOU.
 - Commit to fund the number of requested camperships.
 - Designate a branch coordinator to be the point of contact for the state and be responsible for decisions regarding final assignment of campers to camp.
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Resource Materials

Promotional materials have been redesigned and updated with more options to customize them for your branch.

New materials that you will find useful have been created. In particular, a one-page flier has replaced the brochure and a new comparison of the pros and cons of residential and virtual camps will help you determine the best fit for your students. The Tech Trek Timeline is a critical resource outlining how the process will work and what steps you'll need to take.

- [Tech Trek Timeline](#) (**Must Read**)
- [Letter to Schools](#) (Can be customized with branch information)
- [Letter to Schools](#) (Can be customized with additional information)
- [Flier for Schools and Community](#) (English and Spanish versions)
- [Residential or Virtual Camp: A Comparison](#)
- [Camper Selection Criteria](#)
- [Tech Trek Logo](#) – (Full color)
- [Tech Trek Logo](#) – (Black and white)
- [Teacher Nomination Spreadsheet](#) (optional for branch use)

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The documents can be found under Tech Trek Forms and Documents on the website [HERE](#). If prompted for a password, it is 'aauwca'. Do not use any forms from a previous year.

Confirm that your branch treasurer has access to the needed financial documents located on the AAUW CA SPF website [HERE](#). This will ensure that your money ends up in the right place, that your donors can take the often-crucial tax deduction, and that your branch gets credit for any 2022 and 2023 deposits.

Financial System Pilot

Fresno, San Diego, and Virtual camps are piloting financial system process improvements in 2023.

Next Steps

For your convenience we have condensed all the key steps in the Tech Trek process into a single document, the [Tech Trek Timeline](#). Your next steps are outlined there.

BUILDING A RESILIENT COMMUNITY: In 2023 and moving forward, you can expect to see much more focus on past campers and strengthening the community support they receive after camp through branch members along with exploring partnerships with sister organizations, so if you are eager to work with girls in high school, get ready!