STEM TREK 2016

Science – Technology – Engineering – Math

The STEM Trek is an exciting program at Philmont Scout Ranch for Scouts and Venturers who have an interest in **Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.** Participants will enjoy a 12-day trek throughout Philmont's 137,493 acres of rugged mountain wilderness in the Sangre de Cristo Range of the Rocky Mountains of northeastern New Mexico.

The STEM Trek program will offer each participant the chance to explore the Philmont backcountry in a whole new way! As the STEM crew hikes the ranch, they will camp in many different areas and engage in interactive lessons in the following areas: physics, chemistry, forestry, astronomy, stream ecology, wildlife management, geology, botany, watershed management and range management. In addition, "Leave No Trace" techniques and principles will be integrated into the curriculum.

During the STEM trek, each crew will spend several days participating in diverse STEM discussions and have the opportunity to complete a short-term experiment and explore the scientific method. The experience of working on such a wide array of projects will provide vital knowledge for use at local council camps and managed areas in the participant's community when he or she returns home.

STEM Trek participants will work and hike in crews under the leadership of trained Philmont rangers, many of whom have academic backgrounds in the science, engineering, math and technology, and/or years of experience working in an outdoor classroom. Crews will be composed of young men and young women from all over the United States. All crew equipment such as tents, cooking gear and tools, will be provided by Philmont and all participants will be covered by campers' insurance.

Philmont Scout Ranch covers 215 square miles, with more than 350 miles of trails. Philmont ranges from 6,500 feet to 12,441 feet in elevation above sea level. Because of the remote settings and elevation, participants need to be prepared, both physically and mentally, to handle the challenges of the trek. Philmont experiences a wide variety of weather situations. Participants should be prepared for possible 100 degree days, 40 degree nights, as well as days of rain and even snow. All this adds to the STEM Trek and the Philmont experience.

REQUIREMENTS

- Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America. (Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer)
- Be 14 years old by date of participation or 13 and completed 8th grade, but not yet 21 by its conclusion.
- Be physically fit, able to lift and handle materials up to 50 lbs. (Philmont height and weight guidelines will be strictly enforced).
- Be in excellent physical condition, able to hike 10 or more miles per day with a 40-50 lb. backpack.
- STEM Treks are coed.
- A complete physical examination is required. (BSA Annual Health and Medical Record will be sent to those who are accepted.)

UNIT AND LOCAL COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

The participant's unit leader and local council executive must approve only those young adults who meet the qualifications for this program. Philmont is not an easy experience and is a risk for those not physically prepared for the rigors of the northeastern New Mexico mountainous terrain.

HOW TO APPLY

Complete the enclosed application. Apply early for best consideration. Applications will continue to be accepted until all spaces are filled. Have it approved by a parent or guardian, a unit leader and your Scout Executive. ***Mail your completed application to: STEM Trek, Philmont Scout Ranch, 17 Deer Run Rd, Cimarron, NM 87714.*** Philmont will notify you of your acceptance. If accepted, a packet of materials will be sent in May to assist you in preparing for your Philmont trek experience.

PROGRAM FEE/SCHOLARSHIPS AND TRAVEL INFORMATION

The fee is $870 in 2016 for the twelve day experience. **A $50 non-refundable deposit is required with this application**. The balance of the fee is due at the time of acceptance into the program. Additional expenses, including travel to and from Philmont, as well as miscellaneous purchases, are the responsibility of the participant. Those applicants not accepted will have their deposit returned. Participants canceling acceptance will be eligible for a refund if notification is received at Philmont by May 1. No shows are not eligible for a refund. ***Scholarship funds are available on a limited basis.*** See enclosed scholarship application.

Shuttles are available from the Albuquerque, New Mexico and Colorado Springs and Denver, Colorado Airports to Philmont. The shuttles leaves the airport at 1:00 to 3:00 pm, depending on the location, on the day **before** your scheduled start date, arriving at Philmont at 6:30 to 7:00 pm (approx). The return shuttles leave from 6:00 to 7:30 am on your departure date, arriving at the Airports at 9:45 am to 12:00 noon, depending on location. You may also consider the bus or train arrival at Raton, New Mexico (45 miles from Philmont). A roundtrip shuttle is available from Raton. If you do not arrive by shuttle, plan to arrive at Philmont between 8:00 - 11:00 am on your scheduled start date. The Shuttle information/registration forms will be included in your March packet. **Note:** Shuttle times may change so please check shuttle registration forms upon receiving them or call Philmont for updated information. The STEM Trek is a twelve (12) day program. Participants depart the morning of the thirteenth (13th) day (July 28 and August 3 are the departure dates).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information about the STEM Trek Program such as shuttle arrangements, physical requirements (annual health and medical record questions), equipment needs, service worksites and hiking questions, contact Philmont Scout Ranch at 575-376-2281 or email camping@philmontscoutranch.org. Another source of information to assist you in preparing for your adventure can be found at http://www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org.

During the dates of the program, contact Philmont Scout Ranch at 575-376-2281, seven days a week, and ask for the STEM Trek coordinator or Camping Registration. During this time, Philmont Logistics will also be able to assist with transportation concerns or problems.

STEM TREK DATES FOR 2016

First Session: **July 10 – 22** Second Session: **July 16 – 28** Third Session: **July 22 - August 3**

Please Note: If less than six participants register for a session by May 1, the session may be cancelled. Participants will be promptly notified and alternative programs suggested.

STEM TREK CODE OF CONDUCT

The general welfare of any group depends on the conduct of each individual member. This ensures the success of the school project and provides the maximum benefit to every participant. As a STEM participant, I understand this and support the reasonable demands of conduct expected of me.

AS A STEM TREK PARTICIPANT, I WILL:

- Live the Scout Oath and Law.
- Observe, respect, and strive to live the Philmont Wilderness Pledge.
- Observe the rules of the Philmont Scout Ranch and my Instructors/Rangers.
- Wear my full official BSA uniform or work clothes as required. (Unofficial decorations are not part of BSA uniform.)
- Attend and participate in all functions of the program while being an engaged student.
- Be personally responsible for damage and loss of property.
- Observe quiet hours.
- Respect all safety procedures and learn to properly use equipment.
- At all times, be considerate of participants and staff at Philmont Scout Ranch.
- Understand that fighting with another participant or staff member is prohibited, and will be grounds for immediate dismissal from the program at the expense of the participant.
- Understand the purchase, possession, or consumption of alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, tobacco, or illicit drugs at any time during the program, will not be permitted and will result in dismissal from the program at the expense of the participant. This standard shall apply to all participants. Compliance with state law regulations will apply at all times.

By signing along with my parent/guardian on the final page of this application, I acknowledge I have read and promise to abide by the code of conduct for the STEM Trek Program, have read and understand all the information about the STEM Trek Program as listed on this application, and agree with the Photo (Talent) Release Statement.

PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH **BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

2016 STEM TREK APPLICATION

(Please type or print clearly)

NAME _____ EMAIL _____
first middle last

HOME ADDRESS_____ PHONE NO. _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

*DATE OF BIRTH_____ **(*Be 14 by date of participation OR 13 and completed eighth grade but not yet 21 by its conclusion)**

CURRENT INFORMATION: Gender _____ Age _____ Grade _____ Height _____ Weight _____
male / female

SCOUTING AND OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE:

(Circle One)

Now Registered with: Troop, Team or Venture Crew # _____ Tenure _____ Rank _____

Council #_____ Council Name_____

Leadership Positions Held _____

_____

Previous Philmont Experience _____ Year(s) _____

Other High Adventure Experience / Backpacking Experience (please be specific) _____

_____

_____

_____

Total no. of backpacking overnights _____ Longest backpacking expedition in: Days _____ Miles _____

Extracurricular Activities _____

Honors / Awards Received _____

_____

Camp Staff Experience (When and Where) _____

_____

CPR/First Aid Certifications _____

I'm requesting the following session:

1st Session: **July 10 – 22** _____ 2nd Session: **July 16 – 28** _____ 3rd Session: **July 22 - August 3** _____

I request a vegetarian meal plan: Yes _____ No _____ I request a special diet meal plan: Yes _____ No _____

_____ $50 deposit enclosed Or

_____ $870 (full fee) enclosed (checks payable to Philmont Scout Ranch)

Philmont offers High Adventure backpacking treks and program activities in relatively inaccessible mountainous terrain. Parents, advisors and youth participants should be alert to the potential for injury.

Philmont strives to minimize risks to participants and advisors by emphasizing proper safety precautions. Philmont staff members will instruct you regarding safety measures to be followed. Each participant is expected to follow these safety measures and to accept responsibility for their health and safety.

PARENT/GUARDIAN APPROVAL:
My son/daughter has my complete permission to participate in the STEM Trek Program during the session indicated on this application. I understand that the program is physically demanding and involves a degree of risk and a potential for injury. I along with my son/daughter also acknowledge and agree with the Code of Conduct.

Participant Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature_____ Date _____

UNIT LEADER APPROVAL:
I attest this applicant is a member in good standing and approve his/her participation in STEM Trek.

Unit Leader Signature_____ Date _____

LOCAL COUNCIL ACTION:

Council # _____ Council Name_____ Region _____ Area_____

We certify that _____ (applicant's name) meets the age and physical

requirements for the STEM Trek and is a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.

_____ _____
*Signature of Scout Executive or Representative Date

FEE SCHEDULE:
The fee is $870 for 2016. A $50 deposit must accompany this application. The remaining balance will be due upon receipt of confirmation.

NOTE: A deposit fee, and all required signatures of approval must accompany application.

Please make check payable to Philmont Scout Ranch and mail to:

PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH
ATTN: STEM TREK
17 DEER RUN RD.
CIMARRON NM 87714

Philmont Contact Information: Phone: 575.376.2281
Email: camping@philmontscoutranch.org **Web Address: www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org**

FOR PHILMONT USE ONLY

Recommendation Letters _____ Approved _____ Applicant Notified _____

Packet Mailed _____ Individual Exp. #_____

Rev.10/14

RISK ADVISORY - PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH

Philmont has an excellent health and safety record with over 1,000,000 adults and young people having attended since 1938. Philmont strives to minimize risks to participants and advisors by emphasizing proper safety precautions. Most participants in Philmont programs do not experience injuries because they are prepared, are conscious of risks, and take safety precautions. If you decide to attend Philmont, you should be physically fit, have proper clothing and equipment, be willing to follow instructions and work as a team with your crew and take responsibility for your own health and safety. For further information please thoroughly read the *Guidebook to Adventure*. Like other wilderness areas, Philmont is not risk free and you should be prepared to listen to safety instructions carefully, follow directions and take appropriate steps to safeguard yourself and others.

Parents, guardians and potential participants in Philmont programs are advised that journeying to and from Philmont, and one's stay at Philmont, can involve exposure to accident, illness, and/or injury associated with a high elevation, physically demanding, high adventure program in a remote mountainous area. Campers may be exposed to occasional severe weather conditions such as lightning, hail, flash floods and heat. Other potential problems include: injuries from tripping and falling, motor vehicle accidents, worsening of underlying medical conditions such as diabetes or asthma, heart attacks, heat exhaustion and falls from horses.

Philmont's trails are steep and rocky. Wild animals such as bears, rattlesnakes and mountain lions are native and usually present little danger if proper precautions are taken. Please refer to the *Guidebook to Adventure*, speak with previous Philmont participants, or call Philmont for further information concerning risks and measures which can be taken to avoid accidents. Philmont has staff trained in first aid, CPR and accident prevention, and is prepared to assist in recognizing, reacting, and responding to accidents, injuries and illnesses. Each crew is also required to have at least one member trained in wilderness first aid and CPR. Medical and search and rescue services are provided by Philmont in response to an accident or emergency. However, response times can be affected by location, weather or other emergencies and could be delayed six (6) or more hours.

Philmont trail food is, by necessity, a high carbohydrate, high caloric diet. The trail food is high in wheat, milk products, sugar and corn syrup, and artificial coloring/flavoring. Most dinner meals contain meat. If participant has a problem with the diet described above, contact Philmont for a copy of the trail menu and ingredients and plan to send supplemental food. Philmont will deliver supplemental food to the appropriate pickup places.

PHILMONT WEIGHT LIMITS FOR BACKPACKING AND HIKING

Each participant in a Philmont trek must not exceed the maximum acceptable limit in the weight for height chart shown below. The right hand column shows the maximum acceptable weight for a person's height in order to participate in a Philmont trek. Those who fall within the limits are more likely to have an enjoyable trek and avoid incurring health risks. These guidelines are used because overweight individuals are at a greater risk for heart disease, high blood pressure, stroke, altitude illness, sleep problems and injury.

Participants 21 years and older who exceed the maximum acceptable weight limit for their height at the Philmont medical recheck WILL NOT be permitted to backpack or hike at Philmont. For example, a person 70 inches tall cannot weigh more than 226 lbs. All heights and weights will be measured in stocking feet.

For participants under 21 years of age who exceed the maximum acceptable weight for height, the Philmont physicians will use their best professional judgment in determining participation in a Philmont trek. Participants under 21 years of age are strongly encouraged to meet the weight limit for their height. Exceptions are not made automatically and discussion in advance with Philmont is required regarding any exception to the weight limit for persons under 21 years of age, whether it is over or under. Philmont will consider up to 20 lbs. over the maximum acceptable as stated on the chart, however, the exception will never exceed 295 lbs. Philmont's phone number is 575-376-2281.

The maximum weight for any participant in a Cavalcade Trek and for horse rides is 200 lbs. **Under no circumstances will any individual weighing more than 295 pounds be permitted to participate in backcountry programs.** This requirement is necessary because of limitations of rescue equipment and for safety of search and rescue personnel.

Individuals who do not meet Philmont's weight for height requirements will not be allowed on the trail and will be sent home.

Height(inches)	Max Weight		Height(inches)	Max Weight		Height(inches)	Max Weight		Height(inches)	Max Weight
60	166		65	195		70	226		75	260
61	172		66	201		71	233		76	267
62	178		67	207		72	239		77	274
63	183		68	214		73	246		78	281
64	189		69	220		74	252		79 & over	295

This table is based on the revised Dietary Guidelines for Americans from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and the Dept. of Health & Human Services.

A water-displacement test to determine percent body fat will also be accepted in lieu of the height-weight guidelines. Women will need to have a body fat of 20% or less and men will need to have a body fat of 15% or less to be qualified to participate. No other form of test to determine percent body fat (DEXA scan, skin fold, etc.) will accepted by Philmont.

10/14

INDIVIDUAL TREKS
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATION

A limited amount of financial assistance is available for Individual Trek participants. To apply, please complete this application and return it to Philmont. All information will remain confidential.

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NAME _____ BIRTHDATE _____ AGE _____
First Middle I. Last

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

COUNCIL NAME _____ UNIT # _____

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* How long have you been a member of the Boy Scouts of America?_____

* Leadership position(s): _____

* Local council camp experience (where & when): _____

* Philmont experience: _____

* Other high adventure experience: _____

* Honors/awards (school, etc.): _____

* Attach an essay that will help the scholarship committee understand your hopes and expectations if accepted as a participant. Please address the following topics directly: 1) What previous experiences have you had that will help you meet the challenges of this program? 2) What do you hope to learn or accomplish through this experience? 3) How will this experience help you in future service to Scouting; in pursuing other educational, career, or life interests? 4) What will be your greatest contribution as a participant of this trek.

Parent/Guardian Information:

Father _____ Employer/Occupation _____

Mother _____ Employer/Occupation _____

State circumstances that require you to apply for financial assistance: (attach additional page if needed)

_____

_____

_____

Amount of fee to be paid by:

Participant $_____

Family $_____

Unit or
Chartered Partners $_____

Total Available $_____

Financial Assistance
Requested $_____

Signatures required:

Participant _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Unit Leader _____

Date _____

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED