

Tech Trek Camper Assessment Form



Reviewer Instructions:

There are up to three items to consider when gauging whether a student will be a good fit for the AAUW Tech Trek program:

1. Input from the teacher nominating the student (if provided)
2. Her application (including her essay)
3. The interview

Use the guide below to evaluate each portion of the process.

NOTE: The AAUW Tech Trek program seeks to be diverse and inclusive in its outreach to support its mission of increasing the number of girls pursuing STEM studies in higher education and for their careers.

It is a priority to select girls who have less exposure to inspiring STEM programs, often due to economic disparities, and who also may have a burgeoning interest or aptitude in a STEM field.

Camper Name:

School:

Part One: Student Nomination (if written responses were provided by the teacher)

Keywords/phrases to look for in the nominations; see italics for examples:

- Student shows overall interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math:
Curiosity, aptitude, interested, constantly learning, eagerness to participate
- Student exhibits excitement to try new things
Engaged, adventurous, eager, inquisitive, daring, brave, exploratory, courageous, takes on new challenges with excitement
- Student demonstrates motivation for learning as evidenced by positive day to day behavior
Skilled, intelligent, engaged, absorbed, eager to learn, motivated, enthused, driven
- Student demonstrates a need to attend a program like Tech Trek that would benefit this student over others
Lack of opportunity, has not done something like this before, would grow because of this experience, needs new experiences
- Student is a good fit for Tech Trek

Tech Trek Camper Assessment Form



Helpful, well behaved, engages with others, loves STEM subjects, eager for new opportunities

Based on comments:

<i>Would not recommend for Tech Trek</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Would recommend for Tech Trek</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Would strongly recommend for Tech Trek</i>	<i>3</i>

Student Nomination Score: _____

Part 2: Student Application and Essay

Use the guide below as criteria/scoring for review of the student essay:

1. Poorly written, minimal information, does not answer the question
2. Somewhat well written, lacking creativity or demonstrating only mild interest in math and science
3. Well written and thought out, creative and indicates that the student has genuine interest in math and/or science

Student Application and Essay Score: ____

Part 3: Student Interview

Sample Interview Questions

Start the interview with information about AAUW and Tech Trek:

Tech Trek is a weeklong science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) summer camp designed to develop interest, excitement, and self-confidence in young women who are entering the eighth grade. The camp is hosted by AAUW California and is a program of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). Tech Trek offers two types of camps. One is residential in which students get a taste of college life by living in a dorm on a college campus; one is an online virtual camp for students who prefer to stay at home. Both types of camps are dynamic and offer plenty of fun, challenging activities, interactions with women who are in STEM fields, group projects, field trips, and a chance to meet other girls with similar interests. The camps are run by teachers, volunteers, and former campers who loved it enough to come back as counselors.

Explain that there are no correct answers to any question. All candidates are being evaluated to be a good fit for the Tech Trek camp being offered.

Tech Trek Camper Assessment Form



Suggested Questions:

The following are suggested interview questions for the student:

1. Why do you think your teacher nominated you for a STEM camp?
2. Do you think you would like to have a job someday that has to do with science, technology, engineering or math? If so, what would that be?
3. When you are confronted with a new challenge at school, do you tend to back away from it or do you jump right in?
4. Do you help other kids in your class or school with their homework?
5. Have you attended any other summer camps in the past? If so, tell us about experiences at other camps you've attended. What did you like or not like?
6. Will you be attending any other camps this summer? (If student does not know, ask parent/guardian)
7. (If the branch is offering virtual:) Did you attend any virtual STEM camps during Covid or before? If you were to be selected for a virtual camp instead of in-person, do you think you would attend? (Branch may want to share some data [HERE](#) to show they have the same positive impact on STEM and college interest.)

At this point the interviewer should ask students if they have any questions about the camp.

Suggested Questions for Parents/Guardians:

1. What does it mean to you that [student's name] was selected by her teacher for Tech Trek science, technology, engineering and math camp?
2. Do you talk about math, science or engineering careers related to these fields of study in the home?
3. [If applicable to your branch] Are you aware that there is a \$50 (or other) family fee for a student to attend Tech Trek? The other costs of the camp are raised by branches or other donors who sponsor campers.
*If parents are unable to pay the fee, discuss with your branch to determine whether you can waive their fee.
4. Are you aware that your child will need to be vaccinated for Mumps, Measles, and Rubella, along with Covid 19, and you will have to provide copies of her Covid vaccination and insurance card?
5. Are you aware that your child will be expected to stay in touch with the AAUW California Tech Trek community for five years following camp and to be available to promote the camp during that period?

The parent/guardian interview answers are used in conjunction with the student interview answers to evaluate whether the student is a good fit for Tech Trek.

Tech Trek Camper Assessment Form



Recommended Interview Scoring Rubric:

Score	Excellent candidate = 3	Good candidate = 2	Poor candidate = 1
Student interview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interested in STEM subjects Interested in STEM career options Is not concerned about being away from family Excited to take on new challenges Has/will not have the opportunity to go to a STEM camp outside of Tech Trek 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Somewhat interested in STEM, likes science and math even if they are not a favorite subject Potential interest in a STEM field Sometimes takes on new challenges Has attended STEM activities but not a STEM camp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not very interested in STEM subjects Has not thought about a career in a STEM field Does not like to try new things Has attended many other STEM camps and/or plans to do so during the course of the summer
Parent/guardian interview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excited that student has been chosen to attend Tech Trek Has talked about STEM at home and is supportive of student's interest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glad student has been chosen, but not overly interested 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows little interest in student being chosen to attend Tech Trek Little support at home for trying new things

Student Interview Score: ____

To get the total score, add candidate's scores from the nomination, essay and interview sections. Additionally, consider answers on their application and any diversity that the student may bring to the camp.

Total Score: ____

Select as Tech Trek Camper Yes No

Enter student on Alternate List Yes

Notes: