



Tohono O'odham Community College and the University of Arizona

TOCC is a federally recognized, tribally controlled college and a designated 1994 Land-Grant Institution. Chartered in 1998 by the Tohono O'odham Nation, TOCC opened its doors to students in spring 2000. TOCC offers 11 different associate degrees, 9 certificates, and 5 apprenticeship areas of concentration. TOCC is pleased to facilitate the 2008 TLC program.

UA—established in 1885 as Arizona's only land-grant institution—embraces its threefold mission of excellence in teaching, research, and public service. UA's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences prepares students for career opportunities in agriculture, natural resources, and family and consumer sciences. UA graduates work in agribusiness, government agencies, health organizations, banking and finance, youth-development agencies, conservation and environmental organizations, and research and educational institutions. UA is pleased to host the TLC interns in Tucson.

For more information about APHIS, contact

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United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
APHIS 81-10-002

Safeguarding Natural Heritage

Tohono Land Connections

May 27 – June 7, 2008

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What Is Tohono Land Connections?

Tohono Land Connections (TLC) is an outreach program for teenagers with an interest in plants, agriculture, and natural resources. The program allows students to spend 1 week on the University of Arizona (UA) campus and 1 week at Tohono O'odham Community College (TOCC) on the Tohono O'odham Nation, learning about science from both O'odham and Western perspectives. Students will learn from tribal elders, O'odham professionals, university professors, and scientists from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

The 2-week TLC program is for students 14–17 years of age who want to learn more about safeguarding their natural heritage, both within and outside of the Tohono O'odham Nation. Students chosen to participate in TLC will learn and gain experience through hands-on labs, workshops, discussions, and field trips. Students will also participate team-building activities.

Who Is Sponsoring the TLC Program?

TOCC and APHIS are joining forces with UA to sponsor TLC. APHIS is funding TLC; TOCC and UA are hosting and coordinating program participants on their campuses in Sells and Tucson, AZ, respectively. TOCC and UA will make a variety of materials available to TLC students in order to facilitate learning about plants, agriculture, and natural resources. Paul Buseck, agriculture and natural resources instructor at TOCC, and Elaine Marchello, Assistant Dean in the Office of Academic Programs in UA's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, will facilitate the program.



How Much Will It Cost?

Students selected for the 2008 TLC session will pay only the cost of transportation to get from their home to the UA campus on May 27 and back home on June 7. Students who live near Tucson will be able to return home on the evening of Saturday, May 31; however, there will be activities planned for Sunday, June 1. All students will join together in the morning on June 2 for a week 2 of the program. The cost of tuition, room and board, and lab supplies for the 2-week program will be covered by APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine unit.

How Do I Apply?

Students between the ages of 14 and 17 are eligible to apply for admission to TLC. **Note:** You must be at least 14 and no older than 17 as of May 27, 2008. You must submit a complete application package **before May 8, 2008**. Packages postmarked or hand delivered after that date will not be accepted.

Here's what to put in your application package:

- A short essay entitled "How my interest in agriculture and natural resources can help myself, my community, and the country." In the essay, include information on your interests, hobbies, and hopes for the future. Be sure to include your full name, age, home address, and telephone number.
- Two letters of reference—letters from people not related to you who know you well. At least one of the references must come from a teacher or counselor.

Mail your completed package to:

Paul Buseck
Tohono O'odham Community College
P.O. Box 3129
Sells, AZ 85634

Applicants may also submit their packages to Mr. Buseck at the TOCC campus in Sells. All hand-delivered materials will be date-stamped on receipt; no paperwork submitted after May 8, 2008, will be accepted.

In early May, TOCC will let you know if you have been selected for this summer's TLC program. Meanwhile, if you'd like to learn more about APHIS, TOCC, or UA, visit these Web sites:
<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq>
<http://www.tocc.cc.az.us>
<http://www.ag.arizona.edu>

For more information about the Tohono Land Connections Program, contact

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