



PEACH STATE STARBASE

Hands-on, minds-on STEAM learning at the Clay National Guard Center

Peach State STARBASE is a federally funded Department of Defense educational program sponsored by the Georgia National Guard. Since 2001, the academy has helped fifth-grade students connect classroom learning to real-world applications in science, technology, engineering, art/design, aviation, and mathematics (STEAM). Students learn alongside positive civilian and military role models at the Clay National Guard Center in Marietta.

2024 NATIONAL CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

Recognized for Peach State STARBASE's drone program and its use of emerging technology to inspire students.

WHY STEAM EXPERIENCES MATTER

39%	8.1%	\$103,580
of fourth-graders scored at or above NAEP Proficient in mathematics in 2024	projected growth in STEM employment from 2024 to 2034	median annual wage for STEM occupations in 2024

THE 25-HOUR EXPERIENCE

INQUIRY IN ACTION Students explore, explain, apply and evaluate concepts through collaborative investigations. Mathematics is embedded across the curriculum through measurement, estimation, calculation, geometry and data analysis. • Five days of engaging instruction and application • Teamwork, communication and problem-solving • Career connections with Guard personnel • Real-world learning in a military setting	CORE LEARNING AREAS • Physics: Newton's laws, fluid mechanics and aerodynamics • Chemistry: matter, physical and chemical change, atmospheric properties • Technology: flight simulation, navigation, mapping, drones and nanotechnology • Engineering & art/design: design process, CAD and 3D printing • Mathematics: number relationships, geometry and data analysis • Careers: aviation, rocketry, engineering and computer science
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Sources: Georgia National Guard, Peach State STARBASE; DoD STARBASE; National Center for Education Statistics, 2024 NAEP Mathematics; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2024-2034 projections. Accessed August 2026.

PLAN YOUR STARBASE EXPERIENCE

Essential information for schools, teachers, and chaperones

WHO	WHEN	WHERE
Fifth-grade students, generally ages 10-11. Students may participate once.	Academy hours: 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Five-day, 25-hour experience.	Clay National Guard Center 119 Nimitz Drive, Bldg. 53 Marietta, GA 30060

BEFORE ARRIVAL: SCHOOL CONTACT

- Complete every emailed STARBASE form; obtain all required signatures.
- Bring complete forms to the pre-meeting or on the first academy day. Paperwork serves as each student's entry documentation.
- Do not leave fields blank or alter required items; incomplete applications may prevent participation.
- Ensure every attending employee completes the Teacher Responsibilities form.
- Students should leave phones and other personal electronic devices at school.

EACH DAY: STUDENTS

- Bring a sack lunch and refillable water bottle.
- Microwaves are not available for students or chaperones.
- Arrive ready to collaborate, investigate, and solve problems.
- Follow all installation, classroom, and safety expectations.

CHAPERONE EXPECTATIONS

- A teacher/chaperone must remain with the group daily to assist in class and monitor lunch.
- Complete the Teacher Responsibilities form before attending.
- Support instructors and students as requested.
- Do not take photos or video unless directed by a STARBASE instructor.
- Limit phone use and do not bring siblings or other nonparticipating children.

INSTALLATION ACCESS & TOUR

Enter the Clay National Guard Center from Atlanta Road. Do not attempt to enter through the Dobbins Air Reserve Base gate.

A scheduled internal field experience is typically held Thursday at 10:00 a.m. at the aviation hangar. The Black Hawk tour lasts approximately 45 minutes and is subject to mission and installation requirements.

CONNECT WITH PEACH STATE STARBASE

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Program details reflect the Peach State STARBASE 2026-2027 fact sheet and current Georgia National Guard program page. Tour timing and installation activities may change based on operational requirements.