



Office of Engineering Studies
Harold Washington Hall – Room 129
9501 S. King Drive
Tel 773-995-2357
Fax 773-995-4504

Determined Leaders, Future Engineers

Dear Student,

Thank you for being interested in the 2026 Summer Pre-Freshman Program in Engineering and Science (PREP) at Chicago State University. Tentative dates for the program are Monday, June 22, 2026, to Thursday, July 30, 2026. The hours of operation are from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. PREP is designed to make students aware, at an early age, of the professional opportunities in engineering and to encourage students to take more mathematics and science as part of their high school course load. The six-week summer program will include educational, motivational, and recreational activities explicitly designed to stimulate interest in math/science and to ensure success in an engineering curriculum. The goal of the PREP Program is to increase awareness of engineering career opportunities and facilitate the selection of an engineering major in college. The program is beneficial to students because it provides critical insight into the engineering profession, the demand of an engineering curriculum, and what is expected of them academically and socially in college.

Please note that the PREP Program may operate virtually if shelter-in-place is mandated.

Students entering grades 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th in September 2026 can apply. Students who are selected for the PREP Program will participate in:

- Science, Math, and English/communication courses (Math Course is College Credit)
- Hands-on engineering projects
- Field trips to science and engineering corporations

We are now accepting applications for the summer program. The requirements are as follows:

- Students must have demonstrated proficiency in math/science by submitting a copy of their 2025/2026 school report card or official high school transcript.
- Students must provide an unofficial copy of the most recent standardized test scores. Please photocopy the original documents and submit the copies with your application package. We will not photocopy or return documents. All materials become the property of Chicago State University.
- Students must submit two letters of recommendation from their science instructor, math instructor, or school counselor.
- Interview with summer program staff/faculty member.
- Students must be from an ethnic group historically underrepresented in engineering.

The final deadline for submitting all application information is Friday, May 29, 2026. Be sure to complete the entire application and return the letters of recommendation. Please note that the math and/or science instructor must complete each written recommendation letter. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

***Students Must Reside in the City of Chicago
Student Living Outside of City Limits \$150.00 Participation Fee***



CHICAGO STATE UNIVERSITY

For Office Use Only

- Math Recommendation Science Recommendation
 Report Card Student Essay Test Scores

PREP 2026

Application for Admissions

Student Information

Student's Name _____

Sex Male Female

Date of Birth _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Education Information

Student's Current School _____ Student's Current Grade Level _____

School Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

School is Public Parochial Private Charter

Please list summer programs that the student has attended:

Name of summer program _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of summer program _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

1. Parent/Guardian Name _____
 Mrs. Ms. Mr. Dr.

Home Address (If Different from the Student's) _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Highest level of education: Did not graduate high school GED High School Diploma Some College
 Two-year degree College Graduate Graduate School

2. Parent/Guardian Name _____
 Mrs. Ms. Mr. Dr.

Home Address (If Different from the Student's) _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Highest level of education: Did not graduate high school GED High School Diploma Some College
 Two-year degree College Graduate Graduate School

Parental Consent

I understand that _____ is being considered for the 2026 PREP Program from June 22, 2026, to July 30, 2026. A PREP sponsor, PREP contractor, or University staff will provide the student with direct supervision. I certify my signature below that:

1. I give permission for my son/daughter to participate in the 2026 Summer PREP Program and all program activities.
2. I approve the release of my child's school records and will complete a health questionnaire if my child is selected as a student for the program.
3. I guarantee my child will participate in the entire six weeks of the program. If they miss more than 2 days of the program, I understand they will be terminated.

Your signature below indicates that all information provided on this application is completed and factually accurate. Your signature also attests that you wish your child to be considered for participation in the PREP Program with no guarantee of final acceptance.

Signature of student _____ Date _____

Signature of parent or guardian _____ Date _____

Student Essay

PREP 2026

Student's Name _____

Please write an essay on one of the following topics. You may use additional paper if you like.

1. What has been the most influential experience in your life? Provide reasons to support your answer.
2. Why should the 2026 Pre-Freshman Program in Engineering and Science consider your application?



Math Teacher Recommendation

PREP 2026

Student's Name _____

To the student: Fill in your name above and give this form to your math teacher. Return in a sealed envelope with the instructor's name signed across the envelope's seal. Please return with your application.

To the Math Teacher The student above is applying to attend the 2026 Pre-Freshman Program in Engineering and Science (PREP) hosted by Chicago State University. We would greatly appreciate any information you can provide to help us decide on their application. Because you have worked closely with the student, your comments will be constructive in evaluating the student's past, present, and potential performance.

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General Information

Your Name: _____

Position: _____

Name of School: _____

School Address: _____

How long have you known the student? _____

In what capacity have you known the student? _____



CHICAGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Chicago State University, 9501 S. King Drive, PREP Program, Office of Engineering Studies,
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Personal Recommendation - In comparison to the other students of the same age, you have known at your school, how would you rank the candidate in the following areas?

	Outstanding	Good	Average	Below Average	No Judgement
Concern for others					
Responsibility					
Leadership					
Integrity/honesty					
Energy /Initiative					
Relationship with peers					
Relationship with adults					
Reaction to criticism					
Sense of humor					
Self-confidence					
Self-discipline					
Common sense					
Willingness to take risks					

Academic Recommendation – How would you rank the candidate in the following areas compared with the other students of the same age?

	Outstanding	Good	Average	Below Average	No Judgment
Motivation					
Creativity					
Intellectual curiosity					
Study Habits					
Oral Expression					
Written Expression					
Academic ability					
Academic performance					
Ability to reason abstractly					
Math/science competency					
Class attendance					
Ability to think logically					

Please provide any additional information that you think will be helpful on a separate sheet of paper.

Signature _____ Date _____

Science Teacher Recommendation

PREP 2026

Student's Name _____

To the student: Fill in your name above and give this form to your science teacher. Return in a sealed envelope with the instructor's name signed across the envelope's seal. Please return with your application.

To the Science Teacher The student above is applying to attend the 2026 Pre-Freshman Program in Engineering and Science (PREP) hosted by Chicago State University. We would greatly appreciate any information you can provide to help us decide on their application. Because you have worked closely with the student, your comments will be constructive in evaluating the student's past, present, and potential performance.

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Class attendance					
Ability to think logically					

Please provide any additional information that you think will be helpful on a separate sheet of paper.

Signature _____ Date _____