



Unlocking Success: The Transformative Benefits of Summer Programs and Campus Visits for High School Students

Each year, the LAS university advisors field inquiries from students and parents regarding enrichment opportunities during the summer break. It is usually around this time of year that LAS students and their parents begin considering how to make the most of this valuable time. While relaxation is important, the summer offers an ideal opportunity for students to engage in enriching experiences through summer programs and university campus visits. These dual avenues can provide a holistic approach to personal and academic development, shaping a path toward future success.

Academic Enrichment: Sharpening the Mind

Summer programs, tailored to specific interests, allow students to delve deeper into subjects, honing their skills and knowledge. Simultaneously, university campus visits offer a glimpse into the academic environment, helping students envision themselves as part of a particular academic community. Together, these experiences contribute to a well-rounded understanding of educational opportunities.

University and Career Exploration: Mapping Your Future

Summer programs not only deepen academic knowledge but also serve as a stepping stone for university and career exploration. Similarly, visiting university campuses provides first-hand insight into university life, diverse academic offerings, and potential career paths. This dual approach empowers students to make informed decisions about their future, aligning academic pursuits with long-term goals.

Extracurricular Pursuits: Nurturing Passions

While summer programs cater to specific interests, university campus visits offer a broader view of extracurricular opportunities. From sports facilities to cultural organizations, exploring campus life provides a comprehensive understanding of the extracurricular landscape. This dual exposure encourages students to balance academic and personal interests.



Social and Cultural Exposure: Embracing Diversity

Participating in summer programs often involves interaction with peers from diverse backgrounds. Simultaneously, university campus visits expose students to the cultural diversity within university communities. These experiences foster an appreciation for inclusivity and broaden perspectives, preparing students for the diverse social landscapes of both summer programs and university life.

Personal Growth: Building Character

Beyond academics, both summer programs and campus visits contribute to personal growth. Summer programs challenge students to adapt to new environments and overcome obstacles, fostering resilience. Similarly, visiting university campuses allows students to envision themselves in a more independent and collegiate setting, promoting self-discovery and a sense of responsibility.

Résumé Building: Standing Out from the Crowd

Participation in summer programs and campus visits adds depth to a student's résumé. These experiences showcase a proactive approach to personal and academic development, setting applicants apart during university admissions searches. A well-rounded résumé, enriched by both summer programs and campus visits, is a testament to a student's commitment to success.

Preventing Summer Learning Loss: Staying Sharp

Summer programs are a structured way to combat the "summer slide," preventing the loss of academic skills. Similarly, university campus visits keep the academic mindset intact by reinforcing the importance of higher education. This dual approach ensures that students return to school with both enriched knowledge and a renewed commitment to their educational journey.

Building Confidence: Achieving Success

Success in summer programs and exploring university campuses contributes to a student's confidence. Overcoming challenges and achieving milestones, whether academic or personal, builds a sense of self-assurance that is invaluable in future endeavors. This confidence is a key takeaway from both experiences.



Time Management Skills: Balancing Act

Both summer programs and university campus visits require effective time management. Juggling academic responsibilities, extracurricular activities, and personal time during summer programs is excellent preparation for the demands of university. Simultaneously, planning and organizing a campus visit itinerary enhances students' ability to balance priorities, a skill crucial for success in any academic or professional setting.

Combining the enriching experiences of summer programs with the insightful exploration of university campuses creates a powerful synergy for high school students. This dual approach offers a comprehensive view of academic, personal, and extracurricular opportunities, preparing students for a successful journey through high school and beyond. So, embrace the transformative power of both summer programs and university visits, unlocking the doors to a future filled with academic achievement and personal fulfillment.

MaiaLearning, a comprehensive college and career readiness platform that LAS utilizes for student engagement, planning, and well-being, features various summer programs and gap year opportunities under the Enrichment tab. Additionally, other opportunities received directly from universities are shared in the weekly emails with grade 11 students. It's important to note that LAS does not endorse or promote any specific program. Therefore, we strongly encourage students and families to independently research these options to determine if they align with their interests and goals. It's also important to understand that LAS assumes no liability for a student's experience with any of these programs. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to reach out to the LAS university advisors at universityadvising@las.ch.