

**LANGSTON UNIVERSITY  
TRANSPORTATION ACADEMY  
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**What is the Langston Transportation Academy?**

The Langston University Transportation Academy (the Academy) is funded by the Southern Plains Transportation Center (SPTC) and is supported by many public and private transportation agencies and companies to provide high school students an opportunity to learn about the transportation industry and to strengthen and increase participation of Minority Institutions of Higher Learning in federal programs. The threefold-purpose is to: (1) Create awareness and stimulate interest in secondary school students to take maximum advantage of the career opportunities in the transportation industry; (2) Attract a broad and diverse selection of bright minds, and acquaint and stimulate them with the various aspects of the transportation industry; and (3) Increase the number of students who choose careers in the transportation industry.

**Who is eligible to apply?**

Any student who is a citizen or permanent resident of the United States and who is currently enrolled in grade 9 or 10 is eligible. The student must have at least a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5, have interest in attending college/university/technical school, express interest in pursuing a career in transportation or transportation-related field, agree to participate for the whole duration of the residential program, and submit a complete application.

**When is the Academy held?**

The Academy is conducted in the month of June, for four weeks.

**How much does it cost to participate?**

The Academy is free of charge to participants.

**Is the Academy a day camp?**

No, the Academy is a two-week residential program. Selected students live and stay in a dorm at Langston University for the entire duration of the program. There are no exceptions.

**If a student is selected to participate and can only come for part of the month, can you still accept him or her in the program?**

No. The Academy encourages participants to come to Langston University and stay for the whole two weeks in June. Any student who cannot stay for the duration of the program is not selected. So, if you plan to participate in another program in June (say basketball camp, music camp, or football camp), even for a week, we encourage you to not apply for the Academy.

**Does Langston University provide beddings, linens, and hygiene products?**

Langston University does not provide linens or hygiene products. However, a bed and mattress are provided. Students provide their own linens, blankets, and toiletries.

**Can one bring a television, boom box, or other entertainment devices?**

Students can come with any musical devices, but they must observe all the rules of the university and the Academy concerning music and curfew. But please note that many students from all types of backgrounds will be on campus. The Academy will not be responsible or liable for lost or damaged property or equipment.

**What is the curriculum like?**

To provide a well rounded learning experience, students participate in three types of activities. First, they learn math, science, and technology skills. Additionally, they learn other skills including team leadership, team building, social, and test preparation skills. Second, they visit places of interest concerning transportation. Third, they enhance skills in sports and recreational activities in the spirit of individual and team competitiveness.

**What documents are needed for the application to be complete?**

A prospective student submits an essay about his or her career plans and what he or she would like to gain from the experience. Additionally, the applicant submits at least two letters of recommendation (one from either the School Counselor or Principal and one from either the Math or Science Teacher) and a current academic transcript.

**Since this is a residential program, can parents or guardians visit their students?**

Absolutely! Parents of students who are selected are provided with a detailed schedule of activities. Students do not like their parents or guardians to visit them while they are away from home, having fun. Just let us know that you plan to be there in advance—a day's notice is more than enough.

**If my child has a scheduled appointment already, such as going to the dentist, can he or she leave the program for the appointment?**

As long as we know about this arrangement before one accepts joining the Academy, such visits will be accommodated. However, the person who takes the student away from the Academy should be the parent, guardian, or an authorized individual by the parent or guardian. A person cannot just show up to take any student away from planned activities.

**My children have never been away from home—not even for a sleepover—how can I be certain that they will be safe at this Academy?**

The Academy is highly supervised. There are day and night counselors, and many staff persons involved from the time students arrive to the time they leave. Counselors are always chaperoning the students.

**How can I become a counselor?**

We have three types of counselors. First, any adult (not a student) can apply to be a counselor. Usually, experience working with the youth is needed. Second, college students can apply for positions available in the Academy. Experience of working with the youth in other summer programs is an advantage. Third, every graduate of the program is eligible to apply for counseling positions. We encourage those students who want to pursue careers in transportation to apply. Counselors are considered to be staff. All of them are screened before they get employed.

**What happens when my child becomes ill during the Academy?**

For minor illnesses, such as headaches and cold, Langston University will take care of the student. For problems that require a hospital visit or hospital stay, the insurance of the parents or guardians will be charged.

**Do you give monetary stipends to students?**

Yes. Students who successfully complete the Academy are awarded \$100.00.

**Can my student be sent home after he or she is admitted to the Academy?**

Yes, it is possible for students to be sent home while they are in the program. Actions and behavior that may lead to such a decision include not obeying University, program, and dorm rules; lack of interest in ongoing activities; being unnecessarily uncooperative; disrespect for staff, students, and others; destroying property; and insubordination.

**I still have other questions to ask, what should I do?**

Please contact:

Director  
Transportation Academy  
Transportation Center of Excellence  
Langston University  
229 Allied Health Center  
Langston, OK 73050,

or email [dcmundende@langston.edu](mailto:dcmundende@langston.edu), or call 405.466.3456.