



Colonial Williamsburg Electronic Field Trips General Information

The Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence is a statewide nonprofit organization created to recognize and encourage academic excellence in Oklahoma's public schools. As part of its Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute initiative, the Foundation, through a grant from the Oklahoma State Department of Education, is pleased to announce its **Colonial Williamsburg Electronic Field Trips Program**. Since participation in the famous summer institute is not economically feasible for all who would like to attend, the Foundation for Excellence offers a program that gives Oklahoma history teachers the double advantage of access to the highly acclaimed Williamsburg curriculum *and* cutting-edge technology in the classroom.

How the Program works:

The Colonial Williamsburg Electronic Field Trips are broadcast on OETA monthly, October through April, presenting a different aspect of colonial life with each broadcast. Any school with classroom television viewing capability can access the programs. The 2008-09 schedule can be found on the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence Web site at www.ofe.org/fieldtrips. To give students the opportunity to participate with each broadcast in an interactive manner—speaking directly with costumed historical characters and modern-day historians—typically requires an annual subscription of \$500. However, through its program, the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence provides grants to schools to cover the full cost of the series subscription.

In addition to accessing the interactive aspect of the broadcasts, our subscription recipients receive access to an interactive Web site, where students can explore a variety of learning activities at school and at home. These sites take the students directly into the colonial Williamsburg Capitol, where they can step into the shoes of any number of early American players, from tobacco farmers to political figures. Through the Web site, students can post opinions on issues discussed during the live broadcasts, from slavery to taxation. Teachers say the most exciting component is the opportunity for students to interact with historians and historical character interpreters during the live call-in portion of the broadcast, the one-hour post broadcast call-in, and through online forums.

Participating schools will receive the user ID and passwords via email, which will allow access to each field trip Web site. From there, they can download PDFs for the *Teacher Guide*, *Tips for Teachers* and *Numbers to Remember*. The *Teacher Guide* includes a historical background, facsimiles of primary sources, images of historic sites, glossaries, timelines and complete lesson plans written by master classroom teachers.

How Teacher Selection will be made:

The Foundation will utilize the following criteria in determining subscription recipients:

- Priority will be given to teachers who have attended the Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute and who are willing to act as peer facilitators at their respective sites.
- Applicants also must show that they are currently teaching early American history at fifth or eighth-grade levels. In the case when both criteria are met, **subscriptions will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.**

A subscription awarded to a single teacher will allow access of the program to all early American history teachers at that site as well as other teachers at the school who would like to participate. For example, at a school with four fifth-grade classes, one subscription can positively impact the professional growth of several teachers and the learning environment of more than 100 students. We at the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence believe the Colonial Williamsburg Electronic Field Trips Program offers exciting new learning opportunities for both teachers and students while integrating an innovative curriculum with the excitement of achieving a new level of technological proficiency. **Please follow the instructions on the attached Application Form and mail to the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence between Aug. 4 and Sept. 8, 2008.**

Application Form
Colonial Williamsburg Electronic Field Trips Subscription

Completed forms must be received between Aug. 4 and Sept. 8, 2008. **Please do not send before Aug. 4.**

PLEASE TYPE:

Name (Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr.) _____

School District _____

School Name _____

School Street Address _____

(Please do not use P.O. Box. Street address is required for UPS shipping.)

City, State, Zip _____

Home Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

School Telephone (____) _____ Home Telephone (____) _____

E-mail Address (please print neatly, this is how you will receive your passwords) _____

Year attended Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute _____

Currently teaching 5th Grade _____ 8th Grade _____

If selected as a recipient of the electronic field trips subscription, I agree to serve as the program peer facilitator for other American history teachers at my school.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Principal's Endorsement

I endorse this application for the Colonial Williamsburg Electronic Field Trips Interactive Program and agree to support this teacher in utilizing the program. I further certify that this individual will be teaching in _____
_____ School for the 2008-09 school year.

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail the application form to:

Colonial Williamsburg Electronic Field Trips
c/o Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence
120 N. Robinson, Suite 1420-W
Oklahoma City, OK 73102-7434

OR FAX to (405) 236-8590