

LANG SCIENCE PROGRAM – 2022 APPLICATION INFORMATION PACKET

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: February 13, 2022



Are you a 6th grader who is really excited about science?

Are you curious about science and the natural world? Do you always watch the latest rocket launch, follow #nature on Instagram, or like learning about different cultures around the world?

You can learn about all of that and more as a student in the [American Museum of Natural History's Lang Science Scholars Program!](#)

Lang Science Scholars is an intensive **6-year science program** spanning middle and high school for students in New York City. Lang is a program for students who are curious about the world and eager to expand their knowledge. We work with our students to nurture this curiosity & joy, and to guide them to become responsible contributors to and consumers of science.

In Lang, the Museum will be your classroom – you'll learn in the exhibits, visit our collections and labs, and take classes with students who share your passion for science. You'll also conduct your own research, visit nearby forests, zoos, research centers, and other museums!

To apply to the Lang Science Program, you must be:

- someone who loves science and can't get enough of it!
- curious about the world and eager to expand your knowledge
- enthusiastic about trying new things and challenging yourself
- a team player who likes to accomplish goals and work collaboratively with others

and...

- currently in the 6th grade
- living in and/or going to school in the five boroughs of NYC
- able, willing, and eager to commit to a 6-year program that meets for 3 weeks every summer, and 15-18 Saturdays every school year, with the option for some after school meetings in high school.
- able to attend all dates of this year's summer session: July 5 – July 22, 2022

To access or share this Application Guide directly use: <https://bit.ly/LangAppGuide>
To apply to Lang, fill out this application: <https://bit.ly/LangApp2022> + <https://flipgrid.com/bc6f5ac1>

For the incoming class starting in Fall 2022, program tuition is scaled to family income and size. Please see the income eligibility chart below to see if you qualify for **free** or **reduced (50%) tuition**. For those that do not qualify for tuition assistance, Lang is \$4,000/yr for the incoming class.

What is the Lang Science Scholars Program?

Community

AMNH Youth Community

We are committed to building and fostering a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community to provide young people with one-of-a-kind STEM experiences, within a museum context, that support their academic and social development and build foundational STEM and career skills. We invite students from across our five boroughs to explore human cultures, the natural world and our universe in a way that is creative, social, relevant, and welcoming.

What is the Lang community like?

We believe the strength of the Lang community is one of the best things about this program! Lang students connect with 20-25 peers in their grade cohort and approximately 130 current Lang students over the full program who share their interests, and often form life-long friendships.

Connecting with families is also an important focus of the program. Along with regular communication, we host family events throughout the year and have multiple opportunities for families and students to provide feedback on their experience. We also offer free tickets to the Museum for families that are redeemable on any day. Bring your family and friends! Bring out-of-town guests!

Science & Content

What are classes like?

Hands-on, dynamic, responsive, and student-focused! And more! Students are constantly learning by doing, observing, and creating. But the Lang program has much more to offer, including special shows in the planetarium, tours of the Museum's labs and collections, meetings with scientists, trips to area science-related institutions, and special guests.

We cover science topics exhibited at the Museum such as Physical Anthropology, Cultural Anthropology, Geology, Astrophysics, Genetics, Evolution, Ecology, and others. Museum courses generally do not focus on robotics or medicine, but these topics may be featured in our classes.

Why is this program six years long?? What do you do in six years?!

EVERYTHING! In middle school, students take courses in the major sciences that are exhibited and studied at AMNH, such as Anthropology, Geology, Astrophysics, Genetics, and other Life Sciences.

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In high school, students apply that knowledge to annual research projects and elective courses. Students select courses and research topics, allowing them to concentrate on particular fields if they so choose, or continue taking a wide selection of different sciences. We also offer courses in preparing for and applying to colleges, as well as workshops for building career skills.

If six years isn't for you, we encourage you to take a look at the Science Alliance Program. More information is available at <http://www.amnh.org/ScienceAlliance>.

What kind of skills do students build in their classes and research teams?

Through their time in Lang, students build skills in critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creativity. Specifically, they become adept at problem solving and data literacy, verbal and written communication, teamwork and giving/ receiving feedback, and they know how to expand

How do you help students prepare for their next steps?

In Lang, students build many skills that prepare them for college and their career. Critical thinking, teamwork, and communication skills are central to all our courses and experiences. We also work with students to strengthen their independence and confidence in navigating educational and professional spaces.

Students in 11th and 12th grade take summer courses in college preparedness. We also offer free test prep for 11th/12th graders for either the SAT or ACT directly through Kaplan Test Prep. This benefit is subject to change based on the relationships between Kaplan Test Prep and the Museum.

Logistics

What does the program cost?

For the incoming class of 7th grade students, tuition is scaled to family size and income following guidelines for NYC affordable housing.

- **Free Tuition:** low income families (orange, green, blue in the chart)
- **Reduced Tuition (\$2000/year):** moderate or middle income families (pink or yellow in the chart)
- **Full Tuition (\$4000/year):** families with higher than middle income (not listed in the chart)

Please see the income eligibility chart below to see if you qualify for **free** or **reduced (50%) tuition**. Students and families apply for financial aid after being accepted into the programs.

Household Size	Free Tuition	Reduced Tuition	Full Tuition
2 people	76,400 or below	\$76,401-\$157,575	\$157,576 or higher
3 people	\$85,920 or below	\$85,921-\$177,210	\$177,211 or higher
4 people	\$95,440 or below	\$95,441-\$196,845	\$196,846 or higher
5 people	\$103,120 or below	\$103,121-\$212,685	\$212,686 or higher

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6 people or more	\$110,720 or below	\$110,721-\$228,360	\$228,361 or higher
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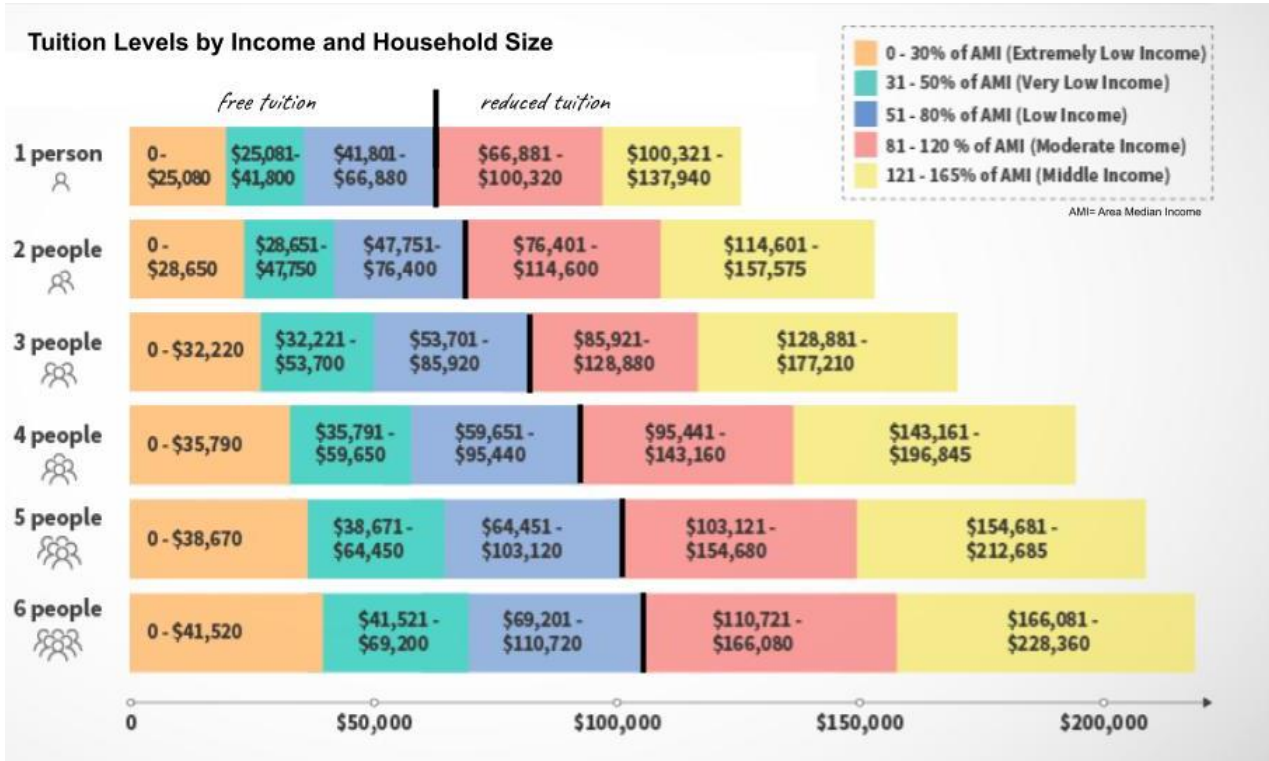


Chart from <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/hpd/services-and-information/do-you-qualify.page>

Image Description. Chart depicting the following information: For households of 1 person, low income is 41,800 or below, and moderate/middle income is \$41801-\$137,940. For households of 2 people, low income is 76,400 or below, and moderate/middle income is \$76,401-\$157,575. For households of 3 people, low income is \$85,920 or below, and moderate/middle income is \$85,921-\$177,210. For households of 4 people, low income is \$95,440 or below, and moderate/middle income is \$95,440-\$196,845. For households of 5 people, low income is \$103,120 or below, and moderate/middle income is \$103,121-\$212,685. For households of 6 or more people, low income is \$110,720 or below, and moderate/middle income is \$110,721-\$228,360.

Who can apply?

New York City students who are **currently in 6th grade** (or equivalent). Students must live in and/or go to school within the 5 boroughs of NYC. Westchester, Long Island, and New Jersey are not included. We cannot make exceptions for students in other grades.

Is there a COVID-19 vaccine mandate?

Yes. Consistent with the recent updates to the Mayoral Executive Order, proof of COVID-19 vaccination is required for Museum visitors ages 5 and above. Visit the [Museum's Health and Safety website](#) for details for accepted forms of proof.

Does the program provide lunch and transportation?

Unfortunately, we are currently unable to provide meals.

During the summer, we provide MetroCards for students in conjunction with the DOE Office of Pupil Transportation. During the school year, students' schools may provide MetroCards for Saturday transportation – we will provide paperwork to help them do so.

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For all field trips in the Lang program, we cover transportation and admissions costs.

When does the Lang program meet?

We meet for 3 weeks each summer and 15-18 Saturdays each school year. In the summer of 2022, we will meet from July 5 – July 22. During the summer, our schedule is Monday-Friday, from 10am to 3pm with an hour lunch break. During the school year we typically meet on scheduled Saturdays, also from 10am to 3pm. Times may change due to trips and other special events. In high school, students may have the option to meet during after-school hours instead of Saturdays.

What is your attendance policy?

We know that our students have many interests and other commitments. At the same time, regular participation at Lang is required so students can take part in the activities, progress through the courses, and build relationships with peers and educators. During the first summer we do not allow any unexcused absences. For all subsequent years, students are permitted 2 *unexcused* absences per summer, and 2 per school year. Reasons for *excused* absences include illness, emergencies, mandatory school events, and religious obligations.

We do our best to schedule classes around religious holidays, test dates, and the DOE school calendar.

When is the application due, and what does it require?

The full application is due **February 13th at 9pm**. The people you list as recommenders will be notified as soon as you submit the application. Recommendation forms will be sent directly to them and will be due February 27th at 9pm.

The application consists of:

1. A form with basic information about the applicant
2. Two **written** and one **video** response to the following questions: 1) Why do you wish to be in Lang? (written) 2) What do you like and dislike about working in teams? Tell us about your teamwork experience. (written) 3) What is something you are curious about and excited to learn more about? (video)
3. short written response from the student's caregiver explaining why they wish for their child to participate in Lang
4. email addresses for two non-family adults in the student's life who have agreed to submit recommendation forms on their behalf. One recommender must be one of the student's 5th or 6th grade teachers

More details can be found on page 5. If special accommodations are needed to apply to or participate in the Lang program, please call the Lang Science Scholars staff at 212-313-7171 or email the team at ApplyToLang@amnh.org.

What happens after the application?

All completed applications will be reviewed by our staff. Some students will be invited in for interviews. More details on the interviews will be available upon invitation. We will share decisions by mid-May.

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How can I help my child prepare for the application or interview?

We are interested in learning about the student's interests, curiosity, and passions. Encourage them to consider what they enjoy doing and what they would like to learn more about. We want to hear from the students themselves and prefer authentic, honest responses, even if that means they are a little less "polished." Help your child prepare by talking with them about their responses for the application, and by encouraging them to identify and discuss their interests more deeply if they are invited for an interview.

Application Instructions

PART 1: The bulk of the application is via an online form. Due February 13 at 9pm

In this form, applicants will be asked to share information about themselves, their family, and their school: <https://bit.ly/LangApp2022>

Students will be asked to write answers to these two questions:

- 1) The Lang Science Program is a 6-year program that takes place for three weeks every summer and up to 18 Saturdays during the school year. Please explain why you want to be in the Lang Science Program.
- 2) What do you like and dislike about working in teams? Tell us about a challenging experience you've had with teamwork, how you dealt with it, and how you'd deal with it if it happened again.

Caregivers will also be asked to respond to one question:

- 1) Why do you want your student to join the Lang Science Scholars?

Note, any language is acceptable and we will use online translation services to understand your message. We are interested in your perspective; we are not concerned about writing style, grammar, spelling, or anything else about your written response.

Finally, applicants must also **identify two adults who will serve as recommenders**. One person must be one of the student's 5th or 6th grade teachers. The other may be a teacher, a coach, a religious leader, or any other non-family adult in the student's life. Upon submission of the application, they will be emailed a form to complete. The recommenders' responses are due by 9pm on February 27th.

PART 2: To provide a more comprehensive picture of your interests, we ask students to submit a video response to the following question. Due February 13 at 9pm

- 1) We all have something we are curious about. What is that "thing" (or things) that makes you curious? What more do you want to know?

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Videos must be submitted on <https://flipgrid.com/bc6f5ac1> using the guest password **LangApplication**

Tips for the video: Keep it to **under 3 minutes**, and answer the questions as fully and honestly as you can. We are looking for simple home videos where we get to hear directly from you. The video does not need to be fancy or professional quality! Just let your personality and interests shine through.

Caregivers: Please keep your guidance to a minimum. We want to see your students' opinions, interests, and style reflected in this video!

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