



Texas Pre-Engineering Program (TexPREP)



What is TexPREP?

TexPREP is an academic enrichment program for middle school and high school students. Students are eligible if they have the interest and potential for careers in the fields of mathematics, science, technology, and/or engineering. Students with disabilities are welcome. If the students are accepted, they will spend seven summer weeks on the UTRGV campus and six meeting during the school year. They will interact with students their age and with professionals in the fields of mathematics, science and engineering who will share their experiences and knowledge about possible future careers. The program is accredited by the Texas Educational Agency (TEA). Students are awarded one unit elective credit for every year they successfully complete the program.

Who Runs TexPREP?

TexPREP is coordinated by The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley in the Edinburg and Brownsville site. The director, Dr. Stephen Crown, is a mechanical engineer professor at UTRGV. The faculty ranges from university professors and high school teachers, and the program mentors are college students majoring in the College of Science and Engineering.

How much will it cost?

For the summer, tuition cost per student is \$390, which can come from one of the following sources:

SCHOOLS: The majority of schools districts will pay for the students' tuition. The following are the 2015 districts that paid tuition: Edcouch-Elsa, Edinburg, La Joya, McAllen, Mission, Monte Alto, PSJA, Valley View, and Weslaco. Students should check with their school about covering the tuition fee.

PARENTS: For students whose school districts do not pay tuition, parents are responsible for tuition.



What about Transportation?

For the Saturday follow-up sessions, students are responsible for their own transportation.

For the 2016 summer, the majority of the school districts provided a bus at their own expense. If the district decides not to provide transportation or allow any student that attends a different district, it is the responsibility of the parent to provide transportation. The following are the 2016 school districts that provided transportation: Edcouch-Elsa, La Joya, McAllen, Mission, Monte Alto, PSJA, Weslaco, and Valley View.

When does the Summer 2017/2018 Program start?

The 2017 Summer TexPREP will be held M-F from June 5, 2017 to July 21, 2017. Classes start at 1:00 p.m. and end at 6:00 p.m. Fridays will be activity days, designing and constructing projects to compete with other teams. Such activities include: "Windmills", "Water Bottle Rockets", "Race Boat", "Catapults" among many others.

Students who have completed at least one summer of TexPREP will continue to participate in Follow-up sessions on Saturdays from 9:00am - 12:00pm. The following are the Fall 2017/Spring 2018 days: Sept. 16, (HESTEC Community Day), Nov 11, Jan 13, Feb 3, Mar 3. (DATES ARE TENTATIVE)

Eligibility Requirements

Parental Permission.

- First year students must be currently 6th, 7th or 8th grades.
- An overall average of a "B" in their grades, and in Mathematics Class
- First year students must submit a 100 word essay and two recommendation forms.
- Current report card.
- **The 2017 summer PREP 1 applications are due on February 28, 2017.**
- All eligible students must take the Math Placement Exam before being considered for approval into the program.
- Acceptance into the program is based on results of the exam and academics school standards.
- Students applying for TexPREP II, III, IV must have successfully completed the previous level.

Students must maintain perfect attendance to remain in the program. Only TWO excused absences will be tolerated for the summer and ONE in the Saturday sessions.

HowTo Apply?

Interested students can contact the TexPREP office at (956) 665-3794 or e-mail anna.ramos01@utrgv.edu