



## 2023 Deaf and Hard of Hearing Summer Academy

### WHAT IS THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING SUMMER ACADEMY?

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation's Deaf and Hard of Hearing Summer Academy Program is designed to offer high school age students who are deaf, hard of hearing or DeafBlind an opportunity to develop their knowledge, experiences and awareness as it relates to their future academic and employment goals. Students will participate in a 10-day-long program on a college campus where they will receive assessments, information and educational experiences in various curriculum areas related to self-advocacy, college skills, vocational development and assistive technology.

Students will reside in a college dormitory, share a room with another student and eat meals at a campus dining hall, as well as engage in fun and exciting evening activities.

Current college students are hired as Resident Assistants (RAs) to provide daily supervision of students. Resident Assistants help to ensure the safety of the students and assist with various activities. Prior to the start of Summer Academy, the RAs participate in a training program to develop strategies and enhance the overall experience for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Summer Academy participants.

Transportation is not provided. Students must be able to arrive and depart the program with a parent, guardian or family member. If transportation assistance is necessary for a student to participate, please contact your VRC or program staff.

### **\*\*IMPORTANT DATES\*\***

Student Arrival: Sunday, July 16, 2023

Program Curriculum: Sunday, July 16 to Wednesday, July 26, 2023

Graduation and Student Departure: Wednesday, July 26, 2023

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Applications must be submitted by **\*April 30, 2023\***. Students and parents can obtain more information, including our admission requirements, and apply for admission into our program at the following link: [2023 Summer Academy Student Application](#). If you need assistance with the application process, please contact your OVR Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor or your [local OVR district office](#).

## ENROLLMENT PROCESS

Students will be informed of their acceptance into the Summer Academy by mid-May 2023. Once accepted, one of the program directors will be in touch with the student and their family about required documentation that needs to be read and filled out, which will be due by the end of June 2023. By the end of May, one of the program staff will contact every student and parent(s) to answer any questions you have about the program.

**\*NOTE: Applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. A maximum of 25 students will be accepted into the program, so don't delay. Apply today!**

### DHH SUMMER ACADEMY SUGGESTED PACKING LIST

**(IF YOU THINK YOU'LL NEED SOMETHING NOT ON THE LIST, BRING IT ANYWAY!)**

- ✓ Pillow
- ✓ Linens
  - Pillowcases
  - Towels and washcloths
  - Blanket/comforter
  - Single bed set, size XL Twin
- ✓ Toiletries (enough for 10 days)
  - Soap and shampoo
  - Feminine hygiene products
  - Sunscreen
  - Toothbrush and toothpaste
  - Grooming products if desired
- ✓ Backpack
- ✓ Summer clothing suitable for both hot and cool weather and activities
  - Athletic shoes
  - Rainwear or umbrella
  - Jacket or windbreaker
  - Hat (if desired)
  - Swimsuit and beach towel
  - Closed-toe shoes such as sneakers are required for some recreational activities
- ✓ Underwear, undershirts (if applicable), socks, bras (if applicable)
- ✓ Clothes hangers (if desired)
- ✓ Refillable water bottle
- ✓ Necessary medications, including prescription and over-the-counter medications: a ten-day supply
- ✓ Batteries for hearing aids and/or cochlear implant speech processors (ten days' worth)
- ✓ Extra tubing for behind-the-ear hearing aids
- ✓ Extra cochlear implant speech processor accessories (headpieces, cables, microphones)
- ✓ Storage container for hearing aids and/or cochlear implant speech processors for safekeeping and to keep out moisture
- ✓ FM system or other assistive listening devices
- ✓ Hearing aid dryer or desiccant jar to dry hearing aids or cochlear implant speech processors
- ✓ Vibrating and/or visual alarm clock

✓ Power strips with built-in surge protectors (no extension cords are permitted)

✓ Small amount of cash

**\*If you need additional information about the DHH Summer Academy program or if you have questions about the program, contact Russ Goddard at 724-936-5076 (voice), 717-831-0336 (videophone) or [rgoddard@pa.gov](mailto:rgoddard@pa.gov) (email).**