

## Eligibility

Students in the eighth grade who will be attending a DeKalb County High School may apply.

## Selection Criteria

A 30-point scale is used to evaluate applicant materials and includes the following:

1. Student grades from Semester I of 8th grade in English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies (1/3rd weight).
2. Recommendations from three of the applicant's teachers. The teachers, selected by the applicant, must teach, or have taught the applicant English, Mathematics, Science or Social Studies courses (1/3rd weight).
3. Student participation in non-required activities that reflects an interest in science (1/6th weight).
4. Quality of the prospective student's response to a question designed to evaluate interest in and knowledge about science in general (1/6th weight).

## To Apply

Contact your **Middle School Counselor**. For additional information contact **Fernbank Science Center (678-874-7102)** or visit our website at <http://fernbank.edu>.



## DEKALB COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

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**S·C·I·E·N·T·I·F·I·C**  
Tools and Techniques

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Administrative Coordinator



### FERNBANK SCIENCE CENTER

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S·C·I·E·N·T·I·F·I·C

Tools and Techniques

2012-2013



The **Scientific Tools and Techniques Program (STT)** is conducted at **Fernbank Science Center**. Students enter the program through their Middle Schools during the Spring of the eighth grade year and attend **STT** for one semester during the ninth grade year. While in **STT**, students will earn credit in Biology and Earth Systems while learning about the tools and techniques of scientific inquiry. **STT** students practice problem-solving skills and high-level thinking utilizing a rigorous, innovative curriculum. Through laboratory and field work, students explore science, gaining a better understanding and a greater appreciation of the scientific process.

The **STT** Biology curriculum is aligned to the **Georgia Performance Standards**. Consequently, **STT** students are well prepared for the **Georgia End-of-Course Test (EOCT)** in Biology. The **(EOCT)** in Biology counts as 20% of the course grade and is part of the graduation requirements for the State of Georgia. Students will rotate through individual modules in Biology designed around the major strands of the Georgia Performance Standards. Biology modules include Cell Biology, Genetics, Anatomy and Physiology, Ecology, Vertebrate and Invertebrate Biology and Botany.

The **STT** Earth Systems course was developed by Fernbank Science Center instructors and students will rotate through courses in Aerospace, Astronomy, Chemistry, Geology, Meteorology, Paleontology, and Physics. There is a final examination in Earth Systems.

## ***Textbooks & Instructional Materials***

Students will have access to a textbook for reference material. Students will be provided individualized laboratory materials and will use the Fernbank Science Center Library extensively to meet course objectives.

## ***Length of Course***

One semester.

## ***Length of Day***

Students will be in class at Fernbank from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

## ***Transportation***

All students will be transported to Fernbank Science Center, arriving by 8:00 a.m. They will then be transported to their home schools, leaving Fernbank at 11:00 a.m.

## ***Attendance***

Student attendance will be administered through the countywide attendance program. Communication from Fernbank Science Center to the student's parents will be made when absences occur.

Students electing to attend a magnet program cannot attend STT.

## ***Field Experiences***

Field experiences are an integral part of the STT program and are taken during the regular school day. There is no cost to the participant.

## ***Library***

Twenty-four thousand science volumes are included in the Fernbank Library. A collection of journals, indexes, abstracts and reference books in the major areas of natural and physical sciences will provide students access to the research information required by all disciplines covered in the program. The librarian will provide instruction in research methods.

## ***Credit***

One Carnegie Unit will be earned in Biology I and one Carnegie Unit will be earned in Earth Systems.

