

2023 Deaf and Hard of Hearing Summer Academy

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation's Deaf and Hard of Hearing Summer Academy Program, located at Penn State University's Main Campus in State College, PA, 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, vocational development and assistive technology.

Summer Academy Program Details

- Program Dates: Sunday, July 16 to Wednesday, July 26, 2023
- Available at no cost to eligible students
- Students reside at Penn State University, University Park, in a dormitory, share a room with another student and eat meals at a campus dining hall.
- Program curriculum will focus on the areas of self-advocacy, communication access options, college skills, social-emotional skills, Vocational Development and evening recreational activities.
- Students must commit to attending the entire program.

Application Criteria

Students must:

- Be enrolled in 10th, 11th or 12th grade in the 2022-2023 school year
- Be an active participant with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Be medically stable and able to independently maintain dietary restrictions and medication needs
- Demonstrate basic independent living skills and travel skills

Application Process

- Please complete [the 2023 Summer Academy Application](#).
- Application Deadline: April 30, 2023
- Students will be notified of their acceptance by May 15, 2023.
- A maximum of 25 students will be accepted into this program.

Your Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor can assist you with the application process. If you do not have a vocational rehabilitation counselor, check with your [local OVR office](#).

***For additional program information, click on the application link above or contact Russ Goddard at 724-936-5076 (voice), 717-831-0336 (videophone) or rgoddard@pa.gov (email).**