



DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION

Division of Learning Services 2022-2024 Arkansas Governor's School (AGS) Site Selection Proposal

Submission Guidelines:

1. Save a copy of this proposal as a Google Doc named "AGS 2022-2024 Proposal <Institution Name>." Adjust the share settings to add Krystal.Nail@arkansas.gov as a viewer. The proposal will be saved and shared with the site selection committee.
2. Respond to all prompts in the white spaces provided. Refer to parenthetical citations of [Rules Governing Arkansas Governor's School Site Selection](#) for additional information about specific requirements.
3. Email a link to the completed proposal to Krystal.Nail@arkansas.gov by **March 26, 2021**. Title the subject of the email "AGS 2022-2024 Proposal (Institution Name)."
4. Proposals will be reviewed by a committee as defined in Rules Governing Arkansas Governor's School Site Selection. The committee members will utilize [this rubric](#) to assist them in collecting information to inform their votes for the host site.

Institution Name:	Arkansas Tech University
Contact Person:	Jeff Woods
Position of Contact Person:	Professor of History and AGS Academic Director
Email:	jwoods@atu.edu
Phone Number:	501-428-4997
Link to President's Letter Supporting the Application:	AGS 2022-2024 President's Letter Arkansas Tech University

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

General Information Regarding AGS

The Governor's School is a four or six week residential summer program for approximately 400 rising high school seniors in Arkansas (3.01).

The Governor's School is under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education and the State Department of Education and falls under the immediate supervision of the Administrator of Programs for the Gifted and Talented, State Department of Education (1.03). A director will be named to oversee the operation and management for the duration of the school. The director will be a staff member of the college or university chosen as the site of the Governor's School (3.02).

PURPOSE OF THE GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL

The intent of the Governor's School is to give selected students a challenging opportunity to experience concepts and theories for the interpretation of facts. The emphasis of the school will be placed on conceptual or abstract intelligence in contrast with the practical or concrete intelligence. The program will offer students the opportunity to develop and/or expand their power to abstract, to conceptualize, to theorize, and explore the latest progress and problems of various fields of the arts and the sciences. Because this emphasis is not a frequent component of the regular high school curriculum, it provides the foundation, rationale, and support for the Arkansas Governor's School. The curriculum is not intended to be an acceleration of high school nor the anticipation of college curricula (4.00).

Rules Governing Arkansas Governor's School Site Selection

Proposals must be in accordance with the [Rules Governing Arkansas Governor's School Site Selection](#). Rules are cited within each section.

SITE SELECTION PROPOSAL CRITERIA

A. Program Director (3.02, 13.08)

The director will be a staff member of the college or university chosen as the site of the Governor's School. The director will oversee the operation and management for the duration of the school (3.02). Provide the following information for the proposed program director (13.08).

Name: Robin Lasey

Title: Associate Professor of Chemistry

Email Address: rlasey@atu.edu

Phone Number: 479-968-0391

Link to Vita: <https://www.atu.edu/ags/docs/CV.pdf>

Background, Vision, Leadership: Dr. Lasey has served as the director of Arkansas Governor's School since 2019. She oversaw the program's first transition to a new host institution and its first fully online session during the COVID 19 pandemic. She has also served as the founder, board member, and camp director of the Community Science Network. The Community Science Network operates a week-long day camp for elementary/middle school students and has grown to over 200 students each summer. At ATU, in addition to her teaching duties, she serves as the Director for the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning.

Dr. Lasey is committed to the core ideals of AGS based in conceptual, personal and social development. She is open to new approaches and alternative delivery methods while remaining committed to AGS as a residential program. Students thrive in AGS's open and challenging environment where they engage in critical thinking and Socratic discourse outside of their regular high school setting. They also share special bonds with faculty, staff, and each other and form the core of the remarkably intelligent, caring, diverse, and compassionate community of people that is AGS. Dr. Lasey is also committed to ensuring equal opportunity for all students. She will strive to increase representation from all areas of the state.

B. Proposed Dates (3.03, 13.01, 13.08)

The campus must be available for a four or six week period (3.03, 13.01, 13.08). A four week program will run four consecutive weeks (28 calendar days), without a break. A six week program will run six consecutive weeks (42 calendar days), with a four day break in the middle of the program (3.03). Include the dates the campus will host Governor's School during the summers of 2022, 2023, and 2024 and a written plan guaranteeing no other campus activity or its participants will interfere with any Governor's School activity or student (13.01).

Summer 2022 Dates: July 5 – August 1

Summer 2023 Tentative Dates: July 5 – August 1

Summer 2024 Tentative Dates: July 7 – August 3

Written plan guaranteeing no other campus activity or its participants will interfere with any Arkansas Governor's School student activity or student:

Arkansas Tech University is committed to ensuring that no other campus activities will interfere with the activities of the Governor's School. Although summer camps also take place on campus, the Office of Campus and Conferences will schedule any camps or conference around the Arkansas Governor's School activities. The needs of the Arkansas Governor's School students will also take precedence in regards to food services, lodging, academic and recreational facilities, and health services.

C. Curriculum (4.04, 5.00, 9.00)

The curriculum of the school will be designed in accordance with 4.01-4.04, 5.01-5.07, and 9.00 of Site Selection Rules.

The curriculum is not intended to be an acceleration of high school nor the anticipation of college curricula (4.04).

The curriculum will be designed to (1) focus on contemporary and futuristic topics and issues, and (2) provoke curiosity and inquiry from the students (5.01).

Investigation into current thought will be accomplished through suggested readings, lectures, individual studies, and small group discussions. In addition, great lectures, concerts, dramatic productions, exhibits, forums, films, and events in the school site community will expose students to contemporary culture (5.02).

The curriculum for the school will be divided into three areas of study and will maintain continuity through concerted efforts of all staff persons (5.03).

No credit or grades are given. Work at the Governor's School will supplement, not supplant the general high school curriculum (9.00).

Area I - Academic and Arts Areas will include those fields of special talent whereby the student was chosen to attend Governor's School. Visual Art, Choral Music, Drama, Instrumental Music, English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Natural Science, Social Science, Computer Science, and a Speciality Area if desired. The specialty area is for individual institutions applying for site selection to be able to offer an additional course unique to that institution and its resources (5.04). Materials will be chosen to acquaint students with the latest advances in each of these specialized fields (5.05).

Specific topics in each area will vary dependent upon the faculty selected for each AGS session. Share a general curriculum plan for the nine required fields. If desired, describe the general curriculum plan for an additional specialty area.

It is the goal of Arkansas Tech University to provide students with a contemporary, curriculum in the three traditional AGS areas of (1) Academics and Arts, (2) General Conceptual Development, and (3) Personal and Social Development. The three areas will also be connected by a conceptual thread that will link the various aspects of study. The conceptual thread for this cycle will focus on theories of community and how communities develop and thrive. Classroom activities will be collaborative and project-based, with students exploring the contemporary technological, economic, political and ethical issues related to community formation and growth in addition to the regular curriculum.

Area I focuses on contemporary and future theories and interpretations in specific areas of student talent.

Choral Music

The Choral Music curriculum will focus on how music brings people together and fosters community in the modern world. Vocalists will have the opportunity to



perform and study music from classic and contemporary repertoires. Students will also learn to use cutting-edge software to develop compositional and recording techniques, cultivating their future artistic endeavors. Choral music will examine how music informs individual and collective identity, and students will collaborate with instrumental music,

drama, ELA and other areas to explore creative efforts across disciplines.

Drama

Drama is one of our oldest art forms, yet it continually evolves in order to meet the needs of our changing society. Students will learn to analyze and create dramatic



works that speak to the audiences of today. They will learn about dramatic principles through the analysis of 21st Century dramatic texts, through the practice of performance skills, and through the writing of scripts. This course will touch on a variety of skills relevant to today's theatre-makers including acting, directing, playwriting, and design. Students will also have the

opportunity to produce community performance pieces using film, audio, improvisation, and old-school circus skills such as clowning and puppetry.

English/Language Arts

English / Language Arts will offer students opportunities to explore the art of rhetoric as writers and readers of classic literature, and as consumers of film and digital communication. Students will balance reading and discussing published works with composing their own writing in order to make their voices heard.

Students will examine and compose in traditional genres such as poetry, short fiction, and creative nonfiction. They will also explore creative writing and social media as a means of reflecting and building community identity.

Instrumental Music

The Instrumental Music curriculum will focus on connecting people through music and sound. Instrumentalists will have the opportunity to perform and record music, and to learn how to mix and manipulate dynamic soundscapes for live performances. They will also study music from a wide variety of style periods and genres. Additionally, students will focus on interdisciplinary collaboration, not just with other artists but with mathematicians and students in the natural and social sciences as well.



Mathematics

In Mathematics, students will explore contemporary mathematical ideas and applications in a variety of areas such as biological science, cryptography,



aerospace engineering, and complex numbers. Students will consider the theoretical and philosophical implications of mathematical science and math's fundamental contribution to solving current social problems such as pandemics, food deserts, and renewable energy. They will also be exposed to the aesthetics of math through the study of things like Julia

sets, Mandelbrot sets, conformal maps, and the Koch Snowflake.

Natural Sciences

In Natural Science, students will study a wide range of recent breakthroughs in the natural sciences. They will conduct experiments and have opportunities for hands-on field work in



areas such as physics, chemistry, geology, genetics, medicine, wildlife management, and others. They will be exposed to the core principles of the scientific method through lessons in pseudoscience, relativity and dark matter, mineral resources in Arkansas, bioinformatics, DNA, Molecular Phylogenetics, and other areas. Finally, students will discuss the ethical and social implications of the latest technological breakthroughs in the sciences that impact community health and the

environment.

Social Sciences

Students in the social sciences will examine the latest breakthroughs in fields of study such as anthropology, sociology, psychology, political science, history, law and others. They will learn how the long and broad arcs of social development have affected the way people communicate, culturally evolve, and resolve conflict. Lessons will include study of cultural symbols, race, class and gender issues, human settlement, legal procedure etc. They will also incorporate discussions of how social science, through access to modern digital data resources, is contributing to and changing the idea of community. Social science students will continue their collaborations with the Clinton Library and Archives as well.

Visual Arts

The Visual Arts program of the Arkansas Governor's School will give students an opportunity to inform and expand their creative vision while providing exposure to



classic as well as contemporary digital mediums. The program will explore the power of art to transform communities. This will include the development of community and public art projects for a new AGS permanent collection. Students will participate in discussion, critique and critical examination of their work, the work of their peers and the art world in the larger historical and cultural

context.

Specialty Program – Development Engineering

Development Engineering has also been referred to as “humanitarian engineering” or “engineering for change.” It focuses on creating technology for developing communities with resource needs. In this class, students will identify a community at need and pursue engineering projects to help them fill those needs. For example, students might develop small houses from recycled materials for communities recovering from hurricanes or solar generators to power classroom computers for communities not connected to a power grid.

Area II - General Conceptual Development will focus on thinking; on the ways we think; the assumptions that underlie our own thinking and the thinking that takes place within the various disciplines, on the twentieth century developments that have influenced our thinking about truth and knowledge and on means of thinking more effectively (5.06). Share a general curriculum plan for Area II.

Area II applies broad conceptual and critical thinking to understanding complex philosophical and social issues. Area II curriculum focuses on individual rationality and critical thinking in relation to others. High school students use global networking technology such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Snapchat on a daily basis. Inquiry into social networks and their broad, humanistic implications are directly relevant to them as they navigate an increasingly global and interconnected world.

In keeping with long AGS tradition, students will be introduced to enduring philosophical readings (e.g., “The Allegory of the Cave”) as well as literary and socio-cultural critiques (e.g., “The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas”, “Lifeboat Ethics”). Through these lessons,

students will engage in probing thought exercises to analyze their perceptions of reality. Area II will also be the space for addressing community issues through philosophical discourse. Students will work to formulate a healthy discourse with their peers, and identify fallacies which hinder communication in their modern world. In addition, they will observe and interact with peers in open discussion about the growing disparities of access to knowledge and communication. Instruction begins with introducing students to the concept of their own philosophical worldview, and then facilitating the promotion of better communication and interpersonal relationships.

By the end of the Area II course, students will develop a deeper, more critical understanding of community. In thinking about human networks and the various layers of interconnection in a new way, students will gain in skill and confidence as they address the philosophical issues impacting their lives.

Area III - Personal and Social Development will be designed to foster the personal and social development necessary for the students to fully benefit from their Area I and Area II classes and the comprehensive cultural and social events of the AGS program (5.07). Share a general curriculum plan for Area III.

Area III is designed to foster the personal and social development necessary for students to benefit fully from their Area I and Area II classes along with the cultural and social events of the Arkansas Governor's School. Focusing on application and real world issues, students are encouraged to reflect and discuss their experiences by placing these experiences in broader social and political contexts. Students also will be encouraged to apply the experiences and the knowledge they acquire as part of Arkansas Governor's School to become active and engaged citizens of their communities, their state, and the nation.

Classroom activities will include critical thinking exercises, personality assessments, and group discussions centered on real-world challenges. For example, Area III curriculum will include exercises meant to help students understand the meaning of "community" and how communities form, grow, change, and persist. Students will be given exercises meant to help them to identify social issues in their communities and to engage in civil discourse/communication about those issues. Students will be given opportunities to develop their ability to listen to multiple viewpoints and to empathize with others, even those that may have opinions that differ from their own. Students will be encouraged to brainstorm on a variety of issues they may find in their community, where discussions will be framed in a context that affords students the opportunity to understand the long-term intended and/or unintended consequences of such problems and proposed solutions for themselves and others. Students also will have opportunities to develop projects that engage their community, learning how to identify and use resources to raise awareness in the process. Finally, students will learn more about how technology now plays a role in social and political discourse to unite or divide various constituencies, as well as how to build coalitions and public support for or against a variety of issues.

Note that students will be provided not only coursework but also films, discussion groups, volunteer opportunities/civic engagement, and guest speakers meant to impart a grounded approach to problems and foster a sense of personal responsibility and responsibility to others. Through topical, hands-on thinking, engagement, and curiosity, students will explore the challenges and benefits of modern society. Students will learn how to engage in civil discourse and rational debate, how to responsibly navigate complex and controversial societal problems, and how to grow their own

character, mental resilience, and compassion toward others. For example, students will be provided opportunities to actually work on problems specific to their communities, while at the same time developing their own leadership potential. In effect, students will achieve a better understanding of who they are and how their lives intersect with others through the lens of social, economic, and political issues. As the best and brightest in Arkansas, these merging adults will soon take their place as the future leaders of the state, the nation, and the world. Area III aims to prepare these future leaders and citizens with the knowledge and the drive to better understand themselves and their world — and change both for the better.

Share general plans for **comprehensive cultural and social events** (great lectures, concerts, dramatic productions, exhibits, forums, films, events, etc.) (5.02, 5.07).

AGS at ATU will continue providing cultural and social events that integrate and expand on learning in the three core curriculum areas. We will have an impact speaker and an impact movie every week. Impact speakers are recognized figures in their fields who speak to students about current ideas and events. Integrating the community theme, we might, for example, invite Sherry Turkle, an MIT professor who writes about life on the computer screen and how technology is changing the way we communicate and form community. Impact movies will range in subject each year but will touch on our integrated theme. For example, we could show *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* as a starting place for discussion on concepts of community in impoverished areas. We will also offer daily “410/610” lectures/workshops for students. Typically, students can choose between four to eight of these sessions held concurrently in two time slots each evening. Topics range in content from “Financial Planning,” to “When Will Humans Inhabit Other Planets” to “How to do Paper Marbling” to “A History of Boy Bands.” All AGS faculty give at least one 410/610 each, and we bring in special guests who talk about their experiences as authors, doctors, lawyers, musicians, etc. Additionally, AGS students take field trips each week. We plan to continue our wonderful relationships with the Arkansas Shakespeare Theater, Crystal Bridges, the Clinton Library, Mainstreet Russellville, the Russellville School District and others who help facilitate these trips. Finally, we will organize social events to help build a new AGS community of students each year. We have resident hall competitions, dances, fun runs, concerts, talent shows, etc. every week.

Share general plans for **events in the school site community** (5.02, 5.07) (e.g. Opening Ceremony, Educators’ Day, Legislators’ Day, Ask the Governor, Family Day, Alumni Day, Closing Ceremony).

AGS at ATU will continue to build on the program’s amazing relationships with Arkansas educators, legislators, alumni, and families of AGS students. AGS at ATU has opening and closing ceremonies for students and families that highlight the AGS experience. The opening events orient families to AGS and help set parent and student expectations. The closing events are coupled with student project fairs and arts reviews so parents can see what the students have been up to for the month. We also host an educator’s day. On educator’s day, students invite an educator who has made a difference in their life to come to campus and tour AGS. This is coupled with a workshop for school counselors to inform them about the AGS application process and their role in facilitating the students’ applications. In addition, we hold a legislator’s day in which Arkansas legislators are invited to campus to learn about AGS and engage in open discussions with AGS students. We have an alumni day as well. AGS alumni are invited to campus to reminisce, learn about the latest at AGS, and meet students and faculty. We also have an alumni speaker each year who is a distinguished AGS alumnus that speaks about program’s impact on her/him.

Finally, a highlight of the Governor's school each year involves a visit by the current governor of Arkansas. The governor speaks about the impact that the best and brightest can have on the state and answers questions submitted directly by AGS students.

D. Office Operations (13.08)

Describe staff, facilities, and services that will be utilized for a minimum of part-time office operations (13.08). (e.g. maintaining a year-round Governor's School identity, recruiting students and faculty for AGS, hosting an online student application system, and delivering data to the DESE)

Staff: Year-round administrative staff for AGS will include a director, academic director, Area II coordinator, Area III coordinator, and office assistant. The director oversees all administrative processes, including budgeting, faculty and staff training, and support services. The director and academic director act as primary recruiters of students and faculty for AGS and collaborate on assessment reports for DESE. The academic director, Area II and III coordinators aid in curriculum development and faculty training. Day to day communication and coordination of applications, selection processes, and budget requisitions are facilitated by an office assistant.

Facilities: AGS will be run out of offices in McEver Hall. During the session, AGS will also have a central office in Bazwell Techionery in the middle of the ATU campus. Copying and printing equipment, phones, computers, and other office supplies will be provided by ATU at no cost to the grant.

Services: ATU provides significant resources to AGS operations beyond grant funded operations. The Office of Information Systems has created and will continue to maintain an online application system for AGS as well as provide general support services. Additional support, including classroom facilities and maintenance, course releases, equipment, and office supplies is provided by the Office of Academic Affairs. The Student Services Office provides security, health resources and recreational resources to AGS as well. Moreover, the ATU Marketing and Communications Department maintains the Arkansas Governor's School website, video production, and advertising. The total ATU contribution to AGS amounts to tens of thousands of dollars each year. ATU is proud of this contribution to AGS and hopes to continue its contribution into the future. An AGS at ATU committee which includes representatives from ATU's offices of academic affairs, housing, student services, campus safety, health services, information technology, human resources, budget and others helps facilitate and coordinate AGS needs on campus.

E. Staff Development (11.00, 13.08)

Describe the faculty/staff development activities planned for all faculty/staff members (13.08). (e.g. philosophy and intent of AGS, characteristics and needs of gifted students, curriculum and teaching strategies for high ability learners, curriculum planning and collaboration, AGS procedures, and expectations of AGS faculty, students, and staff)

*A representative of the Department will participate in faculty/staff training activities (11.00).

An online pre-orientation for staff will be delivered online and in face to face meetings before the beginning of each summer session. Non-academic staff including resident assistants are required to complete lessons on "The Purpose of AGS," "The AGS Handbook," "Housing Rules," "Health and Safety," "Human Resources Requirements," "Mandatory Reporting," "Sexual Harassment," and "Motivating Students." Faculty complete training in two workshops prior to the AGS session. The

workshops cover the same areas covered for non-academic staff as well as “AGS Curriculum Development” and “Working with Gifted Students.”

F. Food Services (13.02, 13.08, 14.03)

Describe the plan to provide food services. This must include food services for 400 students (including three meals a day, seven days a week for the duration of the school). Food services may also include guests, faculty, staff, and special meals (13.02, 13.08, 14.03).

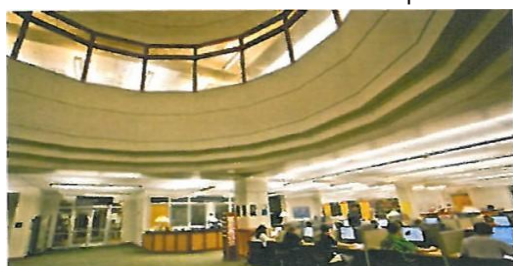
The Chambers Dining Hall is open Monday — Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and on Saturdays and Sundays from 11:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. However, Chambers will open earlier on the weekend in order to accommodate the AGS students. Chambers can be utilized by all Arkansas Governor’s School students for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The facility can accommodate 900 students at once; there are 11 preparation and serving stations. The facility also houses multiple private dining spaces for special events and special meals.

G. Library (13.04, 13.08)

Describe how the institution plans to employ librarians and library assistants as needed to provide adequate services and make its total library collection available for the duration of the school (13.04, 13.08).

The Ross Pendergraft Library and Technology Center is open Monday through Thursday 8:00AM to 8:00PM, Friday 8:00AM to 12:00PM, Saturday 10:00AM to 6:00PM and Sunday 1:00PM to 6:00PM. The library can be utilized by all Arkansas Governor’s School students, faculty, and staff. Additional funds will be allocated to the library by ATU if it is determined that there is a need for the facility to maintain additional hours of operation.

Students will have access on campus to the library’s electronic collections, including databases, ebooks, streaming videos, and electronic journals. They will also have limited borrowing privileges for the library’s physical collections, which include over 159,000 books in the open stacks, along with smaller, specialized collections for reference, musical scores, youth, young adult fiction, and popular reading. AGS students will also be able to borrow from the library’s collection of headphones, web cameras, calculators, dry-erase boards, music CDs, audiobooks, and board games. AGS faculty and staff will also have the same borrowing privileges as students, along with additional access to the library’s extensive DVD collection of educational documentaries, feature-length films, television series, recorded performances, and impact movies when available.



The Ross Pendergraft Library and Technology Center includes study rooms, classroom spaces, an audio recording studio, a lactation room, a Music Lab, and several computer labs featuring over 179 computers, 8 iMacs, as well as printers, scanners, photocopiers, and a fax machine. The library employs seven professional full-time librarians, eight full-time paraprofessional staff, and numerous part-time and student workers who are available to provide knowledgeable and friendly assistance to all students, faculty, and staff at Arkansas Governor’s School. Students and faculty will be able to

request research assistance from any of the professional librarians through chat, email, text, phone, or by visiting any one of the service desks for the duration of the program.

H. Dormitories (13.03, 13.08)

Provide details regarding the separate air-conditioned dormitory spaces being made available for male and female students plus appropriate space for dormitory counselors and faculty (13.03, 13.08).

All halls and apartments are completely furnished and air conditioned and utilities are included. Other amenities include cable television, and wired and wireless internet in each room. Two separate dormitories will be utilized — one for females, one for males. Nutt Hall is a five-story residence hall that can hold approximately 330 residents. The hall has 122 double rooms that can be utilized by the AGS students. Suite-style bathrooms are available for residents. M Street Hall is a five-story residence hall that houses 290 students at Arkansas Tech. The hall offers 135 double rooms that can be utilized by AGS students. Residents are able to enjoy semi-private bathrooms. Each residence hall will be staffed with one Resident Director, one Assistant Resident Director, and 9-15 Resident Assistants depending on student numbers. We maintain a ratio of at least one residential staff member for every 20 students.



I. General Facilities (13.05, 13.08)

Describe the facilities being provided and made available by the institution during Governor's School including classrooms, laboratories, art and music studios, an auditorium, a theater, offices and other instructional and administrative facilities (13.05, 13.08).

Classrooms: ATU has more than 12,000 feet of classroom and lab space. All spaces are internet connected and offer updated digital audio and video projection capabilities.

Laboratories: ATU has wide range of specialized engineering labs, computer labs, agricultural labs, science labs, and financial trading labs.



Studios (art and music): ATU also has a wide range of traditional and digital art studios, small theatres, and a museum.



Theater/Auditorium: AGS at ATU makes extensive use of Witherspoon Auditorium which holds over 500 audience members and is appropriate for music, theater, movies and other events.



Additional Spaces: ATU has several very large green spaces that include hammock groves, volleyball pits, and basketball courts.



J. Recreational Facilities (7.00, 13.06, 13.08)

A well-rounded program of athletic activities will be planned as a part of the total school program. Participation will be on a volunteer basis (7.00).

Provide a description of recreational facilities (tennis courts, gymnasium, playing fields, etc.) that will be made available to students (13.06, 13.08). Outline planned recreational activities (7.00).

Recreational Facilities available to Governor's School students:

Intramural fields are host to the majority of outdoor intramural activity, including flag football, soccer, and softball. The fields feature professional lighting, a storage area, and restroom facilities.

The Health and Physical Education Complex houses a variety of programs and facilities available to AGS for recreational pursuits. Four racquetball courts are located in the Hull Physical Education Building along with two gymnasiums, twelve badminton courts, three basketball courts, nine volleyball courts, and three tennis courts marked on the two gymnasium floors.



A new multi-sports complex with an indoor practice space for the intercollegiate baseball, softball, tennis, and men's golf and women's golf programs; locker room space, a training room, and a conference room are also included.

The Chartwells Women's Sports Complex includes a softball field and eight tennis courts, a team room, a locker room for each team, and a training room.

The Tech Fit Center houses the Universal Aerobic Super Circuit, an original aerobic/weight training program. The Super Circuit consists of a seated chest press, a seated row, a shoulder press, a lat pull-down, a biceps curl, a leg curl, a leg extension, a back extension, an abdominal crunch, and a triceps press. There is an assortment of dumbbells for weight training needs, a 1/20 of a mile track, and aerobic equipment to include stair steppers, bicycles, and treadmills. The Tech Fit Center is available for use by all AGS participants.



Planned Recreational Activities: Several recreational activities are planned for AGS including 5K runs, residential floor competition field days, sports tournaments, dancing, yoga, and more. Every year, AGS also develops clubs based on student and faculty interest. The clubs host activities that range in focus from martial arts to board games etc.

K. Maintenance and Security (13.06, 13.08)

Explain the plan for maintenance (including custodians) and security (13.06, 13.08).

Arkansas Tech University Facilities Management oversees building repairs, custodial services, issuing keys, landscaping and university transportation. The Building Maintenance Department of Facilities Management is responsible for electrical, carpentry, heating and air conditioning, plumbing and paint crews. These crews perform routine maintenance and repairs to all educational and general buildings.

The Arkansas Tech University Department of Public Safety provides safety and security 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The Department of Public Safety employs full-time certified law enforcement officers with the same authority as any state, county, or local law Department of Public Safety enforcement agency. Public Safety also includes the Office of Emergency Management, Parking, and Security Services. Public safety is



responsible for emergency planning and preparedness, emergency notifications, maintenance of parking lots, and enforcement of all traffic, state, and university rules and regulations; they also offer multiple services, including a nighttime safety transport service and awareness programs. All reported crimes are investigated by the Department of Public Safety.

L. Health Services (13.08)

Describe the health services being made available to participants (13.08). (Mental and physical health should be addressed. Include procedures for monitoring and follow up when students present health related concerns.)

The Arkansas Tech University Health and Wellness Center is open during regular University operating hours, which is typically from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday — Friday. Services are not available on the weekend. The Health and Wellness Center will offer health services to participants in Arkansas Governor's School. Students must complete the health form and return it with a parent's signature prior to obtaining treatment in the Health Center. Students may receive over the counter medication from the nurse and obtain a prescription from the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse with the parents' permission. If prescriptions are warranted, the parent or guardian will be notified via the telephone. It is the responsibility of the AGS director to ensure that the students get their medication and that it is administered as prescribed. The Health and Wellness Center will not distribute chronic home medications to students. It will be the responsibility of the director to ensure that home medications are stored properly and distributed.



The clinic offers the following services: treatment of minor illnesses and injuries; allergy shots ordered by private physician; blood pressure monitoring; loan of crutches, wheelchair, heating pads; prescriptions (to be filled off campus); wellness outreach and education; laboratory tests as needed for medical treatment. The staff of the Health and Wellness Center includes two nurse practitioners, two registered nurses, a collaborating physician, and administrative support. There is a hospital, St. Mary's Regional Medical Center, within 2 miles of the campus, which offers emergency Health and Wellness Center services.

M. Student Rules of Conduct (13.08)

Include the detailed rules of conduct (13.08). (Disciplinary procedures should be included.)

Conduct rules for students are outlined in the AGS handbook excerpted below. The handbook is updated yearly to adjust for changing program delivery conditions (ex. For COVID 19). Additional rules and procedures for all students and faculty on the ATU campus are covered under the ATU student and faculty handbooks:

<https://www.atu.edu/academics/facultyhandbook.php>

<https://www.atu.edu/studenthandbook/StudentHandbook-2020FinalWeb-v2.pdf>.

2020 AGS General Information

You are about to embark on the experience of a lifetime. Arkansas Governor's School is a four-week residential summer program for

approximately 400 gifted and talented rising high school seniors in Arkansas. Living in the residence hall will mean becoming part of a close-knit community of people, to share the opportunities and experiences.

The purpose of the Governor's School is to give students who will be future leaders in the state and nation a challenging opportunity to experience 20th and 21st century theories for the interpretation of the facts. The goal of the curriculum is to provide students with a contemporary, technology-based curriculum in the three areas of (1) Academics and Arts, (2) General Conceptual Development, and (3) Personal and Social Development. The three areas are connected with a theme of Technology: Past, Present, and Future. The available courses will focus on exploring how technology has shaped our society's development and explore possible future developments. The benefits of technology will be discussed along with the challenges and ethical dilemmas. Classroom activities will be collaborative and project-based, having students put the information into the broader social and political contexts.

Our program embraces the idea that learning is not a passive experience. Our expectations are that you will embrace our challenge of excellence and accept the responsibility for your own learning by coming to this program with the determination to do your best. We also expect you to help us maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning and personal growth. This requires you, as an AGS participant, to take on some of the responsibilities that will ensure that this summer is productive. This booklet contains details about program activities and policies for students and staff to follow.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

As a participant in the Arkansas Governor's School, there are certain rights that you as a student possess. Likewise, students also have responsibilities. Our expectations are outlined below.

Student Rights:

- The opportunity to pursue an education
- A safe and secure environment
- Freedom of speech and expression
- Protection from unreasonable search and seizure
- A reasonable degree of privacy
- Freedom of religion and culture
- Freedom from discrimination
- Right to due process and to participate on a student appeals panel
- Freedom from unreasonable noise and intrusions

Student Responsibilities:

- To actively pursue an education
- Recognize the right of the university to maintain the health, safety, and welfare of the students
- Respect others' freedom of expression
- Practice self-discipline and respect while expressing yourself
- Respect the rights of others
- Attend program activities punctually and alertly
- Comply with reasonable requests made by staff
- Contribute positively to the community



Specific Rules of Conduct

The following rules govern and partly define the AGS community. Please be sure that you fully understand them in letter and spirit. Students will be granted “due process in resolution of conflicts. Each case will be handled individually, and parents or guardians will be informed of all disciplinary action.

- **Hazing in any form is prohibited and will be reported. This result in immediate dismissal from the AGS program.** Hazing can be defined as any action or situation, with or without consent of the participants, which recklessly, intentionally or unintentionally endangers the mental, physical or academic health or safety of a student.

- **Any form of sexual misconduct, which includes sexual assault and sexual harassment, is prohibited and will lead to automatic dismissal from the AGS program.** Sexual misconduct is any unwelcome sexual behavior that is committed without consent or by force, intimidation, coercion, or manipulation. Sexual misconduct can be committed by a person of any gender, and it can occur between people of the same or different gender.
- **Any form of retaliation is prohibited and will lead to automatic dismissal from the AGS program.** Retaliation means any adverse action threatened or taken against a person because he or she has filed, supported, or provided information in connection with a complaint of hazing or sexual misconduct.

Respect everyone as an extension of yourself. The definition of respect is to treat individuals with dutiful regard, and to acknowledge the rights and responsibilities of a person – as an individual, or as an authority figure. Respect includes the following:

- Valuing the property of others.
- Placing value on a person as a unique individual.
- Showing consideration for everyone.
- Avoiding intrusion upon or interfering with another person's purpose.
- No student will be allowed to act in such a way that infringes upon the rights, privileges, health, or safety of other persons.
- Physical or verbal assault while participating in or attending functions sponsored by the AGS Program is prohibited.
- No student is permitted to use or possess alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, tobacco products, vapors, or prescription drugs not approved by the AGS office. Parents will be notified and violators will be sent home immediately.
- Possession of any potentially destructive weapons such as guns, knives, etc., is prohibited.
- Students are to conduct themselves in an orderly manner. This includes refraining from excessive and unnecessary noisiness (loud talking, yelling, and laughing, etc.). Rude, discourteous behavior or using profanity toward staff persons or other students will not be permitted.
- *Activities or actions that promote or suggest sexual intimacy will not be permitted. The AGS staff will judge students' behavior and deal with it accordingly. As an AGS participant, you are requested to immediately discontinue any actions that a staff member or counselor sees as offensive or out of order. Disciplinary actions will be taken after the second warning.*

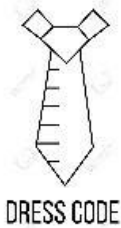
- *Students may not bring or use bicycles, skateboards, roller-skates, or rollerblades on campus.*
- Students are expected to attend all AGS functions unless otherwise excused by AGS staff.
- Students are not allowed in areas deemed “off-campus” without authorization. Students are expected to stay on campus for the entire length of the summer program. Only facilities authorized for use by AGS are considered “on-campus”.
- Gambling on campus property or on program-sponsored activities is forbidden.
- No student shall take or attempt to take or keep items belonging to the University, AGS, or any of its participants or guests.
- Any damage to University property will be paid for by the student or his/her parents.
- Computer/internet usage: Harassment of others and time-consuming recreational computer/internet use (Facebook, Twitter, Snap Chat, and other social media) at inappropriate times is not permitted. This involves the following, but is not limited to: sending unwanted or obscene pictures, messages or files, interfering with the work of another person, sending abusive or obscene messages, using computers and printers to generate offensive media (examples: flyers, posters, e-mail, instant messages, etc...). Illegal downloading of music, programs, movies, etc. while on campus is strictly prohibited.
- Participation in ANY ILLEGAL activities (on or off-campus) including, but not limited to, use of tobacco products on campus, the use or the intended use of a weapon, use or possession of illegal substance, or violent behavior which threatens the safety of any person will automatically result in program dismissal.

If any of these rules are broken, the student will face disciplinary action and may immediately be dismissed from the AGS program.



Important Information

Dress Code – We ask that you use discretion in the way you dress and we expect modesty when dressing for the summer program. Inappropriate clothing may include, but is not limited to: short-shorts, boxer shorts, pajama pants, bare midriffs, halter tops, spaghetti straps, strapless tops, or t-shirts with offensive or unsuitable text/graphics. You may be asked to change, by your counselor or a staff member, if your clothing is deemed to be inappropriate. Some of our recreation activities, such as paint war and water war, require you to get a little messy. Be sure and pack a pair of old clothes that can withstand a little stain. Some other items you may want to pack for recreation activities are gym shoes, shorts, and t-shirts.



DRESS CODE

Rooms – Resident hall rooms are shared by three students. Each resident is provided with 1 loft extra-long twin bed, closet area, desk, desk chair, and chest of drawers. You must provide your own sheets, pillows, and blanket for a twin-XL size bed.

Meals – Meals are provided at Chambers Cafeteria. Your AGS ID card will be used to access the cafeteria. You will be able to choose from a variety of meal selections that adhere to the USDA summer food program to assure nutritionally balanced meals. Students are free to pack snacks to keep in residence hall rooms.

Clothing – Pack comfortable, casual clothes. You should expect the weather to be variable so please be prepared. AGS students will have access to laundry facilities. Please bring your own hangers.

Toiletries – Toiletries will not be provided so please make arrangements for your own personal hygiene products, bath towels and washcloths.

Laundry – Students are responsible for their own laundry. Laundry facilities are available in each residence hall. Students will need to bring their own laundry soap.

Miscellaneous – Students may bring laptop computers, cell phones, and other electronic devices. Please keep in mind that AGS is not responsible for damages to or loss of these items.

Do not bring cooking appliances, weightlifting equipment, skateboards, bikes, roller blades, scooters, pocketknives, firearms, fireworks, alcohol, tobacco products, or any illegal substance.

Attendance – Each student is required to attend classes, programs, special events, and all other activities offered by AGS. If for any reason a student does not attend a class or scheduled activity, his/her name will be forwarded to the program director. Lack of class attendance will lead to disciplinary action and possible dismissal from the program.

Tardiness – All students are expected to be on time for all classes and events. Any student who is consistently late will be referred to the program director.

Cell phones/portable media players – Cell phones and portable media players are allowed at AGS. Cell phones are to be used during the academic day only with careful consideration, and should not be used when they interfere with program activities. Students should not use phones to text or get on the internet during class time, community meetings, or when the director or staff has asked for them to be turned off. Any violation of this rule could result in confiscation and a referral to the program director.

Classroom disruption – Disruption of classroom activities will not be tolerated. All incidents will be reported to the AGS program director.



Health services – Medical services will be available to all AGS students at the Health and Wellness Center on campus. The Health and Wellness Center is located in Doc Bryan Student Services Center Suite 119 across from the lecture hall. Hours are Monday – Friday, 8 am to 5 pm. They can be contacted by

phone at 479-968-0329. Appointments can be scheduled online at <https://atu.medicatconnect.com/>. Students must present their AGS ID card and indicate that they are an AGS student when reporting for services.

Honor – Stealing, lying, or cheating under any circumstances will result in immediate dismissal. Failure to inform AGS staff about others’ rule violations, or to cooperate with AGS staff investigating suspected rule violations, will result in immediate dismissal.

AGS ID cards – Official AGS ID cards with lanyard must be worn at all times, unless instructed otherwise. ID cards are required for admittance into the student’s residence hall and the dining hall. There is a \$25.00 charge for lost ID cards.

Instructors and residential staff – Our instructors come from a variety of educational backgrounds. They may be public school educators, college faculty, guidance counselors, or AGS staff. They will guide you through the academic curriculum. Our residential staff will be college graduates or undergraduate college students.

Library – Students may use the library for study, research, and recreational reading. Students are allowed to check items out from the library. All items must be returned by before check-out. Computers, with internet access, are available for use also, as they are an integral part of the academic day and are useful in developing presentations, writing research papers, and gathering information. Hours are Mondays – Thursdays 8 am to 8 pm, Fridays 8 am to 6 pm, Saturdays 10 am to 6 pm, and Sundays 1 pm to 6 pm.



Visitors – Visiting Hours are Sundays, 8:00 am – 6:00 pm. Visitors must sign in at the residence hall of the student they are visiting. They must wear a visitor’s badge and remain with the student they are visiting at all times. However, visitors of the opposite sex are not allowed in residence hall rooms. Visitors may not use campus computers or recreation equipment or facilities. Before departing, visitors must return their visitors’ badges to the residence hall and sign out. These are important security measures—visitors who violate these policies may cause the student they are visiting to be dismissed from the program.

Sunday Leave: Students may sign out of the residence hall and leave the campus on Sundays between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. with a family member or a person listed on the “List of Approved Persons Allowed to Check

Student Out of AGS” from the student forms previously signed by family members. Additional names may be added after the session begins. However, the AGS office must be notified by **4:00 p.m. on Thursday prior to that Sunday** or the new names cannot be added to the student’s list for that weekend. **Email/Fax requests must include a scanned driver’s license of the parent or guardian.**

Zero tolerance policy – Students found involved in any hazing, sexual or illegal activities will be dismissed from the program with no previous warning. Students who are caught with any illegal substance (alcohol, tobacco, vaping, etc...) will be dismissed from the program with no previous warning.

AGS Leave Policy

Arkansas Governor’s School is state funded, highly competitive, and interested in fostering a very strong sense of community among its participants. Therefore, it is believed to be inappropriate for students who have accepted a place at AGS to take temporary leaves from the program. Time away from the program has an undesired effect on student participation, both for the individual and for the Governor’s School community at large. We know that gifted and talented students will have many quality opportunities during the summer. Although we hope that students invited to attend AGS will accept our invitation to attend for the full four weeks, we understand that other choices are available and difficult decisions must be made. For students desiring to take advantage of other opportunities that coincide with AGS, students should decline the AGS invitation which will allow another student to be invited to benefit from the entire program.

Temporary leaves will be granted for certain situations and only these situations. Requests for special leaves of absence must be made in writing at least one (1) week in advance and include explicit justification for the leave. Documentation may be requested to verify listed justification. A leave may be granted for the following situations:

- unplanned personal or family emergencies
- weddings of immediate family members
- extremely important events of major personal, regional, or national significance
- medical reasons

Exceptions:

- Students are allowed to be checked out by an authorized person and leave campus on Sundays from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm.
- Students are allowed to be checked out by an authorized person and leave campus for one 24 hour period during the session. This is intended to give students a chance to participate in important senior year activities such as senior pictures, etc.

Please note:

- Requests for a leave of absence or a 24-hour leave must be submitted by email to ags@atu.edu at least one week in advance.
- The student cannot miss more than 2 class days.
- The leave cannot be during the first 3 days or the last 3 days of the program.
- No student may be granted more than one leave of absence.
- Leaves granted for medical reasons may not exceed a total of five (5) class days
- Proper documentation may be requested to verify the listed justification for the leave.
- Athletic practices and competitions, dance/cheerleading practices and auditions, and band practices are examples that do not qualify for a leave of absence but would qualify for the one 24-hour leave.



Residence Hall Regulations

- Students are not allowed to enter any residence hall other than the one assigned to them. Boys are not allowed to enter girls' rooms and vice versa. With the exception of check-in and check-out, no visitors are permitted in students' room at any time. If this rule is violated, students may be sent home immediately.

- Announced or unannounced room inspections may be made periodically to insure that cleanliness and care is exercised. The following items should be dealt with prior to the inspection (though routine cleanliness will eliminate the need): trash, unclean clothing, and items that produce undesirable odors!
- No candles, incense, open flame or open coil appliances are allowed in the residence halls.
- Students are not to throw trash or other debris in hallways, lounges, bathroom facilities, on stairways, or out of the windows. Trash must go into proper disposal units available at the end of each hall.
- Residents of a hall are jointly responsible for damage to public areas and each participant will be charged a share of the repair costs, should it be necessary.
- Students are to remain reasonably quiet in the residence hall and to respect the privacy and rights of other students. Should there be a problem; the student should report the incident immediately to a counselor. All incident reports will be turned in to the appropriate supervisor for further investigation.
- Students and staff members are expected to respect the privacy of others and work together in making the living experience enjoyable.
- Students are to occupy only the room to which they have been assigned.
- Roommates will be assigned by the AGS staff.
- Never loan your building swipe card to another student who has lost theirs.
- Lost swipe cards should be reported immediately.
- Never let anyone into the residence hall using your swipe card. If they are not an AGS Participant you should contact one of the residential staff.
- Never leave rooms unlocked.
- Do not play with fire extinguishers.
- Do not pull fire alarms – This is a criminal act!
- Do not overload electrical outlets. Bring a surge protector.
- Prepare for emergency exiting in advance.
- Do not play with electrical panel switches.
- Do contact your residential staff or counselor regarding any emergencies or suspicious activity.
- Never leave personal belongings unattended: The responsibility for personal belongings cannot be assumed by the program. Students are urged to exercise good judgment and caution in securing their personal belongings.
- Acts of disrespect to instructors, staff, and fellow students will not be tolerated. Violations will be grounds for disciplinary action or dismissal.

N. Proposed Budget (8.00, 14.00)

Make a copy of the [AGS 2022-2024 Proposed Budget](#) (14.03) and rename it as “AGS 2022-2024 Proposed Budget <Institution Name>.” (Adjust the share settings to add Krystal.Nail@arkansas.gov as a viewer. The budget will be saved and shared with the site selection committee.)

Total budget must not exceed \$640,000 for a four week program or \$890,000 for a six week program.

Tuition, room and board, approved activity fees, instructional supplies, books, and school medical services will be furnished for the students. Travel and personal expenses will be furnished by the student (8.00).

Link to Budget: [AGS 2022-2024 Proposed Budget Arkansas Tech University](#)

O. Additional Information

Include any additional information supporting or further defining the proposal. If links are included, adjust the share settings, as needed.

AGS Website: <https://www.atu.edu/ags/>

Sample Daily Schedule: <https://www.atu.edu/ags/daily%20schedule.pdf>

AGS Faculty Handbook:
<https://www.atu.edu/ags/AGS%20Faculty%20Handbook%20Online%202020.pdf>

ASSURANCES

By submitting this proposal your institution is aware of and agrees to the following:

1. The Governor's School is under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education and the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and falls under the immediate administration of the Program Director for the Office of Gifted and Talented Education (1.03).
2. Faculty Selection (6.00), Student Selection (10.00), Site Selection (13.00), and AGS operations will be in accordance with the Rules Governing Arkansas Governor's School Site Selection.
3. Recruitment activities by the host campus may not be conducted during Arkansas Governor's School (13.10). (Recruitment activities, e.g. College Fairs, are allowable if other institutions are also invited to participate.)
4. An annual evaluation report must be submitted to the Department after the close of the school. This report must include a detailed summary or syllabus of Area I, Area II, and Area III including specific works read (12.00, 13.11).
5. Site selection will be for a period of three years contingent upon successful annual evaluations (13.11).

Questions related to proposals may be directed to Krystal Nail, Program Coordinator, Office of Gifted and Talented and Advanced Placement, Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, Arkansas Department of Education, krystal.nail@arkansas.gov, (501) 682-4224.