

# PAN @ ND Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

## When can I apply to PAN?

Applications are online by Thanksgiving each year and due in late March or early April. When applications are available, an announcement is posted on our facebook page [www.facebook.com/jinamedia](http://www.facebook.com/jinamedia).

## Why should I apply for PAN?

The PAN program is an excellent way to get a very real taste of what college and physics research is like. High school students can explore their curiosity about nuclear astrophysics in a noncommittal way.

## What if I don't know a lot about nuclear science?

You don't need to. Previous PAN students have indicated that prior knowledge of the subject had very little to do with how much they enjoyed and benefitted from the program. However, you can expect to know a lot more when the program is over. The PAN organizers do **require** that PAN students have completed their freshman year of high school.

## How do I get accepted to PAN?

Admission is competitive, and due to equipment and budget limitations, PAN @ ND will accept 20 students per year. To be accepted, you need to show that you're highly motivated to pursue science and have stellar teacher recommendations.

## When will I hear if I've been accepted?

**Decisions will be made by late April**, after passing the deadline. Notices that you have been accepted or placed on the wait list are sent via email so please provide the email address that you most frequently use. Also be sure to add [jinaout@nd.edu](mailto:jinaout@nd.edu) and [mkilburn@nd.edu](mailto:mkilburn@nd.edu) to your safe senders list so you don't miss our emails.

## How much does it cost?

PAN is **free** to accepted participants; JINA-CEE will provide room and board, the cost of all materials and supplies, and some evening activities for the duration of the program. Your only costs are transportation and any recreational expenses.

## What are the program hours?

PAN is Monday through Friday for one week. Check-in at the dorm begins Sunday evening, followed by an orientation that night. Each day starts at 8:30 AM, but ending times vary between 4 PM and 6 PM depending on the program for that day. Also, optional evening activities usually begin at 7 PM. On Friday, the final day of the program, activities end by 5 PM. Accepted participants will receive a full schedule before arriving at PAN.

## What goes on at the program?

Most activities occur at the Jordan Hall of Science, where you will:

- Hear Notre Dame faculty discuss their research in nuclear physics, astrophysics, detector technology, and many other fields
- Work closely with other students and faculty in Question and Answer sessions
- Form research teams to conduct experiments related to modern physics
- Present the results of one of your experiments to your peers and family
- Explore your interests in science with other enthusiastic students

## What goes on in the evenings?

Once PAN is done for the day, your evenings are less structured. You do have the option to participate in a few activities, such as:

- Touring campus and meeting with current physics majors and graduate students
- Making your own LN2 ice cream
- Kicking back with popcorn to watch a movie that may or may not be science-related
- Exploring sports in our athletics facility
- Bowling, beach volleyball, arcade... the list goes on

## Where will I stay?

If you choose to reside on campus during the PAN program, you will be housed in one of the Notre Dame dormitories. Students will have at least one roommate. The dorm is not air-conditioned and each hall has a community bathroom. Men and women are housed in separate buildings. Students will have a resident counselor at each hall. Students must be in their rooms by 10pm.

## What about meals?

Lunches are served in the Jordan Hall of Science during the week of PAN. If you are staying in the dormitory, all other meals are provided in a cafeteria via meal tickets provided to you upon check-in.

## What should I bring?

You should bring everything you would need for overnight stays: sheets, pillow, soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, other toiletries, towel, box fan (it can get very hot in the dorm), swimsuit, bath shoes, alarm clock, clothes, books, etc. Linens are not provided for dorm-room beds.

## How do I get there by plane?

**Flying Option 1:** The closest airport is the South Bend Regional Airport. From there, a taxi is a safe and relatively cheap option to get to campus. The SB airport is small and only has a few flights a day.

**Flying Option 2:** The nearest major airports are O'Hare and Midway in Chicago. There is a bus service that goes directly between both airports and the campus of Notre Dame. Note – Chicago is in the Central time zone and South Bend, IN is in the Eastern time zone.