Frequently Asked Questions for SEA

1. What is the registration process like?

The application opens on January 31, 2018. Registration is on a first come, first served basis. If the week you are interested in is full, you will be added to a waitlist and notified if a spot becomes available. There are several forms that are required for your registration to be considered complete. This means that if you do not submit the required forms, your registration will remain incomplete until they are submitted. Please keep reading for the required documents. Please see question 13 for answers about pricing and payment deadlines.

2. What are the prices and payment deadlines for camp?

Explore Engineering Programs: $675, plus $15 non-refundable application fee

Themed Programs: $775, plus $15 non-refundable application fee

All camps:

- $100 non-refundable deposit paid upon registration
- 50% of total payment due four weeks before your camp start date
- 100% of total due 2 weeks before camp start date
- No refunds will be given if cancellation is made two weeks (or less) before your camp begins
3. What is included in the fee for the camp?

The fee includes housing on-campus at one of the residence halls, all meals beginning with dinner Sunday night (check-in day) through lunch on Friday (check-out day), all of the supplies needed throughout the week, instruction by camp staff and UA faculty/graduate students, and some awesome SEA swag!
4. Are scholarships available?

Yes, need-based scholarships are available. You must complete both the camp registration and the scholarship application by April 1, 2018 to be considered. If you are having trouble paying the non-refundable deposit, contact Lori Huggins, lhuggins@email.arizona.edu.

5. Is food provided with the cost of camp?

Yes, all meals are provided and included in the cost of camp. You will receive a $15 stipend for lunch and breakfast combined. Lunch and breakfast will be purchased at our student union. If you feel concerned that this stipend will not be sufficient you are welcome to bring a small amount of cash to supplement your meals. To see the meal choices, please go here. Dinner will be catered each night at the residence hall. Students will have access to a snack box throughout the day, provided by camp staff. However, personal snacks may be brought and kept in the room if desired.

6. What should I bring?

You should plan to pack all clothing, toiletries, and other necessities with you to camp. There will be nothing provided in the room besides the standard residence hall furniture. This means if you do not purchase linens through the camp registration directly, you are responsible for bringing all necessary linens to fit a twin extra-long bed as well as towels. Please refer to the below question for more specifics on linens. The Summer Engineering staff has provided a thorough packing list for your convenience, please read for more details on what to bring to camp!

7. Are linens for the bed provided?

Linens or bedding (including sheets and pillows) are not provided in the residence halls. However, you can rent a linen set on our registration website for $40.00 if you are arriving from out of town or would simply prefer them to be provided to you upon arrival. Linen sets include a pillow, blanket, sheets, bath towel, hand towel, and wash cloth. If you do not pre-order a linen set you are expected to bring these items on your own. Please note that all beds in the residence halls are twin extra-long beds.

8. Is there a dress code? What type of clothes should I bring?

The dress code for most of the events will be casual, comfortable, school attire. However, you should plan to bring recreational clothes, such as a swimsuit, for our evening trips to the Student Recreation Center. Closed-toed, comfortable walking shoes are not only recommended for camp, but in some cases required for certain lab/field activities. If you are attending Week 3, when you visit the San Xavier Mine, you must wear a shirt with sleeves (ie: no tank tops) and pants.
In general, please note that the expected temperatures for the summer season in southern Arizona can range from 90-110 degrees. Please pack accordingly (i.e. sunscreen, hat, and sunglasses). If you have more questions about what to pack, please see the packing list.

9. In case of Emergency, how do parents contact students or Summer Engineering Academy Staff?

In case of an emergency, campers, parents/guardians should contact the Head Counselor on the on call number or the SEA Director at either 520.621.8103 or at 520.621.6032 during office hours. The on Call number will be provided to students and parents before camp begins.

Campers have keys to their rooms but do not have keys to get into the residence hall. This is purposeful because they should not be out of the residence hall without a counselor. However, if something happens and they are locked out of the residence hall, they will have the Head Counselor’s on call number to call to get someone to let them in.

Any abuse or neglect committed against any student during program activities should be reported to the Head Counselor or Director, immediately.

10. Do I need to bring materials to take notes?

Taking notes is not required but is highly encouraged. If you would like to take notes, we suggest bringing a notebook and pens or pencils. You will be learning all types of concepts that many of you have not been exposed to in your high school classes. Plus, as you know, if you are writing notes, you are generally paying closer attention, which is wonderful!

11. What type of supervision should I expect?

Campers will be supervised by Summer Engineering Academy counselors (current undergraduate engineering students at the U of A) during their stay, as well as faculty, graduate students, and Engineering staff. UA Residence Life staff also assist with supervision in the residence hall during the summer. The counselors are the only ones with key card access to the residence halls, so campers cannot leave the residence hall without a counselor present. There will always be at least three people in a group (for example, two counselors and one camper or two campers and a counselor). Students will not be left alone to roam the campus or the local Tucson area.

12. How do meals work during camp?

Meals will be eaten together with all campers and counselors. During breakfast and lunch, campers will eat at the Student Union using a dining card provided by Summer Engineering Academy. There is $15 allotment for breakfast and lunch. Students will not be able to use these dining cards or their own money at Starbucks. Breakfast is at 7 am. Campers are expected to be downstairs and ready for breakfast at 6:55. Campers and counselors will have a catered dinner at the Residence Hall. They will be unable to have guests for dinner. Dinner will be served each evening at 5:00 pm.

13. Will I be able to explore the campus?
Campers will be exposed to the campus when walking around to attend activities and to obtain meals. We will cover a lot of ground in our travels! Campers are required to stay in the residence halls after daily activities are over and will not be able to roam around the campus unsupervised. Campers will not have access to the UA Bookstore during camp. However, students are encouraged to visit our Bookstore with their families before or after camp. We also allow campers to purchase a UA Engineering shirt before their arrival to camp. We will deliver their shirt to them during camp.

14. Will I have access to use the recreational center or a gym on campus?

Campers are not allowed to use the equipment in the recreational center or the various gyms on campus. If campers would like to do outside activities for exercise, they can talk to the counselors and – if willing – the counselors may agree to oversee or partake in a workout with multiple campers or counselors. Please remember that campers must be accompanied by SEA staff at all times, per University policy.

15. Do females and males stay together?

All campers will be housed in the same residence hall. Women will typically be housed on one floor and men on another. Counselors of the same gender will stay on their respective floors with the campers. If you have questions or concerns about housing assignments, please contact Lori Huggins at 520.621.6032.

16. How do I get from the airport to camp at the U of A?

Unfortunately, the camp does not provide transportation from the airport. Here are the options that service the Tucson International Airport. We do not recommend one service over another.

17. Do I need any engineering background to attend camp?

No, you do not need any engineering background for these camps! The camps are open to everyone within the age range listed and interested in learning about engineering.

18. Do I get university credit for attending the Summer Engineering Academy?

No, you will not receive any university credit for attending this summer camp.

19. Are electronics allowed at camp?

Electronic devices (laptops, tablets, etc.) will not be used at camp. It is best to leave those devices at home. If they are brought to be used on a plane, then they should be checked in with our head counselor when student arrives. No one should have a laptop or tablet in their room.

Cell phones are used on a limited basis. In the interest of safety and to avoid distraction during lectures or activities there will be a phone box where all cell phones will be placed as students walk in the room. However, students will be able to access their phone if needed during the day to contact a counselor or a parent/guardian.
Parents, please do not expect to be able to get in touch with your students during the day from 8am-5pm. They will have their phones during meal times and during breaks but will not have access to them during activities. Please be aware, they may not answer your texts or phone calls immediately between 8am-5pm. However, if there is an emergency during those hours you can contact the Head Counselor at the on-call number. This number will be provided before you arrive to camp. Or, you can contact our SEA Director or SEA Admin at either 520.621.8103 or at 520.621.6032 (during office hours from 8:30 am-5:00 pm, Monday-Friday).

20. Can I attend more than one week of camp?

Absolutely! A great option is to choose one Exploring Engineering Camp and one or more Themed camps. However, housing is not provided between camps (from close of camp Friday at 5:00 pm until check-in for the next week Sunday at 1:00 pm). If you attend multiple camps, you will need to leave between camps and arrange your own housing and transportation.

21. Can I have visitors (siblings, friends, etc.) during camp?

You will be very busy while with us at camp. Because of this, you will not be able to visit with others during camp time. If you know people on campus, please allow time to visit with them before camp check-in or after camp check-out.

22. What is our daily schedule?

The day to day schedule will not be the same for each camp. However, your week’s schedule will be posted in the common area at your residence hall. Some events and timings will be consistent through all camps:

- Breakfast is in the student union from 7-7:45 am
- Lunch is in the student union from 12-1 pm
- Dinner is served in the residence hall from 5-6 pm
- Evening activities will last from 6-9 pm
- All students will head to their rooms no later than 9:45pm
- Lights out no later than 10:15pm

23. Will I be able to leave the residence hall whenever I want?

Campers have keys to their rooms but do not have keys to get into the residence hall. This is done on purpose because campers should not be out of the residence hall without a counselor. However, if something happens and campers find themselves locked out of the residence hall, they will have the Head Counselor’s on-call number. They should use this number to get someone to let them into the residence hall.

Campers are expected to wear their lanyards at all times – name, key, and meal card all in one place. Lost keys cost $50 to replace so please do not remove your key from your lanyard.
Do you have a question that is not listed here?

We have done our best to address as many questions as possible on this FAQ. However, if you have any other questions, please feel free to contact us at Engr-SEA@email.arizona.edu or call us at 520-621-6032. We look forward to your participation in the Summer Engineering Academy this year!