

The **ULTIMATE**

PARENT'S GUIDE to

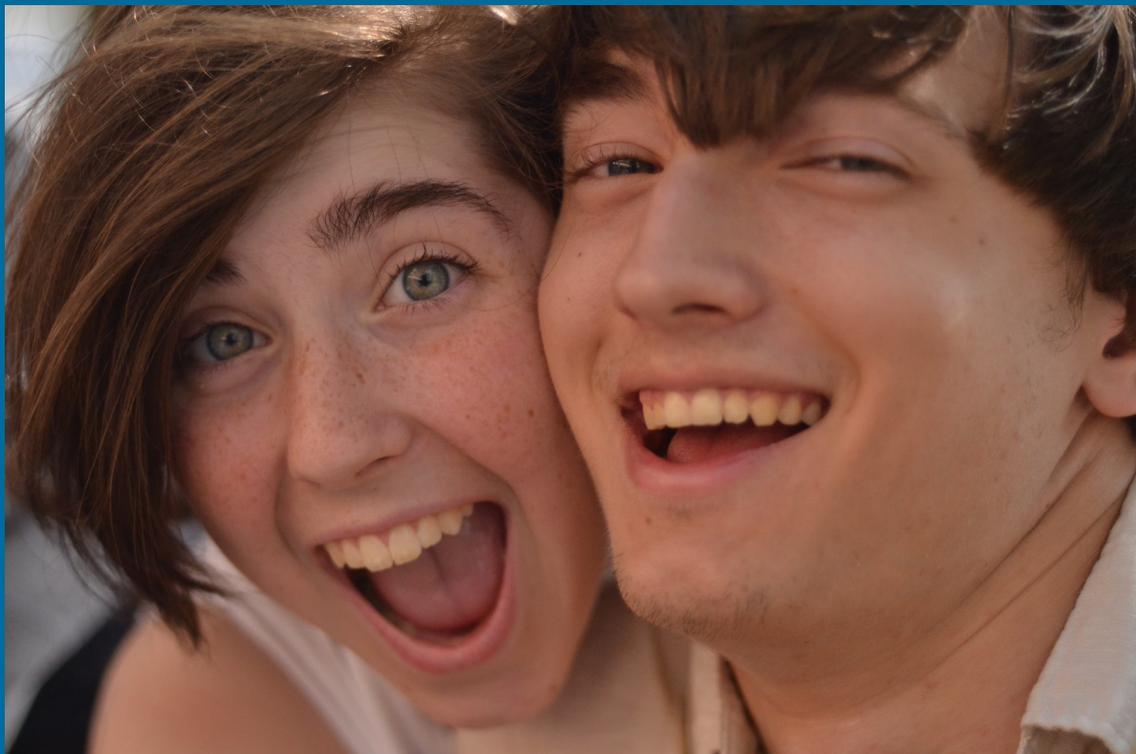
# SummerTech





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## Introduction

*In just a few months, that final bell will ring and millions of kids – tripping over their own smiles – will pour out of school and into summer. As a parent pondering that same moment, you may be asking the same question millions of parents across the country are asking: “Now what?”*

***We get it.*** *As parents, we know how stressful it can be to plan out your child’s summer. In today’s world, there are so many opportunities to choose from, which makes it even more daunting. How do you decide which opportunity is the best for your child? Will they have fun? Will they be accepted for who they are? Will they learn anything?*

*With all the options out there, your child deserves to go to a place that believes in them as much as you do.*

*That’s why, at SummerTech, we focus just as much on teaching leadership skills outdoors as we do on teaching kids how to code, animate or develop 3D models indoors. It’s just one of the many reasons why we’re known among our peers, parenting communities and the nation’s top universities as the “gold standard” of tech camps.*

*Don’t take our word for it, though. Keep reading and see why more and more parents and teens choose SummerTech over every other summer activity.*

*If by the end of reading this, you still have questions, pick up the phone and give me a call at (917) 674-8324. I’d love to hear from you.*

*Sincerely,  
Steven Fink,  
Founder & CEO*

## Why SummerTech?

*It's a good question.*

Thankfully, we've spent the past 20 years coming up with a *really* good answer.

SummerTech is unlike any other tech camp out there because we're more than just a tech camp. It wasn't always that way.

In the beginning, we were laser-focused on becoming the industry's best tech instructors. We knew the curriculum frontwards and backwards, but, at the end of the day, we found that even the most advanced and tech-savvy kids wanted more out of their summer. Who doesn't?

Yes, they wanted to learn how to code. But they also wanted a role model. They wanted to find their people, maybe for the first time. And they wanted to have FUN along the way.

*That's when SummerTech became SummerTech.*

Don't get me wrong. We still have the industry's best instructors. But when you sign up today, you're giving your child the opportunity to grow, not just as a coder or developer, but as a person.



## Here are some other ways SummerTech stands out:

### ★ **We offer a 3:1 camper to teacher ratio.**

Did you know that most summer camps out there only offer a 20:1 or at best, a 10:1 student to teacher ratio? Imagine being that teacher. Could you even remember half of your students' names?

### ★ **We promote radical acceptance.**

Our approach centers around celebrating the individual and allowing kids to be comfortable in their own skin. We don't need your child to conform. We just want them to be themselves. That's where growth starts and the fun begins.

### ★ **We create leaders.**

Your child may come in as a participant, but that's not how they will leave. We incorporate leadership lessons and opportunities into everything we do at SummerTech so that when your child is ready, they can step out from behind the computer and start to become the leader they were all along.

### ★ **We help your child learn.**

Most summer technology camps out there only know how to teach sponsored curriculum known in the industry as "Edutainment". It's marketed well but it does very little when it comes to teaching your child. At SummerTech, we don't put your child in front of a screen and walk away. We teach. It's why many of the industry's leading tech workers all got their start with SummerTech.

★ **We fast-track their education.**

Whether your child is just out to have fun, try something new or lay the foundation for a future career in tech, SummerTech gives them the foundation they need to excel in future tech courses down the road. Want to fly through your AP tests? Test out of university level courses? Stand out to future employers? We can help.

When you choose SummerTech, you're not just choosing a summer camp. You're choosing to invest in your child in ways that will benefit them for the rest of their lives.



*SummerTech was a transformational journey for our daughter. The skills she learned about technology, teamwork, and leadership launched her career and succeed as a Mechanical Engineer in college. No matter what project she finds herself working on in her college courses, she always seems to be the “go to” person for coding!*

— Steve Henderson, Dad

## How it Works

Each week, from Sunday to Friday, we provide the industry's most advanced and innovative learning opportunities for youth ages 10 to 17 in the safety of a fully supervised day or overnight experience.

### Are you a commuter?

No problem. Our flexible schedule will work for your morning or evening commutes.

Once you're registered, we begin to tailor the experience and curriculum for your child, based on the course they selected. Some campers choose to spend multiple weeks at SummerTech so they can become experts on a single topic such as Animation, 3D Modeling or Coding. Others like to stay and choose a new topic at the beginning of each week.

No matter how long your stay is, you'll get the full SummerTech experience. That includes a **1:3 teacher to camper ratio**, starting from the moment you arrive.



**You can also have the peace of mind knowing that every registered student gets full access to every course available.**

## Courses

Each week, choose one of six different courses and our teachers will tailor it for you based on what interests you most. Want to stay for more than a week? We thought you might. Take a course for as many weeks as you want and we'll keep building on what you know without repeating any curriculum.

Another ratio we're proud of is our **1:1 student to computer ratio**. When you send your child to SummerTech, they will always have dedicated access to the latest hardware and software.

### Python

If you're new to coding or not yet in high school, **Python** is the place to start. We'll teach you the basics of computer programming that are used by every coder in the industry, whether they're a novice or master coder.

**Ages:** 10 – 17 recommended

**Difficulty:** Beginner to Advanced

### Java

**Java** is an extremely popular coding language in high schools, colleges, and the working world. Our Java class provides a comprehensive introduction to coding that prepares high school students for the AP Computer Science course and their future studies.

**Ages:** 12 – 17 recommended

**Difficulty:** Beginner to Advanced

## Animation

Most **Animation** courses stifle creativity. Not SummerTech. We teach you everything from how to draw on a computer to create and animate your own movies. The sky's the limit and we'll give you the skills and techniques to get there. We feature the amazing **Toon Boom Harmony** software!

**Ages:** 10 – 17 recommended

**Difficulty:** Beginner to Advanced

## 3D Modeling

Learn the fundamentals of creating digital 3D models of real world objects. From modeling to basic texturing to sculpting and animation, we teach you the creative and technical principles that are used by the world's leading art, engineering and architectural companies. Our **3D Modeling** course features **Blender**!

**Ages:** 11 – 17 recommended

**Difficulty:** Beginner to Advanced

## Web Development and Design

Ready to learn how to design the websites of the future? We'll teach you everything you need to know about **website design**, so you can create fully responsive sites that work across desktop and mobile devices. When you learn **web development** and design at SummerTech, you'll leave with skills and knowledge you need to bring your code to life on the web. We teach you the basics (and advanced) of coding so you can start building apps and websites that can interact with their users via APIs.

**Ages:** 11 – 17 recommended

**Difficulty:** Beginner to Advanced

## Electives

The last class of each day is dedicated to giving your child opportunities to explore new hobbies. In addition to a main class, campers choose an elective. Electives are developed and run by individual instructors and change on a week-to-week basis.

There's always something new to try! Here are just a few of the electives we have run in past years. Electives are announced and presented at the beginning of each week when you will be prompted to make your choice.

Choose your elective to suit your needs. Looking to try a different main class? Choose it as your elective. Each week we offer **Intro to Code**, **Intro to Web**, **Intro to 3D Modeling**, and **Intro to Animation**.

Looking for something different? While we can't tell you today what will be offered each week, here is a sample of just some of the hundreds of electives created and taught at **SummerTech**.

Past courses have included:

- ★ Photography
- ★ Improvisational Comedy
- ★ Film Study
- ★ Ukulele
- ★ German Longsword
- ★ Arts and Crafts
- ★ Magic: The Gathering
- ★ Game Design
- ★ Intro to Anime
- ★ Advanced Semiotic Constructions of Meaning 301: Baudrillard  
By Way of Waluigi



*“Some of the best times of my life have been at SummerTech. Learning code and Flash animation, meeting new friends, making crazy videos, taking improv classes, competing in the SummerTech Olympics, living in a dorm, playing in Wii tournaments. All this and it also helps you ace AP Computer Science!”*

*—Matt, alum*

## Tuition

### Day Program

The tuition for commuters at any of our campus locations is \$1,400 per week.

This includes everything listed below:

- Personalized Instruction  
(including 1:3 Teacher to Participant Ratio)
- Technology and Instructional Materials
- Lunch and Dinner
- SummerTech T-Shirt
- Recreational Activities
- Complete Supervision

### Overnight Program

The tuition for overnights is \$2,050 per week. This includes everything listed above in addition to breakfast, campus housing, 24-hour supervision and bog upkeep.

### Deposit

A \$500 non-refundable deposit is required for each participant for each week they stay at SummerTech. This deposit goes toward your full tuition payment. The full balance must be received no later than May 1st. We do not prorate fees for those who leave early.

### Refunds

As a small family company, we will do our best to work with you should something change in your plans. Please refer to our refund policy at [www.summertech.net](http://www.summertech.net)

## SummerTech Schedule

### For Commuters

Commuters can arrive on Sunday at 2:30 PM to check in and get oriented. SummerTech begins at 3:00 PM with an opening ceremony, class and elective previews, course selection and every two weeks, gladiatorial combat. Dinner is served at 6:00 PM.

Commuters are welcome to stay as late as 9:00 PM for evening social activities which include Digital and Board gaming and Outdoor events.

Monday through Friday commuters can be dropped off as early as 8:00 AM. Classes kick-off at 9:00 AM but many usually enjoy arriving early so they can squeeze in some extra free time.

SummerTech officially ends at 2:00 PM each Friday with a closing ceremony where we honor each techie's accomplishments and achievements from that week. We strongly encourage parents and/or family members to attend!

### For Overnights

Overnighters arrive on Sunday at 2:00 PM to check in and get oriented. SummerTech begins at 3:00 PM with an opening ceremony, class and elective previews, course selection and every two weeks, gladiatorial combat. Dinner is served at 6:00 PM.

SummerTech officially ends at 2:00 PM each Friday with a closing ceremony where we honor each techie's accomplishments and

achievements from that week. We strongly encourage parents and/or family members to attend!

### **Weekly Schedule**

Sunday: 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM\*

Monday – Thursday: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM\*

Friday: 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM

\*We invite you to stay as late as 9:00 PM from Sunday through Thursday for a full dinner, games, and fun social activities. There's no extra cost - this is our gift to you!

### **Evenings at SummerTech**

Each night from 6:00 to 9:00 PM, SummerTech instructors host evening activities that include gaming clinics (where staff provide tutorials to some of their favorite games), gaming tournaments, arts and crafts, trivia, live music, outdoor sports and more. What we've found over the years is that these "after hours" at SummerTech become some of the most meaningful and transformational moments. It's where lifelong friendships are formed. If your child is able to attend, we highly encourage it. It's a blast!

### **Sports and Recreation**

We include two hours of outdoor activities each day where we put away the screens and challenge ourselves to games of dodgeball, drawing, music, frisbee, board games and more.



*“SummerTech changed my son's life and gave him focus and direction. It fueled the flames of my son's passion for computers and gaming. My son found himself, his passion and lifelong friends at SummerTech. The best program ever for techie kids!”*

—Judy, Mom

## F.A.Q.'s

### **Q: Can my child bring their own computer?**

A: SummerTech provides each child with a dedicated computer along with the latest hardware and software available so that you won't have to worry about bringing your own computer. That said, we won't keep you from bringing your own tech but we are not responsible for any personal items that are lost, stolen or damaged.

### **Q: How important is it for my child to stay until 9:00 PM each night?**

A: SummerTech is nonstop fun and learning, so, by 5:00 PM, we understand if kids want to go home and rest. But for those interested, SummerTech after-hours provide some of the week's best opportunities for your children to let loose, have fun and participate in instructor-led activities that range from gaming tournaments to talent shows to trivia.

### **Q: What is the food like at SummerTech?**

A: It's good! We eat our meals in the college dining facilities which offer them a wide variety of hearty, nutritious meals. On Sunday night, we have a traditional pizza dinner together, but, otherwise, your child is able to eat their favorite meal.

*Still have questions?*

*We would love to hear from you.*

*Give us a call at (917) 673-6291.*



*Make this summer one you'll never forget.  
Go with SummerTech.*

*Register today at [www.summertech.net](http://www.summertech.net)*

