2026 Snap Academies
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
www.snapacademies.com

What are the Snap Academies?

The Snap Academies are nine-week, paid, summer training programs hosted by Snap Inc., the makers of Snapchat. Designed for community college students and recent transfers, the academies offer hands-on experience in **Design, Engineering, Marketing, Communications, or Augmented Reality.** Scholars engage in custom, creative and technical workshops, fireside chats, and 1:1 mentorship with Snap Inc. team members. The program runs from June 15, 2026 to August 14, 2026, concluding with a final capstone showcase. For more information about the 2026 Snap Academies, please visit the website www.snapacademies.com.

Who is eligible to apply?

To be eligible, candidates must:
- Be 18 years or older
- Be currently enrolled in a community college, have recently transferred to a four-year university, and/or be identified as opportunity youth (foster care, home-insecure, or justice-involved).
    - *Note: Students at four-year universities who did not transfer from a community college are not eligible.*
- Location Requirements:
    - **Design, Engineering, and Storytelling Academies:** Must live in Southern California and have reliable transportation to Santa Monica for daily, in-person participation.
    - **Lens Academy:** Open to all US-based candidates (Virtual via Zoom).

How do I apply?

Submit your application through the website: https://www.snapacademies.com/apply-now
Deadline: Friday, April 10, 2026, at 11:59 pm PT.

What do I need for my application?

You will need to upload:
1. A current Resume
2. Your most recent Transcript (unofficial is fine).
3. Two Work Samples (e.g., a portfolio link, GitHub repository, writing samples, a Snap lens or design files) that showcase your skills for the specific domain you are applying for.

What is the selection process?

We use a holistic, four-stage review process:
1. Initial Application (Resume, Transcript and Work Samples)

2. On-Demand Video Interview (Recorded responses to specific prompts).
3. Project Assessment (A practical exercise to evaluate your technical/creative skills)
4. Final Interview (A 30-minute virtual session with a Snap team member).

How many Scholars are chosen?
Each Academy accepts 15 Scholars, for a total of 60 Scholars in the 2026 cohort.

What is the time commitment?
The Snap Academies are a full-time commitment. Attendance is required Monday through Friday, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm PT.
- Because the curriculum is fast-paced, we strongly recommend that Scholars do not enroll in additional summer courses or outside internships.
- Punctuality is vital; in-person Scholars should factor in commute times to ensure they arrive in Santa Monica by 9:30 am.

Is this a paid opportunity?
Yes. All Scholars receive an academy payment to cover their participation, program completion, and related expenses. Scholars are onboarded as independent contractors (1099 tax form) and will be responsible for annual tax filing. Additionally, Snap provides all necessary learning equipment (laptops, etc.) for the duration of the program.

Can I apply to (or participate in) more than one Academy?
- Applying: Yes, you may apply to multiple Academies if you meet the qualifications for each.
- Participating: No. Because each academy is a full-time, concurrent commitment, you may only participate in one.

Questions? Reach out to the team at snapacademies@nextshiftlearning.com