INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY

Summer 2026 Experiential Learning Opportunities

Provided by the Office of College Counseling @ IWA

Rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors are encouraged to explore summer experiential learning opportunities. Programs such as camps, internships, and academic experiences can help students connect with popular college majors and emerging career fields. A detailed list of hyperlinked options is provided starting on page 2.

Participating in summer programs can help students:

- Deepen academic knowledge
- Develop leadership and collaboration skills
- Explore and confirm major or career interests
- Strengthen resumes and activity lists
- Build meaningful relationships and mentoring networks

Application Tips

- Watch deadlines closely as most fall between January and mid-February.
- Ensure your application includes all required materials.
- Apply to several programs and plan to participate in one or two based on your availability.
- Be aware that some opportunities may include fees.

Students and families needing support or hoping to explore more options may contact **Dr. Pennington-Dorsey, Director of Counseling**, at **tpennington-dorsey@incarnateword.org** to schedule an appointment.

Wishing you a meaningful and inspiring summer search!
— The College Counseling Department

College/University Specific Pre-College Programs
Structured academic experiences hosted by individual colleges or universities that allow high school students to explore majors, take introductory courses, and experience campus life before applying to college.

Georgetown University Pre-College Programs
University of Southern California Summer Programs
William & Mary College Pre-College Online Program
Rice University Online Precollege Programs
Dartmouth University Pre-College Programs
Smith College Pre-College Programs
Carnegie Mellon's Pre-College Programs
Wake Forest University Online Immersion Program
Harvard Summer School- College Programs for High School Students
Stanford University Pre-Collegiate Studies
Bucknell Academic Summer Experience (B.A.S.E.)
Cornell University Pre-College Summer Program
Boston University Summer Term High School Programs
Columbia University Pre-College Program
New York University Pre-College Program for High School Students
Syracuse University Pre-College Summer Programs
Clemson University Summer Scholars Program
Brown University Pre-College Program
UMass Amherst Pre-College Programs
RISD Pre-College Summer Programs
Bentley University Pre-College Programs
WPI Pre-College Programs

Business
Business summer programs provide high school students with hands-on experience in entrepreneurship, finance, marketing, and leadership while exploring real-world business concepts on a college campus.

12 Summer Business Programs for High School Students
Lehigh University Summer Program
University of Houston Summer Camps
University of Houston C.T. Bauer College of Business Summer Institutes

Summer Discovery Business & Entrepreneurship Programs
National Student Leadership Conference for Business & Entrepreneurship
Wharton Global Youth Program- University of Pennsylvania
Precollege Summer Business Programs for High School Students
Best College Reviews 50 Best Pre-College Summer Business Programs
Lehigh University: IACOCCA Global Entrepreneurship Intensive
The University of Texas at Austin McCombs School of Business High School Summer Programs

STEM

STEM summer programs offer hands-on, immersive experiences in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, designed to spark curiosity, build skills, and prepare students for future academic and career pathways.

Rice Elite Tech Camp
University of Houston and Rice University- By Design Architecture for High School Students
Houston Zoo First Year Zoo Crew Explores
NASA High School Internship Project
College Vine- Top 15 High School Summer Engineering Programs
National Student Leadership Conference for Engineering
Empowerly Top 16 Best STEM Summer Programs
Summer Discovery STEM programs
Texas Girls Collaborative Project Transforming STEM Programs in East (Houston) and Central Texas
The University of Texas at Austin Women in STEM High School Camps
Texas A&M University Camp ARCH
Texas A&M University Aggie STEM Camp
PREP- San Antonio Prefreshman Engineering Program: Explore STEM
University of California Berkeley Design + Architecture Summer Programs
Clark University- Summer Game Studio and E-Sports Camp
Clarkson University Horizons STEM Summer Camp
University of Michigan- Joy of Coding Program
The University of Texas at Austin- Computer Science Academy for Women
Bucknell University Engineering Camp
Colorado School of Mines- Multicultural Engineering Training Program
MIT Minority Introduction to Engineering & Science
North Carolina State College of Engineering- Summer Programs for High School Students
Santa Clara University School of Engineering Seminar Program
Stanford University Mathematics Camp (SUMaC)

Medical Related Programs

An overview of reputable medical and health-focused summer programs that help students deepen their understanding of the field.

Harvard Medical Pre-College Summer Program
Kansas State University- Health Professions Exploration Program
MD Anderson Summer Program in Biomedical Sciences

Art and Interior Design

Explore creative expression and design thinking through immersive Art and Interior Design summer programs that inspire skill-building, innovation, and hands-on learning.

Arizona State University FIDM Summer Camp
Interior Design Summer Workshop
Mississippi State University Design Discovery
Creativity Community Discovery Growth
Savannah College of Art and Design Pre-College Rising Star
Rhode Island School of Design Pre-College Program
The School of the Art Institute of Chicago- Early College Program Summer Institute
North Carolina State- Summer Textile Exploration Program (STEP)
Parsons School of Design Program in PARIS
The Art League School

Pre- Law

Pre-law summer programs offering students an introduction to legal studies, practical skill-building, and firsthand insight into careers in law.

National Student Leadership Conference for Law & Advocacy
Law and Government Summer Discovery
Stephen F. Austin State University High School Pre-Law Academy
Office of the Harris County Attorney
Teen Life Law Summer Programs
Legal Programs and Law Internships for High School Students

Leadership and Enrichment

Opportunities for students to develop leadership skills, discover new passions, and engage in meaningful summer learning experiences.

National Student Leadership Conference for Leadership & Service

Summer Discovery in Leadership
Louisiana Youth Seminar
Breakthrough Houston
Fordham University Summer Leaders Academy
John Carroll University Summer in The Heights
University of Notre Dame Leadership Seminars

Theatre, Humanities and Communications
These summer programs offer students immersive experiences that build creativity, critical thinking, and strong communication skills through hands-on learning and real-world exploration.

Wonderworks Pre-College Summer Programs @ University of Houston and Rice University
National Student Leadership Conference for Theater
Best College Reviews 50 Best Pre-College Summer Arts Programs for High School Students
National Student Leadership Conference for Journalism
College Transition Best Summer Programs for Writing and Journalism
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Hussman School of Journalism and Media
Marist College Summer Pre-College Sports Communication Institute
Oklahoma State University Sports Media Camp
Looking for more programs in Journalism by State
Denison University Summer Tutti Performing Arts Camp
Emerson College Pre-College Studio in Acting and Musical Theatre

Community Service and Volunteer Opportunities
A curated list of summer programs offering meaningful community service and volunteer opportunities for students to give back while gaining valuable experience.

Habitat for Humanity Youth Programs
Projects Abroad: High School Specials
Houston SPCA
Houston Food Bank
Camp Cho-Yeh
Moody Gardens Galveston Island
Camp Blessing

Military Camps
Structured summer programs that provide youth with hands-on military training, leadership development, and team-building experiences.

United States Air Force Summer Seminar
United States Naval Academy Summer Seminar
US Military Academy at West Point- Summer Leaders Experience

Writing

Writing opportunities designed to help students develop their writing skills, explore creative and academic writing, and gain experience in a structured, supportive environment.

Sewanee- The University of the South Young Writers Conference
The Kenyon Review- Young Writers Workshop
Denison University Reynolds Young Writers Workshop
Bard College at Simon's Rock Summer Young Writers Workshop
Looking for more programs in Journalism by State?

Still Looking for more?

Explore additional summer programs to challenge, inspire, and engage students beyond the classroom.

The University of Texas at Austin Camps
Oxford, Cambridge, Paris, Barcelona, New York Summer Programs