

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the differences between STEP and STEPx?

STEP:

- Two week, residential program
- For local, state, national, and international students
- 50 Hours of instructional time
- Held on the UW-Madison Campus
- Equal emphasis on social/emotional and academic growth
- Dates: July 12th –July 25th, 2015
- Additional documentation needed to qualify (i.e. grade report, test scores, writing sample, etc.)

STEPx:

- One week, commuter program only
- Specifically for students in the Greater Dane County area
- 25 Hours of instructional time
- Held on the UW-Madison Campus
- Emphasis on single subject area
- Dates: July 20th- July 24th, 2015
- Need to be recommended by school. No additional documentation needed.

Who can apply for STEPx?

• Current 8th grade students in the Greater Dane County area who have been recommended by a school official for another gifted and talented program at UW may enroll in the STEPx program.

How does the STEPx application process work?

• School coordinators have already done their part and have recommended current 8th grade students to participate in an accelerated academic program. The next steps in the application process can be completed by the individual families. First, families can visit the WCATY website to review the two program choices for 8th grade students as well as read about the class choices. Secondly, families can complete the online application form and pay the application fee. Lastly, WCATY will be in communication with the students and families regarding their acceptance into the STEPx program. Financial aid is available for students and families who qualify. Students do not need to submit a recommendation form or any other additional documentation if they are just applying for the STEPx program. Application will be open through April 10th and Financial Aid forms are due April 10th.



How can families register online?

• Families can visit the WCATY website at www.wcaty.wisc.edu. Under the 'Explore' title in the top blue bar, there is a 'programs' tab. All of the WCATY programs are listed in this program page. The words, 'REGISTER NOW' can be found on the right side of the page. This will take the families to the registration unit. A complete guide to STEPx online registration for families is included in this packet. It can also be found on the STEPx webpage.





How will WCATY continue to communicate with the schools and families of possible STEPx students?

• A letter from the University of Wisconsin's School of Education has gone out to both school coordinators and families regarding the summer programming changes. Individual families will be receiving communication via email directly from WCATY regarding the WCATY programs being offered during the 2015 summer. Families will be invited to look at the options and choose an option which fits their needs. Registration is open and can be completed at any time. Once the online application is complete and the application fee has been paid, WCATY will send out an acceptance package with more information regarding the program. A couple weeks before the STEPx program begins, they will receive additional information from WCATY. If there are questions regarding the program or the application process, coordinators and families can call the WCATY office at 608-890-3260.

Who can I contact with additional questions?

• If there are additional questions regarding any WCATY programs, please feel free to email WCATY at wcaty@education.wisc.edu or call the WCATY office at 608-890-3260.

