Goals and Objectives

Goals:
- To provide educational programs in the agricultural sciences to gifted and talented high school students.
- Design programs to challenge participants to use their talent and intellect in studying and researching the scientific nature of the various disciplines of agriculture and natural resources.
- Promote an atmosphere of learning, multicultural diversity, dialogue and respect.

Objectives:
- To provide an academically talented group of students from Tennessee with opportunities to expand their knowledge of food, agriculture, and the sustainable use of natural resources as well as their understanding of the technologies involved in the traditional high school environment.
- To provide participants with an opportunity to become exposed to scientific concepts, land stewardship concepts, facilities, and professional scientists from multiple states and universities.
- To realize that agricultural science provides a wide array of interesting and rewarding career opportunities that require training in leadership, communication, problem solving, interpersonal skills, and research methodology and application.

TGSAS Class of 2015 at the Tennessee Department of Agriculture

For additional information about the program contact:
Dr. Joey Mehlhorn, Director or
Ms. Suezane Speight, Administrative Assistant
The University of Tennessee at Martin
Tennessee Governor’s School
For the Agricultural Sciences
253 Brehm Hall, Martin, TN 38238
Telephone: 731-881-7211
Email: sspeight@utm.edu
Or visit the TGSAS website at http://www.utm.edu/departments/tgsas

Funding is provided for the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences by:

The Tennessee Department of Education
Division of Career and Technical Programs
and
The Tennessee Department of Agriculture
AG Tag Program

www.picktnproducts.org

Precision Agriculture at the Agricenter

Mackenzie Clark, 2015 TGSAS Counselors Choice Award Winner

Our Mission:
The Tennessee Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences will offer a unique learning experience to high school students to inspire their interest in agriculture and natural resources by providing classes and hands-on learning opportunities in the University setting.
TGSAS is a four week college experience for rising high school juniors and seniors. They are exposed to various aspects of agriculture and natural resources in the classroom, and through hands on learning opportunities both on and off campus at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Classes are taught by members of the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources (AGN) faculty. Scholars take two college credit classes (6 hours) including possible choices of precision agriculture, veterinary science, natural resources management, or agricultural business.

Veterinary Science at Tosh Farms

Field Trips enhance experiential learning. Day trips to sites such as Agricenter International, Tosh Farms, Woolfolk Farms, Tyson Foods, Wrenwood Dressage, NWTN Veterinary Services, Yeargin Farms and Reelfoot Lake show diversity of agriculture and natural resources management.

Overnight Trips provide additional educational experiences and entertainment. The 2015 TGSAS classes traveled by charter bus into Kentucky and across Tennessee for two days. They visited diverse, agriculture related businesses and industries in and around Bowling Green, KY, Knoxville and Nashville. Sites included The University of TN Knoxville Veterinary School and Neyland Stadium, Hill’s Pet Nutrition Headquarters, Sweetwater Valley Farm, TN Department of Agriculture, Hatcher Dairy, and TN Farm Bureau Headquarters. Class, counselors, and faculty/staff chaperones travel via chartered bus. Lodging is always at hotels with interior corridors. All students have pre-assigned rooms and curfews, which are monitored by their counselors and chaperones. Safety is always a top priority at TGSAS.

Natural Resources Management at Reelfoot

Ag = Cows, Sows, Plows and DRONES!

Questions About TGSAS

- **What are the dates?** June 4 – July 1, 2016
- **How do I apply?** Applications are sent to TN high schools in early fall. Qualified students should request an application from a guidance counselor. Applications can also be found on the TGSAS website [http://www.utm.edu/departments/tgsas](http://www.utm.edu/departments/tgsas).

- **What are the prerequisites?** Students currently in grades 10 or 11 are eligible to apply. They **must** have a minimum weighted GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, demonstrate an active interest in natural resources and/or agricultural sciences, and receive ACT or other standardized test scores indicating the student’s likelihood to succeed at the college level.

- **How much does it cost?** All TGSAS expenses including tuition, housing, meals, books, and trips are funded by the Tennessee Departments of Education and Agriculture. Travel expenses to and from Martin and personal items are the only monetary responsibilities of the students.

- **How are TGSAS students selected?** Applications must be **complete** and are judged on a weighted point system based on academic performance, the quality of two essays, personal resume, teacher recommendations, and traits such as maturity, attitude, initiative, interpersonal skills, judgment, and punctuality. Incomplete or late applications may be discarded at the discretion of the selection committee.

- **What is the deadline for returning applications?** Applications must be electronically submitted or postmarked and mailed no later than December 1, 2015. When will notification of acceptance, top ten alternate, or alternate status of applicants be sent? The status of all applications will be mailed to all applicants on February 6, 2016.

- **For more information about TGSAS call** 731-881-7211 (M-F, 9am-5pm) or email [sspeight@utm.edu](mailto:sspeight@utm.edu).

To learn more about the TGSAS experience visit the TGSAS 2015 photo gallery online at: [http://1drv.ms/1Jg7x11](http://1drv.ms/1Jg7x11).