



ATTENDING SCHOOL FAQ

FOR SCHOOLS CONSIDERING ATTENDING A MIND TREKKERS EVENT

What is Mind Trekkers?

The Mind Trekkers program is Michigan Technological University's traveling K-12 outreach initiative founded in 2010. The group brings the excitement of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) directly to K-12 students. Mind Trekkers attends expos and events throughout the nation to showcase engaging, hands-on experiments and activities. Undergraduate and graduate student volunteers serve as a pipeline, connecting thousands of prospective students to higher education and STEM career opportunities while enjoying one-of-a-kind opportunities and experiences. Mind Trekkers is inspiring our next generation of leaders to seek answers and get excited about STEM education.



How would attending this event benefit my students?

Students will have an opportunity to experience learning in a very nontraditional setting and in a highly hands-on manner, to help supplement what they are currently learning in the classroom. Mind Trekkers events are high-energy and students can be very independent. They are free to work on their own and at their own pace through all of the hands-on demonstrations. This kind of hands-on learning has been proven to increase interest in STEM subjects and interest in attending college. The students will return to the classroom eager to learn more. Additionally, all of our lesson plans, including the educational standards for our demonstrations, are available on our website



(mindtrekkers.mtu.edu) and you are welcome to incorporate them in your classrooms.

What is the cost of attending a Mind Trekkers event?

The only cost of attending a Mind Trekkers event is the cost of transportation for students to and from the event. If funds are

available, Mind Trekkers may be able to cover the cost of your transportation.

What grades usually attend Mind Trekkers events?

Mind Trekkers events are typically geared towards middle school students in grades 5-8.

How can the rest of my students who aren't going on Field Trip Day be involved?

Field Trip Day is reserved only for registered schools but is usually followed by a second day event that is open to the general public. This second day is usually free of charge and all ages and families are welcome to come experience the event and enjoy our demonstrations. Mind Trekkers are great at adjusting the terminology used to explain their demonstrations and make them easy for any age to understand.

How long is a session?

Sessions last 2 to 2 ½ hours, depending on the event. There are typically two morning sessions and two afternoon sessions, with a half hour staggering between them. Buses can begin checking in 10 minutes prior to the beginning of their session and will load 10-15 minutes prior to the end of their session so all buses can leave on time. Space in each session is first-come, first-served and is limited, so sign up for your preferred session as soon as possible to ensure there is space for your whole class. Sessions *do* fill up, and quickly.

What do I have to do after I sign up for a session?

Arrange your transportation and your chaperones. We recommend one chaperone for every 10-15 students. As the event gets closer, reminders will be sent out along with information packets that are specific to the event you are attending. These information packets will provide you with information on how to check-in once you arrive, where buses can park, and a layout of the event, as well as tips for how to make the most out of the event.



After the event, we will ask the teachers and students who attending complete a survey to see how their interest levels have changed. These surveys are vital to helping Mind Trekkers improve our program for students in the future, and to continue to secure donor funding for these events. The surveys should each take only 5-10 minutes to complete and can be done online on our website or mailed to our office.