



## **Engineering + Innovation Camps at CU Denver Design Innovation + Health Care and Smart Cities**

### **FAQs**

#### **What is Design Innovation Camp?**

Design Innovation Camp is a 4-day summer camp offered by the College of Engineering, Design and Computing, where participants will learn the design innovation framework and apply it to scope a problem from a human-centric perspective. They will learn user needs discovery, rapid idea generation, prototyping, user testing, and pitching techniques to communicate their ideas convincingly to an audience. By going through the entire design thinking process, learners will understand how design and engineering interface in order to solve real, pressing problems in the world and to create radical, innovative technology solutions.

#### **Where is Design Innovation Camp?**

All aspects of the Design Innovation Camp will take place at the CU Denver Auraria Campus, primarily in the Student Commons building, located at 1201 Larimer Street, Denver, CO 80204.

#### **How can I register for Design Innovation Camp?**

Design Innovation Camp registration information can be found on the College of Engineering, Design and Computing Summer Camps website ([engineering.ucdenver.edu/summercamps](http://engineering.ucdenver.edu/summercamps)). Registration opens in February and remains open until May 1, or when the camp is at capacity, whichever comes first. Registration and payment is all done electronically and is linked from the website.

#### **What can I expect for the four days of Design Innovation Camp?**

Students will collaborate in teams to undertake a critical and empathetic analysis of a problem, brainstorm and ideate solutions from multiple perspectives, defend design decisions with data, conduct user testing to validate their ideas, and deliver a convincing pitch using various media. Student teams will rapidly prototype an idea using everyday materials and be exposed to mobile application development, microprocessors and electronics, and 3D modelling. [Here is a sample itinerary.](#)

#### **What is the profile of students who would enjoy Design Innovation Camp?**

Design Innovation Camp is a program designed to expose high schoolers to the vast opportunities available to them in the field of engineering design and innovation. A good candidate for Design Innovation Camp is a student who is interested in STEM, passionate about solving problems to improve the well-being of people and society, enjoys working in teams and being creative, and is excited to learn about technology. Participants don't have to want to be engineers – as long as a student shows up eager to learn, experience new things, and have fun, they are a great Design Innovation Camp candidate.

**What is the average age/intended audience of Design Innovation campers?**

Design Innovation Camp is designed for all high school students, including students who have completed 8th grade by the start of the camp.

**What skills will students gain by attending Design Innovation Camp?**

Design Innovation Camp students will learn the foundational principles of design thinking and develop comprehensive skills to adopt a user-centric problem-solving approach. They will gain skills in collaborating in teams, brainstorming and ideating solutions from multiple perspectives, discovering user needs and translating them into functions, as well as basic skills in mobile application development, microprocessors and electronics, and 3D modelling.

**What is the cost of Design Innovation Camp?**

Design Innovation Camp registration is \$600. A \$300 deposit is required to secure a spot in camp, and the remainder of the camp cost is due by May 1.

**Are there scholarships available?**

Yes, there are a limited number of need-based scholarships available. Scholarship applicants must:

- write an essay on why they believe they should receive a scholarship for CAD + 3D Printing Camp
- have a teacher/counselor write a recommendation letter on their behalf and submit directly from the recommender to the College of Engineering, Design and Computing via email ([engineeringcamps@ucdenver.edu](mailto:engineeringcamps@ucdenver.edu)). All letters must be submitted directly from the recommender; any letters sent in by a student or parent/guardian will be disregarded. The scholarship deadline is April 1, and all applicants will hear back no later than April 8.

**Is lunch provided?**

No, all students will eat lunch at the Tivoli Student Union; available food options are listed [here](#). Students may also bring their lunch. We will provide snacks throughout the day and will strive to have options for everyone. However, we may not be able to accommodate a student with severe food allergies. Students are also welcome to bring their own snacks.

NOTE: Students with peanut allergies are required to carry an EpiPen with them at all times.

**What should I wear?**

Please plan to wear close-toed comfortable walking shoes every day of camp.

**What do I need to bring?**

All activity materials will be provided including computers, software, hardware, and prototyping supplies. Please bring a notebook and writing utensil for notes and activities. Water and beverages will not be allowed inside computer laboratories, but will be allowed in the hallway so feel free to bring a water bottle.



**Do I have to attend every day?**

Yes - though camp staff understand there are sometimes extenuating circumstances. We group students to work on a design project throughout camp, so it can be detrimental for the teams if students do not show up each day.

All camp scholarship recipients must be able to attend all of camp as a condition of the award. More information on scholarships can be found on the Design Innovation camp website.

**What if I realize last-minute I am unable to attend?**

The deadline to cancel is April 1 in order to receive a refund. And cancellations after this point will not receive a refund.

**Is transportation or lodging provided?**

No. You are responsible for your own transportation and lodging. Pick-up and drop-off each day will be at the Student Commons building.

**Is there parking available?**

Yes. The Design Innovation Camp will be held in the Student Commons building, located near the Tivoli parking garage, with visitor parking available. There are several other lots on the Auraria campus for visitors as well – see parking map [here](#). However, it is important to note that there is no free parking on campus.

**What public transportation is available near the CU Denver Downtown Campus?**

There are two RTD Light Rail stops on the Auraria campus within approximately ½ mile of the CU Denver Student Commons building where we will hold the Design Innovation Camp. The Auraria West Station stop is serviced by the RTD Light Rail “E”, “C” and “W” line. The Colfax at Auraria Station stop is serviced by the RTD Light Rail “H”, “F” and “D” lines. Walking is safe and easy, with a sidewalks leading from the RTD stations up to the Student Commons building. Other options to get to campus are ride sharing services (Lyft and Uber), and cabs.

**I can't commute from home each day. Where should I stay?**

Our recommended hotel is the [Springhill Suites Denver](#) Downtown.

Still have questions? Contact the College of Engineering, Design and Computing at [engineeringcamps@ucdenver.edu](mailto:engineeringcamps@ucdenver.edu) or 303-315-7170.