



EdVenture Children's Museum's Future Leaders Academy Program Information

Program Description

The Future Leaders Career Academy at Edventure Children's Museum is a 12-week afterschool program designed to engage students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) activities. The Future Leaders program not only encourages students to understand their civic responsibility and the importance of community engagement, but prepares students for the 21st century by encouraging them to pursue a career in STEM-related fields. The program is designed for students in 6th through 8th grades, with opportunities for students in each grade level.

The program for the 2010 winter/spring semester is available to 7th grade students and focuses on building awareness and understanding of environmental science and research through hands-on learning and inquiry-based instruction. While completing research-based experiments, students will build their leadership skills and motivate others to translate an understanding of civic responsibilities into community engagement. In addition, students will interact with EdVenture visitors through the delivery of student-produced activities.

Eligibility

Students are selected through an application process, which is open to any current seventh-grade student in Richland and Lexington Counties with a strong interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. This semester, the Future Leaders Career Academy will be available at **no cost** to accepted students.

Students are **required** to participate in Edventure Children's Museum's [Museum Apprentice Program \(MAPs\)](#) for a minimum of 5 hours per month from June 2010 through August 2010 (15 hours total). Students and parents are also required to attend required meetings to emphasize the importance of parent engagement within the program.

Program Logistics

The 1st session of the Future Leaders Career Ladder will meet at Edventure Children's Museum on Tuesday's from **March 2, 2010 to May 18, 2010 (excluding school holidays) 5:30-6:30pm.**

Transportation

The parent or guardian must provide transportation to and from Edventure Children's Museum to participate in the program. EdVenture Children's Museum does not provide transportation.

Application Process

Students are selected based on the following criteria:

- Completed application
- 2 letters of recommendation – 1 personal/community (not a parent), 1 school faculty/staff
- Completed essay questions
- Brief Interview (parent/ guardian required to attend)

Application, 2 letters of recommendations and essay questions must be submitted together with a cover page including name, school, and contact information (phone and e-mail address).

Applications should be submitted via fax or email:

Fax: 803-779-3144, Attn: Carla Edmunds

Email: cedmunds@edventure.org

They may also be dropped off at the museum's Welcome Center (Attn: Carla Edmunds)

Based on admissions criteria, students will be contacted by phone if selected for an interview. 45 students will be contacted for an interview. Students that are not granted an interview will be sent a letter of notification. Please note that students not accepted this semester will be eligible next semester. EdVenture will also maintain a waiting list of students in the event that a student who is offered a position chooses not to accept.

Selection Committee

A committee of EdVenture Children's Museum education staff will score applications and essay responses based on a rubric.

Application Schedule

Application Deadline (application, 2 letters of recommendations, 1 peer recommendation, essay responses)	February 12, 2010
Contact for interviews	February 16, 2010
Interviews completed	February 23, 2010
Award letters mailed	February 26, 2010

Applications can be downloaded at on [EdVenture's website](#).