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## High School Students To Star at Summer Science Program

Applications are now open for the 2007 Summer Science Program (SSP), a six-week residential enrichment program in which small teams of gifted high school students apply physics, calculus, and programming to determine the orbit of an asteroid from their own observations.

One of the oldest (since 1959) and most successful pre-college research programs, SSP is held on the campus of New Mexico Tech in Socorro, and a second campus in California. Current juniors and outstanding sophomores are eligible to apply; deadlines are February 23 (first round) and March 23 (final). For the third year, New Mexico residents who are admitted may attend at no charge; SSP will waive the \$3,400 program fee.

Bright teenagers from around the world come to SSP to spend their days in college-level lectures, and their nights doing hands-on astronomical research (to be later archived at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics). Guest lectures from prominent scientists (many of whom are themselves alumni), and field trips to places like the Very Large Array of radio telescopes and Magdalena Ridge Observatory round out the curriculum.

Students describe SSP as an intense, stimulating intellectual and social environment, "the educational experience of a lifetime." Emphasis is on teamwork and cooperation; neither grades nor formal credit are given. Enrollment is limited to 36 per campus, and eight faculty members live on-site with the students.

Students, parents, and teachers are encouraged to visit [www.summerscience.org](http://www.summerscience.org) for more information and an online application. SSP is managed and largely funded by its own alumni. Additional support for the Socorro campus comes from New Mexico Tech and Lockheed Martin / Sandia National Labs.

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