Dear GERI Summer Residential Campers and Parents,

Camp is soon approaching, and we are ecstatic about seeing our campers! This email contains significant details about payment, forms, arrival, special conditions, behavior, and staying in contact with us over the duration of the camp, **so please** **read through to the end**.  Please refer to your welcome letter for additional details.

**Tuition Payments**

Payments were due June 1st and must be **paid in full immediately**. All accounts must be settled by the starting Sunday of camp in order for your child to attend. Please use the link and confirmation number in the email sent by confreg@purdue.edu to finish paying. You may also call 1-866-515-0023 M-F 9am-12pm, 1pm-4:30pm EST. If you are on a full scholarship or grant, please omit.

**Medical and Parent Authorizations**

It is important we have correct contact information for all guardians and emergency contacts, and that all participants and parents/guardians have signed our permission forms.  These forms include the "**Parent Authorization Form**" the "**Medical Authorization Form**", and the "**Medical History Form**".  All forms were due June 1st. Please email (geri@purdue.edu) the completed copies. Blank copies are attached to this email for your convenience.  Remember, **all medication (even over-the-counter medication) must be in its original labeled container**.  Prescriptions are given to counselors to distribute at the appropriate times. Please contact me if you have questions about medications or medication distribution.

***All gifted students are different!*** If you have indicated on your forms that your child will need special accommodations for medical, physical, mental, or emotional needs, please contact us directly to discuss further details on how we can best prepare for your son or daughter. We may need to organize additional meeting times with teachers and counselors in order to prepare them.

**GERI Transportation To/From Indianapolis Airport**

If you require a GERI pickup from the Indianapolis national airport (IND), please fill out the following link with your flight information **(even if you have already discussed with us directly, please fill this out)**. Your child may need additional **"Unaccompanied Minor"** documentation for the airline about which GERI staff will be picking them up at the gate.  Please contact me directly for the unaccompanied minor official information.  The round trip for GERI airport shuttle is $70, and will be added to your bill.  If your child arrives earlier or later than the scheduled time of camp, there may be additional fees for extra night rooms or dining costs.  We will also need to know in advance to prepare our schedule. If any changes come up between now and your start date, please let us know as soon as possible.

[**IND Airport Transportation Survey GERI SRES 2017**](https://purdue.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6hF5I26fV0FXpbf)

**Camp Check-In**

Check in is located at Earhart Hall dormitory.  It runs from 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM the first Sunday of Camp.  Orientation begins at 2:00 PM, which we encourage parents to attend. Students have a separate orientation at the same time.  Please be on time. **Parents of students who will be late (Arriving after 2 pm) should contact us in advance**, so that we can greet the student upon arrival and get them set.

**IMPORTANT:**Purdue is completing major construction on its main roads this summer, leaving few entrances to campus. Use the following live map: <http://statestreetwl.com/> to know how to best access campus from the direction you will be going.

***Earhart Hall***

***1275 First St***

***West Lafayette, IN 47906***

**COMET COMMUTERS (5th-6th grade only)**

REMEMBER: On the first Sunday of camp (Comet 1: July 2, Comet 2: July 8) you must be in attendance from Check-in until 8:00 pm. This includes the following activities:

Check in: 10 am -2:00 pm EST (check in takes between 10 and 20 minutes, you may come any time during that slot, and then return for orientation at 2pm)

Orientation 2pm-3pm EST

Dinner

**First day of class!  6:45 pm-8 pm Check In Day**

**Pickup and drop off for commuting students will be located at Earhart Residence Hall (1275 First St, West Lafayette, IN 47906)**

**Allergy and Food Restrictions**

If your camper has specific allergies or dietary restrictions, you may contact dietitian Kelly Fattore (kfattore@purdue.edu) or dorm and cafeteria coordinator Alyce Kessler (akessle@purdue.edu).

For students with allergies which require an EpiPen, we **highly recommend** and encourage the student bring two EpiPens. While we understand this is not always possible, students who are excited about camp, are much more likely to forget their EpiPen somewhere on campus. We ask students carry one with them at all times, and the second will remain with the supervising adult (teacher or counselor).

**Clothing and Behavior**

Many students are taking classes that take place in a science lab. These labs require specific safety precautions. Students should bring at least one pair of closed-toe shoes (sneakers are fine), in order to participate in their projects and activities safely. Long hair should be secured.  Jewelry and clothes with decorations should not be excessive, as these can be hazardous when working with tools and chemicals. This includes, but is not limited to STEAM Labs, Why Things Break: The Study of Material Failure, Blast off! An Exploration into Astronomy, Environmental Justice for All, and Discovering Scientific Laws and Concepts.

Additionally, it is important that all students work to create a safe place to learn and play while at camp. We are using University facilities which require a great amount of respect and care to continue using. Please refer to the attached "**Participant Expectation Agreement**" form, for details about how students should behave while at camp with us.

**Technology/Valuables Reminder**

Students should **NOT** bring expensive technology (laptops, tablets, speakers, gaming systems), significant amounts of cash, or credit cards to camp. Although we generally have responsible students, camp is exciting and could cause carelessness or accidents. (e.g. the camper who used their ipad in a science experiment).  Also, ask your students to leave their phones in the dormitory or backpack during class. This is out of respect for our instructors. Please refer to the "**What to Bring**" attached informational form for additional details.

**Global Gala!**

We encourage our students to contribute to their annual Global Gala.  In this stage show, students can share a piece of personal culture or history, a talent, or a creative performance for their classmates.  Your student may need special items based on what they decide to share. When deciding what to bring, please consider the value of the items brought (e.g. musical instruments, grandmother's hand-sewn table cloth), and make your best judgement on whether it is appropriate to bring to camp for 1-2 weeks should anything happen. For students who would play piano, we provide one.

**Communications During Camp**

We realize many students have cell phones.  We prefer you to contact us directly (your child's counselor or the GERI phone) with all concerns **BEFORE**contacting the student. This makes our purpose in facilitating the camper's needs easier. Please do not call or text campers during class time out of respect for our campers, our instructors, and our curriculum, as instructors have many activities planned for the students that require full attention. If students are distracted by matters at home, it could be disruptive to their experience.

In the event of a family emergency or other information the student needs to know immediately, please call the GERI line first (765-412-7002). The staff member with the GERI phone will be able to handle the situation to best help the student, and reunite you with them if necessary.

In the event of illness or emergency, we will be in touch with you as often as possible through the GERI phone, email, and our social media outlets. We will be verifying contact information upon arrival, to ensure we have the fastest way of reaching you.

**Leaving Campus**

Students should not leave Purdue campus or adult supervision under any circumstances. If you have arranged for a specific instance of a parent or guardian taking the student off campus, we must have the contact information of the person who is coming to get them, the time they will be gone, what time they will be back, and where they are going. Your students are our responsibility for the duration of camp, and we take the safety of our students as a serious matter.

**The Last Day of Camp**

The last day of camp (the final Saturday), is a special day. The following events all take part in Earhart Hall in both the East and West Lounge on the first floor, where orientation is also held. In the morning from 9 AM to 10:30 AM EST we have parent teacher conferences. These are for parents who are able to come to campus on that morning. Parents and teachers talk about the student’s experience in a particular class and parents are able to see some of the products students have worked on all week. The next event is our closing ceremony from 10:30 AM to 11:45 AM EST, which we encourage parents who are able to attend as well. During the ceremony we have a keynote speaker from a prominent area in education, and all of our students receive their teacher’s evaluations on their performance and certificates of completion.

***All students should check out of their rooms and be picked up by their parent or be to their assigned travel arrangements by 12 PM EST, on the final Saturday of camp.***

**Construction**

Major construction is happening on Purdue's campus this summer. We ask for your patience and flexibility while improving our main roads. Please use the live map: <http://statestreetwl.com/> to better facilitate your arrival on campus. State street is closed, except for two crossover points. One at Airport Blvd, and one at Martin Jishke Drive. These streets can be used to best access Earhart Dorm from Highway 231.  You can also check our Facebook page on Day 1 for specific directions!  <https://www.facebook.com/PurdueGERI/>

**Social Media! See your Kids!  Keep in touch!**

GERI has a very active Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram during camp (and during the year)! Like and follow us on all accounts for the coolest features on what your kids are up to at Purdue! (As well as reminders about directions).

<https://www.facebook.com/PurdueGERI/>

<https://www.instagram.com/geriedpurdue>

<https://twitter.com/PurdueGERI>

 ***We can't wait to see you!***

Corinne Green

Summer Residential 2017 Co Coordinator

Gifted Education Resource Institute

765-494-7243​