# FAQ for the Granite Oaks C-STEM program (7<sup>th</sup> grade)

**What is the GOMS C-STEM Program?**
The C-STEM program at Granite Oaks Middle School allows students to participate in an academic environment focused on integrating science, technology, engineering and math to explore real world challenges. Through the implementation of inquiry-based learning, students will experience the integration of computing. This is being made possible through a partnership with UC Davis.

**What will students do in the program?**
C-STEM program students will learn to program in Ch, a superset of the language C, as part of core classes. Students will be able to create computer programs to model real world situations using a supplementary curriculum from the UC Davis Department of Engineering. Additional technologies will be featured including other coding activities, Google Apps For Ed (GAFE), and the creation of websites.

**What is the application process for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade C-STEM program? How are students selected for the program?**
The C-STEM program is a competitive advanced program which requires an application for admission. Admission is based off of a composite score that considers a student's personal interest in the program, teacher recommendations, standardized testing, and other factors. An Acceptance or Waitlist letter will be sent to all applicants before the end of the current school year.

*Spots are limited. Submit an application before the deadline in order to be considered for the program.*

**My student wants to apply! Where is the application?**
During the application window, the link to the C-STEM application will be available on the Granite Oaks homepage at *goms.rocklinusd.org*

Scroll down the page until you see **"C-STEM Registration" for current 6<sup>th</sup> graders**.
Click on "PROGRAM APPLICATION"

**Does the program happen during the regular school day or is it outside of class?**
The program is integrated into the regular school day curriculum. A student in the C-STEM program will still have all the regular 7<sup>th</sup> grade classes (English, Social Studies, Math, Science, Elective, PE, AR), but many activities and projects will instead have a computer-based aspect integrated.

**Will students in C-STEM be taught different standards than other 7<sup>th</sup> grade students?**
No. All 7<sup>th</sup> grade students at GOMS will be learning the same state standards, concepts, and skills. In the C-STEM program, students will be learning the same curriculum through a more technology-based set of activities and projects. Students in the C-STEM program will still be required to demonstrate their knowledge on paper, but there will be instances where different technology is also integrated. Whereas a different academy might assign a poster project, in C-STEM, a student might instead be required to demonstrate knowledge of this by building a computer program. In C-STEM, a student presentation might require building a website to display the required information, or incorporate different technologies in other ways in their final product.

**Will there be more homework in C-STEM compared to other 7th grade academies?**
Homework requirements will be about the same as other academies. Some weeks will have a heavier homework load, other weeks might not have hardly any homework assigned. It will be important for students to plan their time carefully regardless of whether they are accepted into the C-STEM program.

**Help! My student didn't get in to C-STEM but I think he/she would be perfect for the program. What should we do?**
All students who apply before the final application deadline but who do not get accepted into the program will be placed on a waitlist. If a spot opens up in the program, you will be informed immediately if your student can transfer into the program. We would like to take everyone into the C-STEM program who is interested, unfortunately there are a limited number of spots available.

If a student does not get into the C-STEM program in 7th grade, they will have another opportunity at the end of 7th grade to apply for the C-STEM program in 8th grade.

**Can I apply to the C-STEM program after the deadline?**
Unfortunately, no. We will be creating a waitlist for students who applied to C-STEM before the deadline but were not accepted. We cannot accept applications after the deadline has passed. Students will have another opportunity at the end of 7th grade to apply for the 8th grade C-STEM program.

**If I get into the C-STEM program in 7th grade, do I automatically stay in the C-STEM program for 8th grade?**
All students, whether admitted into the 7th grade C-STEM or not, will have to apply/re-apply to the 8th grade C-STEM program at the end of their 7th grade year.

# Accelerated Math 7

**If my student qualifies for the Accelerated Math 7 course, can he/she also do C-STEM?**
Two math classed are offered in 7th grade:
 ➢ Math 7
 ➢ Accelerated Math 7

The 7th grade C-STEM program will offer <u>BOTH</u> Math 7 and Accelerated Math 7 if enough C-STEM applicants qualify.

# Orchestra

**If my student gets into Orchestra, can he/she also do C-STEM?**
Unfortunately, in 7th grade, scheduling conflicts do not allow a student to participate in both C-STEM and Orchestra.