GSK Science in the Summer™ Philadelphia-area Network
2027 PROGRAM INFORMATION & APPLICATION PREP SHEET

The Franklin Institute (TFI) is excited to invite youth-serving organizations to apply to the 2027 GSK Science in the Summer™ program. Accepted organizations will play a vital role in delivering high-quality informal science curriculum to youth. We will provide professional development and materials—while you bring the energy, space, and commitment to inspire the next generation of scientists.

We understand that summer details from your organization may still be in progress. The application will request **estimates** and if you are accepted, we will then confirm the information in the spring. Whether you are returning or new to the program, we welcome your application and look forward to collaborating to make science engaging and fun for your youth and educators.

Below you'll find key information about the program as well as the application questions to help you prepare. Please note that **the application itself will be submitted electronically via Google Forms**. Incomplete applications will not be accepted, so be sure to review all questions and gather any necessary information before the application due date of November 20, 2026. If you have questions or need support during this process, our team is here to help. Feel free to contact us at **ScienceintheSummer@fi.edu**.

Program Overview & Goals

Sponsored by GSK and offered in collaboration with TFI, **Science in the Summer** is a free, informal science summer program for youth entering grades two to six. The program is designed to inspire youth to become the next generation of scientists and engineers through hands-on exploration based on real science careers.

Goal for Youth:

- To increase youth interest and confidence in doing science and pursuing STEM careers, especially for youth in under-resourced communities.

Goals For Educators and Partnering Organizations:

- The goal for educators is to build confidence and skills to facilitate high-quality informal STEM experiences for youth.
- The goal for organizations is to build capacity to provide high-quality STEM programming.

Curriculum and Program Model

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The Science in the Summer curriculum highlights real-world science careers while providing youth opportunities to think scientifically, embody science careers, and have fun! The curriculum introduces five unique careers within a particular science field and uses role-play to help children embody the experience of scientists. A new curriculum and theme are introduced every year.

Educators who facilitate Science in the Summer (STEM Specialists) will receive in-person training, as well as have access to a suite of resources and ongoing technical assistance to support them in delivering the hands-on activities. Youth-facing resources encourage scientific thinking and reflection among participants. The 2027 curriculum theme is *Be an Engineer!*

PROGRAM DELIVERY OVERVIEW

Science in the Summer must be provided for free and via in-person programming to youth entering grades 2-6. Programs must be facilitated by educators selected from existing staff or hired by the organization (program training requirements apply). Participating organizations will receive all materials necessary to deliver the curriculum, and youth participants must receive a minimum of four of the five activities.

Program Timeline

Science in the Summer is an eight-month commitment (February to September 2027) and consists of key deliverables due throughout the cycle.

2027 Program Timeline	
Timeframe	**Stage**
December 2026	Organization acceptances
February & March	Onboarding deliverables due Program Introduction Webinar Program Operations Webinar
May & June	Summer Launch Webinar In-person Facilitation and Curriculum trainings
June through August	Program implementation
Early August	Reporting Webinar
Early September	Final reporting due

Benefits

Accepted organizations will receive the following benefits:

- High-quality informal STEM curriculum and materials for five activities, including kits of materials, educator guides, lab notebooks, and science skills sticker sheets for youth in grades two to six.
- Access to digital versions of all printed materials.
- Professional development for Program Leads and educators ("STEM Specialists").
- A field trip to The Franklin Institute, including free general admission for youth and chaperones. Libraries will receive admission vouchers for participating youth.
- A stipend to help support program implementation, including field trip transportation costs (if applicable).
- Ongoing program support from The Franklin Institute.

Expectations

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

Program Leads are staff from your organization that will be the **points of contact for the TFI Program Team**. They play a crucial role in managing the Science in the Summer program for their organization and **will be responsible for ensuring all program expectations are met.** Program Leads may also act as STEM Specialists.

Each organization must identify two qualified employees who will act as PROGRAM LEADS and will:

1) Ensure the organization meets all program expectations, requirements, and deliverables, including managing and maintaining an Organization Profile (online planning and reporting tool).
2) Be the main point of contact for The Franklin Institute, managing continued communication and responding in a timely manner to all communications.
3) Attend all program webinars. (See **Program Webinars** section below.)
4) Select educators who will be trained as STEM Specialists to deliver all Science in the Summer programming at their site. Program Leads may also serve as STEM Specialists.
5) Share all training information and resources with STEM Specialists and ensure they understand the curriculum prior to implementation. (See **Training Requirements** section below.)
6) Manage program logistics and stipend.
7) Book the free field trip(s) or ensure distribution of admission vouchers.
8) Ensure that at least **four of the five activities of the curriculum** are offered for free to the *accepted number of youth* entering grades two through six during the summer months. (If accepted into the program, TFI will confirm the number of youth you agree to reach with SIS.)
9) Oversee program reporting and evaluation efforts including organizational participation in surveys and interviews.

Expectations for Program Leads in Support of STEM Specialists

Program Leads should ensure that:

1) STEM Specialist(s) are the **dedicated SIS facilitator(s) for the summer**
2) STEM Specialist(s) **attend required in-person trainings** at The Franklin Institute in the spring
3) STEM Specialist(s) have **dedicated time before and after activities for prep/cleanup/reflection** - minimum 30 minutes before and after each activity
4) The summer schedule allows **STEM Specialist(s) to deliver** at least four of the five SIS activities to all youth between grades 2 and 6
5) Ensure STEM Specialists administer & collect youth surveys to first 20 SIS participants
6) Science in the Summer **activities are rescheduled** if the STEM Specialist(s) are unavailable

Expectations for STEM Specialist(s)

STEM Specialists are staff from your organization who will be trained by TFI to facilitate all Science in the Summer activities with your youth. STEM Specialists must attend **in-person trainings** at The Franklin Institute**,** focusing on facilitation strategies and the Science in the Summer curriculum. These trainings will enable STEM Specialists to deliver programming with increased confidence and preparedness.

- A maximum of **2 STEM Specialists will be trained per site**.
- STEM Specialists will **deliver ALL Science in the Summer activities** at their site(s).

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

STEM Specialists **MUST** attend training at The Franklin Institute. Each training includes lunch and complimentary general admission to the museum.

- The **Facilitation Training** will be centered around TFI's core STEM facilitation strategies. This training is required for all **new STEM Specialists. Optional for 2026 returning STEM Specialists.**
- The **Curriculum Training** will focus on this year's curriculum, reviewing each of the five *Be an Engineer!* activities. This training is **required for new and returning STEM Specialists.**

STEM Specialist Training Schedule All trainings will take place at The Franklin Institute and will run from morning to early afternoon.	
FACILITATION TRAININGS **(New STEM Specialists must attend one date.)**	**CURRICULUM TRAININGS** **(New & Returning STEM Specialists must attend one date.)**
Wednesday, May 5, 2027	Saturday, May 22, 2027
Thursday, May 13, 2027	Wednesday, May 26, 2027
Wednesday, June 16, 2027	Wednesday, June 2, 2027
	Thursday, June 3, 2027
	Thursday, June 17, 2027

PROGRAM WEBINARS

Program Leads must attend all webinars.

Program Webinar Series All Program Leads must attend **all webinars** except where noted.	
Date	**Webinar**
Wed., Feb. 24, 2027	Program Introduction Webinar
Wed., Mar. 24, 2027	Program Operations Webinar
Wed., May 12, 2027	Summer Launch Webinar
Wed., Aug. 4, 2027	Reporting Webinar

Who Should Apply?

The Franklin Institute is accepting applications from youth-serving organizations that operate summer programs. Participating organizations commit to an 8-month engagement (see Program Timeline table above).
Organizations should apply if they:

- Are located in Camden, NJ, or in Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, or Philadelphia counties in Pennsylvania.
- Serve youth entering grades 2-6 during Summer 2027.
- Have, or plan to hire, summer staff who can be trained as STEM Specialists and deliver the Science in the Summer curriculum.
- Are committed to providing accessible STEM learning opportunities for youth in under-resourced communities.

Examples of organizations that may apply include Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), Out-of-School-Time providers (OST), After School Program Providers (ASP) that have summer programming, low cost or free summer camps, day cares/early childhood service providers, libraries, and public-school summer programs.

How to Apply

1. Visit the Science in the Summer **Application webpage - https://scienceinthesummer.fi.edu/apply**
2. Register and join the **Application Webinar on Wednesday, November 4, 2026 at 10 AM**. A recording of the webinar will be posted on the application webpage if you cannot attend live.
    a. **Register for the Application Webinar Zoom here.**
3. Use the **Application Prep Sheet** below to draft your answers to the application questions. **This is only a draft for your use.** Your final application must be submitted via the **Google Form** linked on the Application webpage.
4. When you're ready, revisit the **Application webpage** to access the application. Click the **"APPLY" button** to begin your application! If you have a Google account, you will be able to save your progress.

Applications are due on Friday, November 20, 2026. Send questions to ScienceintheSummer@fi.edu.

THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE | GSK Science in the Summer™ | In collaboration with GSK

SIS 2027 APPLICATION PREP SHEET

Use the application questions below to draft your responses. Final applications must be submitted through the Google Form linked on the application webpage by **Friday, November 20th, 2026**.

DO NOT SUBMIT THIS PDF FORM VIA EMAIL.

PART ONE: YOUR ORGANIZATION

Did your organization participate in GSK Science in the Summer™ (SIS) in 2026? _____

Name of Organization: _____

Your Name: _____ **Your Title: _____**

Your Email: _____

Organization Address, City, State, Zip, County: _____

Organization Type (select all that apply):

- ☐ Community-Based Organization (CBO)
- ☐ Out-of-School Time Provider (OST)
- ☐ After School Program Provider (ASP)
- ☐ Library
- ☐ Private School
- ☐ Public School
- ☐ Charter School
- ☐ Summer Camp
- ☐ Daycare/Early Childhood Service Provider
- ☐ College/University
- ☐ Other (please describe): _____

Current total number of staff employed by your organization: _____

Other than English, what language(s) are most spoken by your **summer program youth?**

Other than English, what language(s) are most spoken by your **summer program staff?**

Describe how your organization **aligns with the SIS goals**, including providing programming to youth in under-resourced communities. To support your response, you can include your organization's mission statement and/or example of programs and initiatives.

PART TWO: SUMMER PROGRAM INFORMATION

Answer the following questions to the best of your ability. Final program information will be **confirmed in March 2027** and will be used to calculate your stipend. Note that broad changes to these estimates may not be accommodated in March.

- Is any of your program information (youth reach, site numbers, etc.) **dependent on outside factors** (SDP funding, summer site availability, etc.)? If so, please explain.

SUMMER PROGRAM DATES

Provide a best estimate of your summer program dates. These dates can be approximate if they are not yet known. Final information will be confirmed in March.

- What **dates** does your organization expect to host summer programming in 2027?

  [start date] _____ to [end date] _____

SUMMER SITE INFORMATION

Provide the best estimate of your summer site information. Final information will be confirmed in March.

- **How many total sites does your organization expect to operate in summer 2027?** If you are able to provide an exact number, write this number in both fields.

  [minimum] _____ to [maximum] _____

- **At how many sites does your organization expect to implement SIS?** If you are able to provide an exact number, write this number in both fields.

  [minimum] _____ to [maximum] _____

- **How many of your SIS sites do you expect to be within each of the following counties**? Enter 0 (zero) for counties where you will not implement SIS.

  Berks: ____ Bucks: ____ Chester: ____ Delaware: ____ Montgomery: ____ Philadelphia: ____

  City of Camden, NJ (Not Camden County): ___

SIS STEM SPECIALIST INFORMATION

SIS STEM Specialists are staff who are (or will be) employed by your organization to facilitate the SIS curriculum. They will receive training in STEM facilitation and the SIS curriculum to ensure they are confident and well-prepared to deliver high-quality STEM programming.

In this section you will **estimate** the number of STEM Specialists you expect to utilize in your Summer 2027 programming **(maximum 2 per site)**. Please provide the most accurate information possible about your STEM Specialists to help us plan training sessions and other program operations. Final information will be confirmed in March.

- **How many total educators does your organization expect to employ in summer 2027?** If you are able to provide an exact number, write this number in both fields.

  [minimum] _____ to [maximum] _____

- **How many of these educators do you expect to act as STEM Specialists in summer 2027 (maximum 2 per site)**? If you are able to provide an exact number, write this number in both fields.

  [minimum] _____ to [maximum] _____

- **How many of these 2027 STEM Specialists do you expect to be returning from 2026**? If you are able to provide an exact number, write this number in both fields.

  [minimum] _____ to [maximum] _____

- **Briefly describe who your STEM Specialist(s) will be and how you plan to recruit them.** Share how many STEM Specialists you anticipate having at each site (no more than two per site).

  E.g. *Our STEM Specialists will be three of our academic-year educators (2 at Site A; 1 at Site B) who lead our after–school science programming. These three educators have a passion for science and youth development.*

  E.g. *In spring 2027, we plan to hire 5 facilitators specifically for Science in the Summer to travel throughout six sites within our organization. We will ensure that they have, at least, an appreciation for science and a background in youth facilitation.*

- **Returning partners from 2026, tell us about any changes you plan to make to your organization's STEM Specialist model in 2027**.

  E.g. *Last summer we found that one STEM specialist was not enough for our higher-volume sites. This year we plan to assign two STEM specialists for each of these sites.*

☐ I understand that new STEM Specialists **must complete two trainings (one facilitation and one curriculum training)** in-person at TFI in spring 2027. I understand that returning STEM Specialists **must complete one training (curriculum)** in-person at TFI in spring 2027.

SIS YOUTH REACH

In this section, share the **estimated number of youth in grades 2 to 6** to whom your organization will **deliver Science in the Summer**. One curriculum delivered equals implementing **a minimum of 4 out of 5 activities with the same group of youth.** Each activity is approximately 1 hour of programming. Final information will be confirmed in March.

- **How many total youth (all grades, pre-K to 12) does your organization expect to reach during summer 2027?** If you are able to provide an exact number, write this number in both fields.

  [minimum] _____ to [maximum] _____

- **How many of these youth do you expect to be in grades 2 to 6?** If you are able to provide an exact number, write this number in both fields.

  [minimum] _____ to [maximum] _____

- **To how many youth in grades 2 to 6 do you expect to deliver SIS in 2027?** If you are able to provide an exact number, write this number in both fields.

  [minimum] _____ to [maximum] _____

SIS PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

Briefly describe how your organization will fold SIS into your summer programming in 2027. This includes how you will meet your approved youth reach, how many STEM Specialists will deliver the curriculum, when they will deliver each activity, etc.

E.g. We see a new group of youth every week for six weeks. Each of our two STEM Specialists will run a "science hour" with their class each afternoon for five days, ensuring that all kids experience all five activities.

E.g. We will have the same group of children for four weeks this summer. To make sure each child experiences four out of the five activities, our STEM Specialists will travel between our two sites, delivering one activity each week at both locations.

Returning partners from 2026, tell us about **any changes you will make** to your organization's implementation plan in 2027.

E.g. *Last summer we struggled to fit four activities into one "Science Day." This summer, we are planning to do two consecutive days of SIS programming, running two activities on each day with the same group of kids.*

FIELD TRIP TO THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

Participation in Science in the Summer includes the opportunity for **a field trip to The Franklin Institute.** The program will cover general admission equal to the accepted youth number plus the associated number of chaperones. TFI will also provide a stipend to help support transportation costs. Field trips must be redeemed before **Thursday August 26, 2027**.

- **Is your organization interested in a field trip to The Franklin Institute?**

  ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ We are a library *

  * If your organization is a library, you will receive general admission tickets to hand out to youth participants.

Summer field trips to The Franklin Institute are permitted on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays**. If your organization cannot take field trips on these days, TFI will do their best to accommodate, however there are no guarantees.

- **Our organization…**
  ☐ **Can** take field trips on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays.
  ☐ **Cannot** take field trips on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays.
  ☐ **Is a library!**
- **If you cannot take field trips Tuesdays to Thursdays, share your limitations.**

PART THREE: CONTACT AND STIPEND INFORMATION

Authorizing Official – This person will sign your Organization Agreement via Docusign and must be an organization leader, such as a Director or higher. Department Managers, Site Directors, or Supervisors will not be accepted.	**Name** _____ **Title** _____ **Email address** _____
Organization Address – This address is where your location pin will show up on the map on **the Philadelphia network page** on our website. We are only able to add one pin per organization.	_____ _____ _____ _____
Organization Website – This link will also be added to the **Philadelphia network page** on our website.	

(Optional) Stipend Mailing Address – Your stipend check will be mailed to the address on your W9. If you would like your check mailed to a different location, provide that address and the appropriate recipient.	_____ _____ _____ _____

If your organization did not participate in SIS 2026, or has an updated W9, **email your typed W9 to** scienceinthesummer@fi.edu before moving on to the next section.

☐ We participated in SIS 2026, please use the same W9.
☐ We participated in SIS 2026, have a new W9, and have emailed it.
☐ We did not participate in SIS 2026 but have emailed our W9.

PART FOUR: PROGRAM LEADS

Select **two (2)** qualified individuals to act as **Program Leads** for Science in the Summer at your organization. These individuals will be TFI's point of contact for all program-related communications with your organization. Both will oversee your STEM Specialists and will be responsible for ensuring all program expectations are met.

PROGRAM LEAD #1	**Name** _____ **Title** _____ **Email address** _____ **Phone number** _____
PROGRAM LEAD #2	**Name** _____ **Title** _____ **Email address** _____ **Phone number** _____

☐ By checking this box, I confirm that **the two Program Leads and the Authorizing Official identified in the application** are aware they will be responsible for ensuring Science in the Summer is delivered **in alignment with all program expectations** (outlined in the Expectations section above).