

Elaine P. Snowden
Astronomy School



19-23 April 2017

Information and application form

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Elaine P. Snowden Astronomy School Information

Have you ever wondered what is beyond our world, if other Earth-like planets exist, or how black holes are formed? Perhaps you have thought about how the universe started, where we are in space and time and what will happen as the universe evolves. If you have, then apply for a place on the Elaine P. Snowden Astronomy School.

This camp is aimed at Year 13 students. It will be held both at our Ilam campus and at Mt John Observatory in Tekapo. On campus at the University of Canterbury we will talk about the universe past, present and future, the life cycles of stars, planet exploration, extraterrestrial life and more. We will then travel to the Mt John Observatory at Tekapo where we will explore our cosmic neighborhood with modern astronomical instruments. The programme will contain a mix of seminars and practical work.

How to Apply

Places on the Elaine P. Snowden Astronomy School (formerly known as the Aurora School) are limited to 20 participants each year. Applications from Year 13 students are favoured, but we will consider applications from exceptional Year 12 students. Acceptance is based on a student's written application and NCEA results. We ask students to include a copy of their latest NCEA results (or equivalent) with their application, and a note of their current subjects.

Cost

Thanks to a generous donation from a private sponsor, the Elaine P. Snowden Astronomy School is offered free of charge. Accommodation, transport during the camp and materials are provided. Breakfast and dinner for out-of town students are included, Sunday evening to Friday inclusive. Participating students must cover the cost of lunches, and any extra snacks and meals if they arrive earlier or depart later.

Students will need to cover the cost of travel to and from the University of Canterbury. Some financial assistance towards travel expenses may be available for those that require it.

Accommodation

Students from outside Christchurch can be provided with accommodation from Tuesday 18th April, and this will be in a UC hall of residence.



During the visit to Mount John accommodation will be provided in Tekapo. Alternatively, students can arrange their own accommodation in Christchurch, but all participants will stay in Tekapo for two nights.

Safety

As the University of Canterbury is responsible for the health and safety of the participants, students may not travel off campus or away from the group unless accompanied by a postgraduate student or staff member. All students must follow any rules and instructions given to them by designated staff and postgraduate students.

Transport

Transport to the University of Canterbury should be arranged so participants can arrive in time to register before 9:00am on Wednesday 19th April. Students will be free to leave by 4:00pm on Sunday 23rd April.

We will ask participants to book their own travel to and from Christchurch. It is expected that students will book flights within 1 week of receiving notification of a successful application for their place in the School. All travel and accommodation arrangements will be confirmed with successful applicants. Airport pick-ups will be arranged in groups.

Dates

Applications close Monday 6th March. Students will be notified of the outcome of their applications by Monday 13th March. Successful applicants must accept the offer of a place no later than Friday 17th March. The Elaine P. Snowden Astronomy School runs from Wednesday 19th to Sunday 23rd April 2017.

Contact

For further information and enquiries please contact:

Tamsin Laird
Science Outreach Coordinator
College of Science
University of Canterbury
Private Bag 4800
Christchurch 8140
Phone: 03 369 4169
Email: tamsin.laird@canterbury.ac.nz

Please send the completed application form, endorsed by your science teacher, with a copy of your latest NCEA results (or equivalent) to the Science Outreach Coordinator, at the postal address or email above. Applications should arrive no later than 5.00pm, Monday 6th March. It is recommended to scan and email applications as items sent by NZ Post can take up to 8 days to be delivered. Late applications cannot be accepted. Receipt of applications will be acknowledged by email.

Front cover image credit: Matt Searles

Application Form

Personal Details (please write clearly)

Preferred first name _____ Surname _____ Male Female
Address _____ Post code _____ Year 13 Year 12
Email (This will be used to correspond with you - please write clearly) _____
Telephone _____ Mobile _____ School name _____

Using no more than this space, please explain why you wish to participate in the Aurora Astronomy School:

Please list all level 2 and level 3 subjects you are studying and have studied previously.:

Please add additional information that is relevant to your application (eg, if you are a member of an astronomy club, what you intend to study at university and so on).

Accommodation (tick boxes as necessary)

- Yes, I will require accommodation in Christchurch
 No, I do not require any accommodation in Christchurch

Accommodation arrangements, including any additional nights required, will be confirmed with successful applicants.

Declaration

I have discussed this application with my parent(s)/guardian(s). If selected to attend I agree to follow instructions and rules.

Signed _____ Dated _____

Supporting Science Teacher to Complete

Full Name _____ Email _____

Yes, I support this application. Signed _____ Dated _____

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