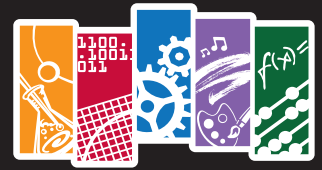


# STEAMCamps



Your **epic summer adventure** just went **online**

## FAQ

### Answers to your frequently asked questions about NIU STEAM 4-week online summer camps.

We're excited to offer 4-week virtual summer camps for high school students that provide more time for campers to explore a subject and get feedback as they complete projects or polish their work. See all our camps at [go.niu.edu/steamcamps](http://go.niu.edu/steamcamps).

**Q: *How are 4-week camps different from traditional summer camps?***

**A:** With 4-week camps, we cover additional topics, provide a more in-depth exploration of concepts, and offer additional personalized feedback to campers. Also, students will work at their own pace and in their own space.

**Q: *Is this just more screen time?***

**A:** The 4-week virtual summer camps are focused screen time with a productive end goal. Students get access to STEAM experts and professionals and engage with the subjects that matter most to them. Students also spend time away from the screen making and doing things that contribute to their overall learning experience. This is not passive learning.

**Q: *How do I access the camp materials?***

**A:** You need a device with internet access and the ability to stream videos. Some camps may have additional technology requirements. See the camp descriptions for details.

**Q: *Does my teen have to sit in front of the computer for several hours at a time?***

**A:** No. Many camp activities are asynchronous, meaning campers can complete activities at a time that works best for them.

**Q: *Do the camps really run from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. each day?***

**A:** No. Some camps may have a daily check in or live-streaming activities during the day, but most of the activities can be completed at a camper's own pace throughout the day.

**Q: *What if my teen has to miss one of the weeks of the 4-week camp?***

**A:** Because camps are completely online, teens can complete the activities wherever they are (provided they have internet access), even if they're traveling. If teens will be away on certain days, no problem! They can complete the activities on days and times that work best for their schedule.

**Q: *Do we need special software or equipment to participate?***

**A:** No. Most, if not all, of the materials you need will be things you can find around your home. If special materials are required, we will send them to you in advance. Teens do need internet access to participate.

**Q: *About how much time a week will the 4-week camp require?***

**A:** We estimate that teens will spend about 10 hours a week working on camp activities. Because many of the projects are open-ended and creative in nature, some students might want to spend additional time pursuing topics that interest them most.

**Q: *My teen works during the summer. Is it still possible to participate in a 4-week camp?***

**A:** Absolutely! The online camps are flexible. Most of the activities can be done at any time of day. If your teen needs to miss a live streaming event, they can reschedule or watch a recording of the event at a time that works for their schedule.

**Q: *What time zone are the courses in?***

**A:** The times listed are in Central Standard Time, but many activities can be completed at your own pace.



Northern Illinois  
University

[go.niu.edu/steamcamps](http://go.niu.edu/steamcamps)