



If you choose to accept this mission, you will become part of a unique team of engineers and astronomers whose goal is to gather scientific data from near-space, up to 100,000 feet above the surface of the Earth.

You will encounter amazing experiences as you:

- Discover the extremes of space through hands on activities
- Explore the engineering challenges of near space exploration
- Team with Adler astronomers to prepare experiments for a high altitude balloon mission
- Visit and spend some time working in Adler's behind-the-scenes Far Horizons high-altitude ballooning project laboratory
- Trek on the Museum Campus for a GPS tracking activity
- **Take an extended day long off-site trip ("Launch Day") with your team to launch, track, chase, and recover your payload**
- Add a personal token or experiment to the payload that will travel to near space
- Present the results of your exploration to family members on Friday afternoon.
- Receive video and graphical records of the launch (to be distributed via Google Drive after camp)

With only 18 registrants accepted per camp, you can be sure that you will play a significant part as we explore near-space together—in an experience like no other! Campers entering 6th - 9th grade in Fall 2020 will challenge themselves and build their science and engineering skills.

To learn more about Far Horizons and high altitude ballooning, and see a video of a Launch Day, visit: <http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/for-teens-13-years-to-18-years/far-horizons/>.

Important Notes:

- Launch Day will be determined based on weather and atmospheric conditions. We try to launch on Thursday. Wednesday is our second option, and rarely, we may select Friday, if conditions prohibit launch on Wednesday or Thursday. The launch date is determined no later than Tuesday morning.
- On Launch Day, *campers must arrive by 8:00am and will return approximately between 3:00 and 6:00 pm* (exact return time dependent on launch conditions, retrieval location, and traffic). Please account for this extended day when planning to attend Mission Near Space. More details will be provided during the camp week.
- *Campers will travel to Koerner Airport in Kankakee, then follow the balloon until it lands, possibly travelling into Indiana.* It is possible, though unlikely, that weather conditions could prevent the launch during your camp week.
- Families are invited to the results share-out on Friday afternoon. Precise time and details will be provided during the camp week, but it is typically the last hour of camp (2:00-3:00pm) on Friday.