SPARC Summer Bridge Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: What is the SPARC Summer Bridge Program?
A: The Spartans Preparing for Academic Rigor in College (SPARC) program is a four-week, academic program that provides an opportunity for selected participants (first-time freshmen) to gain college credit prior to entering the fall semester. Activities are geared towards enhancing students’ academic skills to meet the rigor and demands of college coursework.

Q: What are the dates of the program?
A: The dates are from June 26-July 21, 2017 (8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.).

Q: How do I apply to the program?
A: Once you have received notification of your acceptance status from the Office of Admissions, you are then eligible to apply to the SPARC Summer Bridge Program. Information including a letter of invitation, SPARC application, summer housing application, student contract and parking permit will be sent via email. Interested participants must return completed documents to SPARC@nsu.edu by June 2, 2017.

Q: Does the program cost?
A: The University will provide full tuition and textbooks for your courses this summer. If you are interested in staying on campus, please note that the total cost for room and board is $1,295 (This price includes meals). A limited number of University housing grants will be available. Recipients of the University housing grants will be notified by June 9, 2017.

Q: How do participants pay?
You may call (757) 823-8545 Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to pay for any housing fees using a credit card. The University accepts American Express, Discover, Master Card and Visa. If you would like to pay in cash, you must do so at the University's Cashier's Office. All fees are due by June 16, 2017. We also accept personal checks and money orders, which require that you include your phone number, term, and NSU student ID#. Please do not mail cash. You may mail your check or money order to:

Cashier's Office
Norfolk State University
700 Park Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23504

Q: Will I need a parking permit for the program?
A: Yes. A parking permit is required for all participants wishing to park on campus. You must complete a vehicle registration form and return it to SPARC@nsu.edu.
Q: When are fees due?
A: All fees are due by June 16, 2017.

Q: When is the application due?
A: The deadline for receiving all applications is June 2, 2017.

Q: Are books and supplies included?
A: Yes, the SPARC Summer Bridge Program provides textbooks and other materials for the selected participants.

Q: How many classes will participants take?
A: Participants will take one college credit course and one non-credit enrichment session. Additionally, there will be other required seminars.

Q: What kind of classes will participants be taking?
A: Participants will take a combination of one Math and one English course/session.

Q: If participants plan to stay on campus during the program, what should they bring?
A: For a list of suggested items to bring, please view the webpage at https://www.nsu.edu/student-affairs/residence-life/items-to-bring

Q: What can participants expect to gain from this program?
A: Obtaining college credit, increasing academic skills in the areas of Math and English, developing stronger study habits, becoming familiar with University rules and regulations, as well as becoming familiar with various on-campus student resources.

Q: Who can I talk to if I have any further questions?
A: Call the Dr. Patricia Lynch Stith Student Success Center at (757) 823-8507 or email SPARC@nsu.edu. You may also visit the program webpage at www.nsu.edu/provost/ssc.