

College of DuPage/NEXLAB Storm Chasing
Thunderstorm Laboratory
Terms and Conditions

- 1) There is a \$500 dollar deposit due upon registration. This \$500 deposit is non-refundable and non-negotiable. Students who attend the preliminary meeting in December and secure a spot on a trip will only hold that spot with payment of the \$500 deposit. Once the fees have been paid in full, no full refunds will be given. Partial refunds may be given *only* with approval of Paul Sirvatka.
- 2) Each trip participant is required to show up for each schedule class meeting prior to leaving on the trip, normally the night before departure.
- 3) Fees for chasing include:
 - a) A minimum of 8 nights of hotel stay. If a trip is forced to come back early for any reason, a partial refund will be given to each student as deemed appropriate by the instructor. Storm Chase participants that are from out of town may be placed at a hotel at no cost to you until the time of your expected departure to your home location,
 - b) Transportation costs while on the trip,
 - c) Teaching and instruction of severe weather analysis, spotting techniques, and other meteorological phenomena,
 - d) 3 hours of college credit.
- 4) The days of the chase experience are approximate and may be slightly adjusted to accommodate the best opportunities for chasing.
 - a) If a trip leaves a day early, it will arrive a day early. Leaving a day early creates no burden on the trip participant since class meets the night before the trip. The class will simply be cancelled and the trip will depart. However, upon the return a day early the only participants affected are those from out of town. See 3a (above) for details on how this is handled.
 - b) If the trip leaves one day late and comes back a day late, emails will be sent out well ahead of time to see if this is possible with people's schedules. For those who are unable to stay the extra day, arrangements will be made to get trip participants home.

Again, trip participants are guaranteed 8 nights of hotel stay so they will only be missing the 9th night under this rare situation.

- 5) Trip participants are expected to complete any assignments **one week** before the group meets in class, the night before the trip departure. Any student failing to pass such assignments as safety quizzes, geography quizzes, etc., will not be allowed to chase.
- 6) Trip participants are expected to participate fully in assignments given during the trip. Assignments are considered to be very basic and within the means of the most novice of chaser.
- 7) Trip participants are expected to be able to thrive in a group situation. Each group has 18 people on a trip and participants are expected to be able to handle this situation. Anyone creating a major problem or disruption can be removed from the trip and must find their own transportation home.
- 8) Trip participants should expect to chase every day. Any possibility of severe weather will be targeted unless a decision by the instructor is made to forgo a situation based on distance or the possibility of ending up out of position for a better severe weather opportunity in the days to come. Excursions to national parks, baseball games, or various other non-storm related activities will only take place when the chance of severe weather is deemed to be very low. We are here to chase and not provide a vacation for the participant.
- 9) Understand that while we will target any possible severe weather we can, we are not in control of the atmosphere. In the rare event that the pattern does not create opportunities for supercells or tornadoes, the College of DuPage and the NEXLAB meteorology program cannot be held responsible. No refunds will be given under any circumstance based on actual or forecast weather conditions.

These conditions will be in effect for all students who register for this program.