



**Pinellas County Schools, K-12 STEM Departments**  
**19-20 STEM Academy Student Application Packet**

**DO YOU WANT YOUR CHILD TO BECOME PART OF A FREE PCS AFTER-SCHOOL STEM ACADEMY PROGRAM?**

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*The VISION of the PCS K-12 STEM Department is to increase STEM opportunities for Pinellas County students, preparing them to excel in STEM fields of study, allowing them to meet the challenges of the global society through innovation, collaboration and creative problem solving.*

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The PCS STEM Academy program will offer your child opportunities to conduct hands-on STEM investigations, learn about the engineering design process, improve team building/leadership skills, explore STEM career pathways and interact with community business partners!

To learn more about the K-12 STEM Dept. initiatives and PCS STEM Academy program, please visit [www.pcsb.org/STEM](http://www.pcsb.org/STEM)

**Deadline to apply: Completed applications due no later than Thursday, September 19, 2019.**





## Who?

We are accepting 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. We look for students who work hard, have an interest in STEM concepts and will participate for the full 27 weeks. There is no academic performance requirement, however only 20 students can be enrolled into each after-school STEM Academy.

Due to increased demand to participate in this FREE program hosted by the PCS K-12 STEM Department, all students who submit a completed application by September 6 will get an equal chance at enrollment using a the lottery process listed below.

Completed applications will be collected and divided into two piles (female and male). Through the use of random lottery, 10 females and 10 males (as close as possible) will be selected per STEM Academy. If more than 20 students apply, remaining students will be placed on a wait list. ALL families will be notified if their child was selected or placed on the a wait list.

- Primary STEM Academy offerings:
  - ✓ 2<sup>nd</sup> grade (total of 20 students)
  - ✓ 3<sup>rd</sup> grade (total of 20 students)
- Intermediate STEM Academy offerings:
  - ✓ 4<sup>th</sup> grade (total of 20 students)
  - ✓ 5<sup>th</sup> grade (total of 20 students)

## When?

This 27-week program will begin during the first week in October 2019 and will continue through the last week in April 2020. Your child's STEM Academy will meet once per week for 60 minutes after school.

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> grade STEM Academy at your school will be held on Monday from 2:55pm to 3:55pm.**

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade STEM Academy at your school will be held on Tuesday from 2:55pm to 3:55pm.**

**The 4<sup>th</sup> grade STEM Academy at your school will be held on Wednesday from 2:55pm to 3:55pm.**

**The 5<sup>th</sup> grade STEM Academy at your school will be held on Thursday from 2:55pm to 3:55pm.**

The STEM Academy will be held at your child's school and transportation **MUST** be provided by the parent/guardian each week. Students will **NOT BE PERMITTED TO WALK/BIKE** home. Please be on time and waiting at the front office gate to pick up your child.

## How?

Fill out the attached application (page 3) and submit it to your child's classroom teacher who will then give it to Ms. McLendon (the STEM Academy teacher) no later than Thursday, September 9. Please enter information for every area on the application, especially the email section, as this will be used as the main form of communication to receive STEM Academy updates and opportunities.

## Cost?

The PCS K-12 STEM Department offers the STEM Academy program at your child's school, FREE of charge.

## What?

During the FREE STEM Academy program, students will conduct hands-on activities related to STEM concepts, explore careers in STEM, and complete a STEM engineering design project. All STEM engineering design projects will be displayed during the annual STEM Expo which will be held on April 25, 2020 at Pinellas Technical College, St. Petersburg campus.

## Attendance Requirements

Attendance is a critical component to the success of this program considering the amount of collaborative work completed in teams. Due to the overwhelming interest in the STEM Academy program and the rigor of the planned activities, it is highly suggested that your child tries to attend each session. If your child misses **more than 4 unexcused sessions** (sick absences will be an exception), they will be **removed from the academy** and replaced by one of the students on the wait list. After the 3<sup>rd</sup> unexcused absence, the STEM Academy teacher will call or speak with you in person to provide an attendance reminder.

## Family Involvement

Later in the year, students enrolled in the STEM Academy program will receive an invitation to attend and present at the annual FREE STEM Expo that will be held on April 25, 2020 at the Pinellas Technical College, St. Petersburg campus. Last year we had more than 3,200 people attend!

Additional STEM related events will be shared with you using the email provided on page 3 of this application.

## Questions?

If you have questions, please contact the STEM Academy teacher at your school, Ms. McLendon at [mclendona@pcsb.org](mailto:mclendona@pcsb.org).

If you have any additional questions that your school's STEM Academy teacher cannot answer, contact the PCS K-12 STEM Specialist, Laura Spence at [Spencela@pcsb.org](mailto:Spencela@pcsb.org).

**Date handed to student:**

9/5/2019

**Deadline to return completed application to school:**

**No later than Thursday, September 19, 2019**

Families will be notified of their child's status (accepted or wait list) no later than Monday, September 23<sup>th</sup>.

\*FAMILIES KEEP PAGES 1-2 AND RETURN PAGE 3 TO YOUR CLASSROOM TEACHER WHO WILL HAND IT IN TO THE SCHOOL'S STEM ACADEMY TEACHER Ms. McLendon.

**STEM ACADEMY BACKGROUND**

**Did your child participate in the PCS STEM Academy program during the 2018-2019 school year? YES or NO**

If yes, provide the following information:

Grade your child was in last year (18-19): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of school attended last year (18-19): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of STEM Academy teacher last year (18-19): \_\_\_\_\_

**2019-2020 GENERAL STUDENT INFORMATION (please print clearly)**

STUDENT NAME (FIRST, LAST)	
CLASSROOM TEACHER'S NAME	
GRADE CURRENTLY ATTENDING	
HOME ADDRESS: STREET ADDRESS CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE	
STUDENT'S GENDER	
ETHNICITY (OPTIONAL)	
BIRTH DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)	

**PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION (please print clearly)**

PRIMARY CONTACT INFORMATION		SECONDARY CONTACT INFORMATION	
PARENT/CAREGIVER NAME		PARENT/CAREGIVER NAME	
RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT		RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT	
STREE ADDRESS CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE		STREET ADDRESS CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE	
PHONE NUMBERS	Cell: Home: Work:	PHONE NUMBERS	Cell: Home: Work:
EMAIL ADDRESS <small>*Email addresses will be used to send STEM Academy newsletters and communicate upcoming STEM events.</small>		EMAIL ADDRESS <small>*Email addresses will be used to send STEM Academy newsletters and communicate upcoming STEM events.</small>	

Additional Information (if needed):

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the STEM Academy program.  
 Parent/Guardian - Print Student's Name - Print

Our STEM Academy teachers are passionate about your child; however, to honor their time (planning, teaching, family obligations) we ask that students are picked up **promptly** at the conclusion of each STEM Academy's session. After 3 late pick-ups and/or unexcused absences, you will be contacted by the STEM Academy teacher who will provide a reminder that your child will be removed from the program following the 4<sup>th</sup> late pick-up/unexcused absence and a new student from the wait list will fill his/her spot.

I acknowledge that I will be responsible for providing pick-up transportation each week for my child.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date