UMaine Institute for SELF, Connecting young girls to STEM careers through research, mentoring and community service in forest bioproducts

The SELF Institute is a cost-free residential program for rural high school students. The three- and-a-half day program will focus on the responsible use of forest ecosystems as a building block for sustainable and renewable energy. Students will explore cutting-edge forest bioproducts research by participating in demonstrations, hands-on projects and field trips. Participants will use the New Balance Student Recreation Center.

Institute activities include:

- Demonstrations of physical principles and properties of wood and wood products
- Visiting University Forest to learn about harvest methods and systems, logging equipment and costs
- Observation and work on chemical and physical processes in the making of transportation fuels (ethanol, jet fuel) from woody biomass and estimate the cost of manufacturing
- Analysis of sustainability attitude and participation in focus group on renewable energy in Maine

To qualify for the institute applicants must:

- Be a high school student, preferably a sophomore
- Have an interest in science and technology
- Submit a report card
- Submit an essay on why she wants to participate in the institute
- Have at least one letter of recommendation

For more information, contact Sheila Pendse, sheila.pendse@maine.edu

Or visit https://umaine.edu/gem/self-2018-application/ for an online application.

Applications are due

April 15, 2018