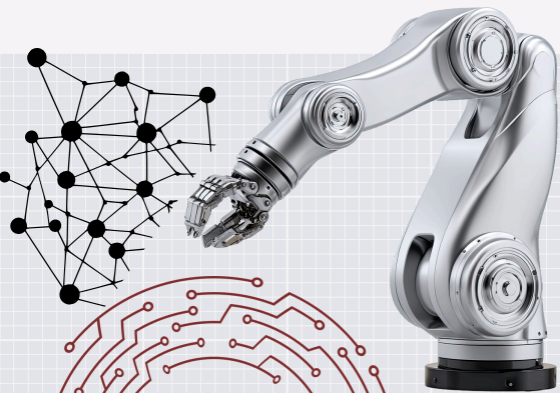


# MAKE YOUR NEXT VACATION A **STEMCATION**

WELCOME TO AIKEN ENERGY & INNOVATION  
EXCHANGE (AEIX) — SOUTH CAROLINA'S STEM &  
CYBER CORRIDOR



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# WHAT IS A STEMCATION?

**STEM — Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics — is woven into the culture, history, and economy of Aiken, SC.**

A STEMCATION is a vacation built around exploring real science and technology firsthand — with an emphasis on energy and the nuclear mission of the DOE.

## EXPLORE

Nuclear research, cybersecurity labs & cutting-edge facilities

## DISCOVER

Planetariums, wildlife sanctuaries & nature parks

## LEARN

Sit in on classes & meet STEM, engineering & cyber experts

## EXPERIENCE

Festivals, museums & hands-on activities for all ages

**Whether you're a student, a family, or an adventurous traveler —**

**Welcome to Aiken.**

# START YOUR STEM CATION HERE



If you want to get the most out of your STEM CATION, start with **USC Aiken's College of Sciences & Engineering (CSE)** — home to world-class labs, expert faculty, and one-of-a-kind STEM experiences.

## ITINERARY IDEAS

- Sit in and try out a university science, cyber or engineering class
- Tour one of our five department labs with specialized experiments
- Attend weekly science & engineering seminars
- Attend a STEM Friday event & meet the departments
- Meet student orgs: CyberPacers, Horticulture Club, Engineering Student Association & Neuroscience Club
- Meet a chair of a department in the college of sciences and engineering
- Attend the Summer Scholars Institute Symposium
- Visit the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center's Observatory
- Don't forget your swag bag before you go!

471 University Pkwy, Aiken, SC 29801  
[usca.edu/cse](http://usca.edu/cse)

# AIKEN ENERGY & INNOVATION EXCHANGE



AEIX connects entrepreneurs, innovators, and the community to resources, mentorship, and opportunities that drive economic growth in the Aiken region.

## RESOURCES

Mentorship, funding  
guidance & business  
development

## INNOVATION

Workforce development  
& regional economic  
growth

## COMMUNITY

Connecting students,  
faculty, industry &  
entrepreneurs

**Tom Scott, Ph.D.**

[tom.scott@usca.edu](mailto:tom.scott@usca.edu)

📍 151 Newberry St NW, Aiken SC

# SAVANNAH RIVER SITE



Aiken is home to some of the country's leading scientists and STEM research — all based around the Savannah River.

## DIVISIONS

Savannah River Site (SRS) · Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) · Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS)

## PUBLIC OUTREACH

"Meet SRNL" — community STEM activities for all ages · "Science on Tap" — collaborative research series with SRNL & USC Aiken

## SITE TOURS

Public & group tours available — advance scheduling required. Contact the community outreach office to arrange your visit.

SRS Community Outreach  
803-952-7697 · Aiken, SC (off Hwy 278)

[srs.gov](http://srs.gov)

# SAVANNAH RIVER SITE MUSEUM



Step into Cold War history & explore nuclear science in the CSRA

- Cold War history & nuclear science exhibits
- Endangered & at-risk species on the SRS
- STEM education programs for all ages
- Fall Fission Festival – annual family event
- Free & open to the public – check website for hours

## SRS Museum

(803) 648-1437

Hours: Wednesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Address: 224 Laurens St. SW, Aiken, SC 29801

[srsheritagemuseum.org](http://srsheritagemuseum.org)

# UGA SAVANNAH RIVER ECOLOGY LABORATORY



A world-renowned research facility studying the ecology of the Savannah River — connecting community, science & the natural environment.

## RESEARCH

Wetlands ecology, wildlife biology & environmental science

## OUTREACH

Community ecology education & school group visits

## FIELD TRIPS

Environmental field programs for students & families

## WILDLIFE

Endangered & at-risk species programs on the SRS

SREL Outreach  
803-725-2472 · Drawer E, Aiken SC 29802

[srel.uga.edu](http://srel.uga.edu)

# ADVANCED MANUFACTURING COLLABORATIVE



**1 of only 7 national lab facilities on a university campus**

The SRNL Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative is an innovation hub advancing new technologies and training the future manufacturing workforce.

- Public-private partnership with U.S. Dept. of Energy
- Combines DOE National Labs, industry & higher education
- Focus on chemical & materials manufacturing
- Located on USC Aiken campus – be one of the first to explore!

## **USC Aiken Campus**

471 University Pkwy, Aiken SC

803-643-6996

# THE DOE DOWNTOWN: A SHARED SPACE FOR STEM



A shared space among DOE, SRNL & USC Aiken — supporting STEM education, workforce development & community outreach in downtown Aiken.

## FEATURES

Interactive kiosks · DOE films  
· VR & apps · Exhibits

## DEMOS

Engineering · Cybersecurity ·  
HPC · Environmental Science

**Also downtown:** Radioactive Pinball Arcade · Cafe Scientifique ·  
Research Seminars in the Alley · Aiken Railroad Depot · Center for  
Lifelong Learning · CNTA Events

Downtown Aiken  
151 Newberry St NW, Aiken SC

# CSE PROGRAMS & CHAIRS



## **BIOLOGICAL, ENV. & EARTH SCIENCES**

BA/BS Biology · BS Clinical Lab Science · BS Environmental Earth Systems · BS Public Health, Environmental Remediation and Restoration

**Dr. William Jackson**  
[BillJ@usca.edu](mailto:BillJ@usca.edu)

## **CHEMISTRY & PHYSICS**

BS Chemistry (ACS approved) · Biochemistry · Engineering · Computation

**Dr. Gerard Rowe**  
[GerardR@usca.edu](mailto:GerardR@usca.edu)

## **COMPUTER SCIENCE, ENGINEERING & MATHEMATICS**

BS Applied Mathematics · BS Applied Computer Science · BS Cybersecurity (NSA designated) · BS Software Engineering · BS Process Engineering (ABET) · BS Mechanical Engineering (ABET) · BS Electrical Engineering (Fall 2026) · MS Computer & Information Sciences

**Dr. Mohammad Hailat · [MohammadH@usca.edu](mailto:MohammadH@usca.edu)**

## **EXERCISE & SPORTS SCIENCE**

BS Exercise & Sports Science (NSCA approved) · Allied Health · Applied Exercise Science

**Dr. Andrew Hatchett**  
[AndrewHat@usca.edu](mailto:AndrewHat@usca.edu)

## **PSYCHOLOGY**

BS Psychology · Neuroscience · Clinical · Social/Developmental · MS Applied Clinical Psychology

**Dr. Jane Stafford**  
[JStafford@usca.edu](mailto:JStafford@usca.edu)

# HEALTHCARE PROGRAMS



## **PRE-MED • PRE-PA • PRE-PHARM • PRE-DENT • PRE-VET**

Mary Katherine Mills · [MaryMi@usca.edu](mailto:MaryMi@usca.edu)

Susan Glenn · [SusanGlenn@usca.edu](mailto:SusanGlenn@usca.edu)

## **BS PUBLIC HEALTH • BS CLINICAL LAB SCIENCE**

Dr. William Jackson · [Billj@usca.edu](mailto:Billj@usca.edu)

## **ALLIED HEALTH • PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY**

## **PRE-OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY • PRE-ATHLETIC TRAINING**

Dr. Andrew Hatchett · [AndrewHat@usca.edu](mailto:AndrewHat@usca.edu)

## **MS APPLIED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY • BS PSYCHOLOGY • NEUROSCIENCE**

Dr. Jane Stafford · [JStafford@usca.edu](mailto:JStafford@usca.edu)

## **BS NURSING (IN-PERSON) • RN TO BSN (ONLINE)**

Katie Chargualaf · [KatieCh@usca.edu](mailto:KatieCh@usca.edu)

Interested in a healthcare career? Contact faculty directly — they're happy to discuss programs, prerequisites & career paths.

# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES

100% ONLINE · NO PREREQUISITES REQUIRED

USC Aiken is an NSA Designated Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense — offering industry-relevant certificates fully online for working professionals and students alike.

1

## CYBERSECURITY

100% Online

2

## NETWORK SECURITY & IT

100% Online

3

## CLOUD COMPUTING & SECURITY

100% Online

4

## DATA SCIENCE

Mostly Online

### Contact

Dr. Mohammad Hailat, PhD

MohammadH@usca.edu

803-641-3451

# CYBER PACERS

Hands-On Cybersecurity Training  
Through Competitions & Team  
Experience



Join Cyber Pacers to gain hands-on cybersecurity experience through competitions, labs, training, and industry engagement.

## COMPETE

National Cyber League ·  
CarolinaCon CTF ·  
BSidesAugusta · Circle City  
Con

## EARN

Team scholarships ·  
Internships · Campus jobs:  
RSOC, IT

## FACILITIES

Regional SOC · HPC Lab ·  
AMC National Lab · SCNG  
Cyber Innovation Center

## PARTNERS

SRNS · SRNL · US Army  
Cyber Center of Excellence ·  
K-12 institutions

Sign up: [ChrisAC@usea.edu](mailto:ChrisAC@usea.edu)  
[usea.edu/CyberPacers-Brochure](https://usea.edu/CyberPacers-Brochure)

# ADMISSIONS OFFICE



Interested in studying STEM at USC Aiken? Our admissions team is here to help you find your path — from touring campus to applying for programs.

## VISIT CAMPUS

Schedule a tour, sit in on a class, or attend an open house

## APPLY

Apply online at [usca.edu/admissions](https://usca.edu/admissions) — rolling admissions available

## FINANCIAL AID

Scholarships, grants & aid available — ask our team for details

## PROGRAMS

50+ undergraduate & graduate programs across all disciplines

### Office of Admissions

[admit@usca.edu](mailto:admit@usca.edu)

803-648-6851

171 University Pkwy, Aiken SC 29801

[usca.edu/  
admissions](https://usca.edu/admissions)

# RUTH PATRICK SCIENCE EDUCATION CENTER & DUPONT PLANETARIUM



The USCA campus offers world-class science education experiences outside the classroom — from stargazing at the Observatory to hands-on STEM festivals.

- CSRA Regional Science & Engineering Fair — sponsored by SRNS & RPSEC
- Catch an eclipse on the RPSEC lawn — if your timing's right!
- SEED Festival — 50+ hands-on STEM exhibits & demonstrations for the whole family
- GenCyber — NSA & NSF funded cybersecurity camp for students & teachers
- DuPont Planetarium public shows + RPSEC Observatory night sky viewing
- Outdoor & environmental field trips — reserve your spot in advance

471 University Pkwy, Aiken, SC 29801  
[usca.edu/rpsec](http://usca.edu/rpsec)

# MEET THE CHAIR & SIT IN ON A CLASS



## MEET THE CHAIR

Curious about a STEM career or program? Schedule a one-on-one conversation with a department chair to discuss programs, research opportunities, and career paths — no appointment necessary!

## SIT IN ON A CLASS

USC Aiken welcomes prospective students and community visitors to observe a science or engineering class firsthand. See what learning at USCA really looks like!

## COFFEE WITH THE DEAN

Meet Dean Dr. William Jackson for an informal conversation about STEM education, careers, and what makes USCA unique — held regularly in downtown Aiken.

Dr. William Jackson  
803-641-3601  
billj@usca.edu  
471 University Pkwy, Aiken SC

[usca.edu/](http://usca.edu/)  
csc

# NATURE & OUTDOOR SPOTS

Hiking, canoeing, or horseback riding — the Aiken-Augusta area has a spot outside for everyone!



- Hitchcock Woods
- Silver Bluff Audubon Center
- Henderson Heritage Preserve
- Boyd Pond Park & Observatory
- Aiken State Park
- Ditch Pond Heritage Preserve
- Carolina Bay Nature Reserve
- Hopelands Gardens
- Aiken Arboretum Trail
- Phinizy Center & Nature Park

Use GPS for exact directions · [visitaikense.com](http://visitaikense.com)

# PHINIZY CENTER FOR WATER SCIENCES & NATURE PARK



Augusta's premier nature & wetlands research center — just minutes from Aiken! Perfect for families, students & nature lovers.

## TRAILS

Nature trails & wetlands  
boardwalks

## WILDLIFE

Bird watching & wetland  
ecosystems

## EDUCATION

Environmental programs &  
school visits

## KAYAKING

Paddle through the  
wetlands!

### Phinizy Center

706-828-2109

1858 Lock and Dam Rd, Augusta GA

[phinizycenter.org](http://phinizycenter.org)



# EUDORA FARMS WILDLIFE PARK

Drive through a real safari and walk among exotic animals — a one-of-a-kind experience right in Aiken County!

- Drive-through safari & walk-through animal areas
- Meet exotic & native animals up close
- STEM connections: zoology, ecology & animal science
- Great for families, school groups & tours



**Eudora Farms**

803.564.5358

219 Salem Lane, Salley, SC 29137

[eudorasafaripark.com](http://eudorasafaripark.com)

# IMAGINATION STATION CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF AUGUSTA



Science is fun — and this museum proves it! Hands-on STEM exhibits & interactive experiences for kids of all ages!

## EXHIBITS

Hands-on STEM for all ages

## WORKSHOPS

Science demos & traveling exhibits

## FAMILIES

Perfect for families & school groups

## HOURS

Sat/Sun 11:00 AM - 3:30 PM  
Monday 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

## Imagination Station

[info@imagineaugusta.org](mailto:info@imagineaugusta.org)

965 Hickman Rd Augusta, GA 30904

[imagineaugusta.org](http://imagineaugusta.org)

# AIKEN RAILROAD DEPOT & MUSEUM

Step back in time at Aiken's historic Railroad Depot — a beautifully preserved piece of the city's rich industrial and transportation heritage.



- Historic 19th century railroad architecture
- Exhibits on Aiken's railroad history & the role of rail in STEM development
- Located in the heart of downtown Aiken
- Engineering & transportation history for all ages

Aiken Railroad Depot  
803-293-7846  
406 Park Avenue, SE  
Aiken, SC 29801

[aikenrailroaddepot.org](http://aikenrailroaddepot.org)

# THOROUGHBRED RACING MUSEUM



Aiken has a proud equestrian heritage — home to champion thoroughbred racehorses and one of the most unique museums in the Southeast.

- Hall of Fame honoring champion thoroughbreds trained in Aiken
- Fascinating exhibits on equine science, biology & sports medicine
- Unique intersection of science, sport & Southern culture
- Perfect for families — fun, educational & one of a kind

**Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame**

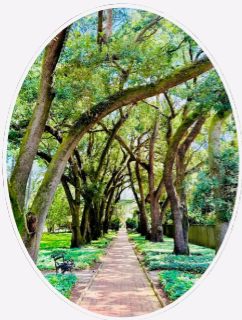
[halloffame@cityofaikensc.gov](mailto:halloffame@cityofaikensc.gov)

135 Dupree Pl, Aiken SC 29801

[aikenracinghalloffame.com](http://aikenracinghalloffame.com)

# HOPELANDS GARDENS

A breathtaking 14-acre public garden in the heart of Aiken – free, beautiful, and perfect for exploring the natural science of plant life and ecology.



- Native plants, ecology & natural science exploration
- Summer concert series & seasonal community events
- Touching Garden – sensory experience for all abilities
- Adjacent to Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame
- Free admission – open daily, dawn to dusk
- Perfect for families, nature lovers & plant science enthusiasts

**Hopelands Gardens**

803-642-7600

135 Dupree Pl, Aiken SC 29801

[visitaikense.com](http://visitaikense.com)

# STEM FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Plan your STEMCATION around these exciting annual events!

## **FALL FISSION FESTIVAL**

Annual fall event at the SRS Museum

## **NUCLEAR SCIENCE WEEK**

Activities across Aiken — annually in October

## **Science Education Enrichment Day (S.E.E.D) FESTIVAL**

50+ hands-on exhibits at USC Aiken

## **DIG STEM FESTIVAL**

Annual festival in rural Aiken County

## **CNTA TELLER LECTURE**

Public nuclear science lectures & Up & Atom events



Use GPS for exact directions · [visitaikense.com](http://visitaikense.com)

# STEMCATION LOCATIONS



## LEGEND

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  USC Aiken      |  Downtown Aiken |  SRS / Science |
|  Nature & Parks |  Museums & Fun  |  Innovation    |

# PLAN YOUR STEMCATION HERE!

DATE	LOCATION

# LET THE STEMCATION BEGIN!

University of South Carolina Aiken  
471 University Pkwy  
Aiken, SC 29801

803-648-6851  
[usca.edu](http://usca.edu)



COLLEGE OF

**Sciences &  
Engineering**