

Student Program Descriptions

May 19th, 2025

Time	Event	Description
8:00 AM - 8:45 AM	Check-in + Morning Refreshments	Start your day by checking in and enjoying morning refreshments while connecting with fellow attendees and Caltech admissions staff.
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Welcome	Kick off the day with a warm welcome to COSMOS! Get excited to explore all that Caltech has to offer.
9:15 AM - 9:45 AM	Keynote	We are excited to have Dr. Jennifer Jahner, Dean of Undergraduate Students at Caltech as this year's Cosmos keynote speaker! Dr. Jahner will give an honest and inspiring overview of Caltech!
9:45 AM - 10:45 AM	What is Core at Caltech	Learn more about Caltech's core curriculum, which provides a strong STEM foundation during your first year on campus.
10:45 AM - 11:15 AM	Break and Transition	Take a moment to relax and recharge before we dive into the next round of exciting sessions ahead.
11:15 AM - 12:00 PM	Student Panel	Learn what it's like to be a Techer! Ask questions and feel free to inquire about their experiences at Caltech, their classes, and especially any research opportunities they're involved in!
12:00 PM - 12:50 PM	Campus Tour	Learn about the student-life experience, housing, and more on a leisurely, 50-minute walk around Caltech!
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Lunch	Enjoy a delicious meal at our on-campus dining hall.
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	Preselected Workshops	Attend your preselected workshop by adhering to the letter assigned on your name tag. Group A: Finding STEM Mentorship - What does a mentor look like to you? How do you find mentors in high school and college? How do you recognize the knowledge and mentors within your community and tap into them? What does it mean to ask for guidance and support? Come find out at Finding STEM Mentorship! Group B: How to Write About your STEM Passion - With a focus on identifying STEM experiences and values, students will use current Caltech supplemental essay questions to jumpstart their own brainstorming and writing process. Come ready to engage in discussion and collaborate with peers. Group C: Beyond Extracurriculars in the Application - You may have heard that extracurricular activities matter a lot in a college application, but what does that really mean? And further, what can you do with the rest of your application to make sure that there's strength beyond your extracurriculars, too? In this session, come find out how admission officers review these areas of the application.
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	Mock Lectures	Curious to know what a lecture is like at Caltech? Come find out at a mock lecture. You're welcome to attend the one that suits you best. Get a one-of-a-kind, up-close glimpse of the application process at Caltech. Join Ashley Pallie, Dean of Admissions, as she breaks down the ins and outs of applying for admission to Caltech.
4:00 PM - 4:50 PM	Applying to Caltech (rising seniors)	
4:00 PM - 4:50 PM	Junior Year and Preparing to Apply (rising juniors)	In this session, students will learn some tips on how to actively plan and prepare for college in their junior year.