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

For additional information about the program contact:
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Or visit the TGSAS website at http://www.utm.edu/departments/tgsas

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Veterinary Science

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.
The Tennessee Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences (TGSAS) is a four-week college experience for rising juniors and seniors in high school. Students are exposed to various aspects of agriculture and natural resources in the classroom, and through hands-on experiences both on and off campus at the University of Tennessee at Martin (UTM). The 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 animal science, precision agriculture, veterinary science, wildlife biology, plant science, natural resources management, or agricultural economics.

**Precision Agriculture**

Plenary Sessions introduce scholars to many agriculturally related subjects. Geographic information systems, group dynamics, finance, technology; and leadership are among some of the topics presented by knowledgeable guests and members of the UTM faculty.

**Wildlife Biology**

Laptop Computers are provided for each student during TGSAS. Training is done by AGN faculty. This technology is integrated into the college courses to increase each scholar’s ability to utilize the concept of technology in the many facets of agriculture.

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

Overnight Trips provide additional educational experiences and entertainment. The 2014 TGSAS classes enjoyed travel across the state of Tennessee. They traveled by charter bus for two days and visited diverse agriculture-related businesses and industries between Nashville and Knoxville; including the TN Department of Agriculture, TN Farm Bureau Headquarters, Hatcher Dairy and The University of Tennessee Knoxville Veterinary School. Class, counselors, and faculty/staff chaperones travel via chartered bus. Overnight lodging is spent 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 during TGSAS.

**Questions About TGSAS**

- **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 at [http://www.utm.edu/departments/tgsas](http://www.utm.edu/departments/tgsas) or after September 15, 2014.
- **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, and demonstrate an active interest in natural resources and/or agricultural sciences and receive ACT or other standardized test scores showing the student’s likelihood to succeed at the college level.
- **How much does it cost?** All expenses for TGSAS 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, judgment, dependability, punctuality, and their interpersonal skills. Incomplete or late applications may be discarded at the discretion of the selection committee.
- **What is the deadline for returning applications?** Applications can be electronically submitted or postmarked and mailed by December 1, 2014.
- **When will notification of acceptance, alternate status or criteria-not-met be sent?** The status of all applications will be mailed to applicants March 6, 2015.
- **For more information about TGSAS call 731-881-7211 (M-F, 9am-5pm).**