

How does the TIP Tester program work?

1. Any gifted 4th – 12th grade student participating in Duke TIP is invited to apply.
2. By applying, your child is expressing interest in being contacted if there is an upcoming field test that matches your child's interests and age.
3. Duke TIP will contact you and your child when a field test is scheduled for a course that matches your child's interests and age.
4. Duke TIP will invite you and your student for a phone interview to determine if the course subject, timeframe, and expectations of the test are something your child can agree to.
5. Your child can accept his or her spot as a TIP Tester, or he or she can decline and be added back to the list.
6. If you and your child accept a spot as a TIP Tester you are agreeing to the following:
 - To spend three to five hours per week testing course material under development
 - To test anywhere from five to twenty total lessons during the testing period
 - To participate for the full duration of the field test (totaling ten to twenty weeks, depending on the length of the course)
7. As a gift for participation your child will receive free textbooks for the course as well as a certificate. Your child's work may be chosen as an example of model student work for the final version of the course. Upon publication, your child will also receive a complimentary copy of the course he or she helped build!

Important Facts about the TIP Tester Program:

- Students complete all work on the computer via a web-based course management system called Sakai, so **students do not need to travel**.
- Students are obligated to complete **one to two assignments per week** and mail or email them to the TIP Tester Advisor. Students commit three (3) to five (5) hours per week.
- All lessons and books will be **provided free of charge** to the student.
- **Students will use the Internet often**, as the electronic lessons will direct them to specific, age-appropriate Web sites. **Therefore Duke TIP recommends adult supervision of student Internet use.** Please note that these lessons include addresses of Web sites that are neither controlled by nor sponsored by Duke TIP. Whereas Duke TIP attempts to provide updated contact information for these sites, Web site content may change without Duke TIP's knowledge. Duke TIP makes no effort to control or monitor the content, privacy practices, or products and services of non-Duke TIP sites. Inclusion of these Web addresses in these online lessons does not constitute Duke TIP's endorsement or knowledge of the sites' content.
- Duke TIP will provide a TIP Tester Advisor. **This Advisor is available to answer questions via e-mail or phone but does not provide feedback or help on assignments.**
- For students who wish to make maximum use of the course, **a parent, tutor, or teacher mentor is highly recommended** but not required.
- If Duke TIP would like to use any assignments the student completes as **models for future student users**, both the student and you will be asked to sign a **writing and image release form**. This is optional and not required of TIP Testers. Students whose work is chosen will be recognized by first name; no other identifying information will be provided to course users. Please see the sample form provided in the sidebar.
- At the end of the field test, students will receive access to an online copy of the course. Those students who share their work as models will receive credit within the course.
- Duke TIP would like to accept every applicant, but **spaces are limited**.
- Incomplete applications **will not be accepted**.