



# Camp TURF – A Summer Horticulture Career Academy

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# Goals and Objectives

Give students underrepresented in STEM careers:

- the confidence that college is within their means
- experience with science and math outside the classroom
- a chance to live on campus and work with professors
- get a good grasp of the breadth and nature of horticulture careers



# Target audience

- Upcoming 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> graders from around Oklahoma
- First-generation college
- Low SES (Oklahoma's Promise participants)
- Minority
- Represent diversity in urban/rural, geographic area (county), backgrounds (ag/non-ag)



# Recruitment/Selection

- State Regents' summer academy posters
  - Extension/4H educators
  - Master Gardeners
  - OK Science/Math listservs, Facebook groups
  - No GPA requirement
  - No letter of recommendation
  - Public, private, homeschool all eligible
- seen as obstacles by target audience



# Budget

- \$625/week/student
- Residential suites have common area/kitchenette → breakfast
- Lunches – big subs, donated sandwiches, meal deals
- Dinners – out in local community
- Water bottles instead of bottled water
- Grow own plants for grafting, dish gardens, cloning, etc.
- Supplies leftover from other events
- Free community activities; group deals; volunteers



# Some Activities:

- Cloning African violets
- Dish gardens
- Bonsai
- Grafting tomato plants
- Making pervious concrete
- Soil properties and testing
- Plant disease diagnostics
- Entomology activities
- Landscape planning
- Landscape modeling
- Filming episode of “Oklahoma Gardening”
- Zoo horticulture
- USDA Beagle Brigade
- Palynology
- PPE demonstration
- Installing putting green cups
- Irrigation assembly/troubleshooting
- Career discovery tests
- Bomb calorimetry









