The Building Leaders for Advancing Science and Technology (BLAST) program will offer an exciting, on-campus, summer experience designed to increase student interest and curiosity in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). BLAST will provide a residential opportunity to current 8th and 9th grade students in the summer of 2014 at no cost to selected students. Faculty members will lead hands-on activities and demonstrations that will seek to motivate and inspire students for STEM studies and careers. The program is a partnership between the Virginia Space Grant Consortium, University of Virginia, Virginia Tech and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

www.blast.spacegrant.org

Application deadline: February 1, 2014

GOALS

♦ Provide an on-campus residential experience for students who are motivated to learn but may not have shown STEM interest.

♦ Spark student interest in STEM coursework by providing hands-on activities and demonstrations.

♦ Increase the number of high school graduates who pursue STEM careers.

♦ Demonstrate engineering principles and design; illustrate how technology supports scientific discovery and how mathematics is the common language between them.

♦ Encourage critical and creative thinking and problem solving.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

♦ High school students who are currently in the 8th or 9th grade;

♦ Must have at least a B to C+ grade average;

♦ Be a Virginia resident and a U.S. Citizen;

♦ STEM curiosity a plus;

♦ Acceptance to BLAST is based on grades, teacher recommendation, and essay.

SESSION DATES

Virginia Tech
Session 1: July 13-16
Session 2: July 20-23
University of Virginia
July 27-30

CONTACT INFORMATION

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