

name of applicant (last, first, middle initial)

date of birth

home address

city

state

zip code

telephone number (  home /  cell)

e-mail address

parent/guardian

daytime phone

parent/guardian

daytime phone

High School name \_\_\_\_\_ School District \_\_\_\_\_

Expected date of graduation \_\_\_\_\_ Average (unweighted) \_\_\_\_\_ Average (weighted) \_\_\_\_\_

Courses taken, fall 2009 \_\_\_\_\_

Courses to be taken, spring 2010 \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility: I am currently in Grade 11 and will be **at least 16 years old** by the start of the program.  yes  no

List the names and contact information of your references—two science/math teachers, one extracurricular activity supervisor. Your 3 letters of recommendation **must be included with your application**. (*Names of additional referees may be provided on a separate sheet.*)

	Name	Subject taught/Activity	telephone	e-mail
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____

**NOTE:** If you have laboratory research experience at a university, research institute and/or hospital, **please provide a letter of reference from your research supervisor (if possible)** in addition to the other 3 letters.

Simons Program participants have the option of either living on campus or of commuting daily to and from their assignments [Note: housing fees not covered by program]. Please indicate your preference (*check one*):  Reside on campus  Commute

Mentors are available in the following fields (**Astronomy, Atmospheric Science, Biology, Bioengineering, Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Environmental Science, Geosciences, Marine Science, Neurobiology, Optical Science, Physics, Psychology**). You may choose to specify a discipline within the primary area (for ex., biochemistry, genetics, structural biology; electrical or mechanical engineering, etc.).

What is your first choice of placement? \_\_\_\_\_

Name additional areas (2 max.) in which you would also accept placement: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you previously participated in one of Stony Brook University's research programs?

Biotechnology Summer Camp  Garcia Program  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Have you done research on the Stony Brook University campus? (*please circle*) Yes / No

If yes, list name of SBU faculty/research supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Letter of reference included? Yes/ No

Have you already arranged for a specific Stony Brook faculty mentor for the summer of 2010? (*please circle*) Yes / No

If yes, list name of SBU faculty/research supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Documentation? Yes/ No

Are you currently in the process of searching for a research mentor at Stony Brook for the Academic Year and/or summer of 2010?

(*please circle*) Yes / No *If yes, list name of SBU faculty/research supervisor(s) you have contacted or intend to contact: \_\_\_\_\_ and kindly update us if successful in arranging for a SB Faculty Mentor.*

Please respond to the questions/essays below and adhere to the guidelines regarding length of responses. Include your name on the attachment and do not use staples.

A. **DESCRIBE YOUR PRIOR RESEARCH EXPERIENCE.** Include research-oriented courses you may have taken. Tell us about any computer/mechanical skills you have that may be helpful in a laboratory setting. Be specific about the nature of your research experience(s) and your responsibilities. Did the experience lead to the writing of report or participation in a competition?

If you plan to continue a project you have already begun working on with a Stony Brook faculty mentor, please provide a brief description of: 1) what have you accomplished to date; and 2) what you hope to accomplish in summer 2010.

**Reminder: be sure to include a letter of commitment from your prospective faculty mentor if you have already arranged for a placement.**

B. **SHORT QUESTION/ ANSWER RESPONSES.** For questions 1-5 below, **please be concise and limit your response to 4 or 5 sentences (maximum)**.

1. Why do you want to participate in the Simons Summer Research Program? Be as specific as possible about your aspirations and goals for the upcoming summer; and about previous Simons projects that interest you (see Simons website for descriptions of past summer projects).
2. What are your long-term academic and career aspirations/goals?
3. How do you spend your time outside of class? Please list and describe your interests/hobbies, volunteer and extracurricular activities as well as any full or part time jobs/internships.
4. What problem or project have you tackled recently? Give a specific example that best conveys your problem-solving skills or talents.  
(You may describe problem-solving experiences outside research/science.)
5. What book (article, journal or other publication) that you have read or studied has had the most impact on you, and why?

C. **ESSAY.** What question or problem regarding the physical and/or natural world are you most interested in, or would you most like to see answered? **Explain why, but please limit your response to one page.**

#### AGREEMENT

- I certify that the information on this application is true.
- I understand that program participation requires a full-time commitment to the research group in which I have been assigned during the entire 7-week program. There will be no exceptions, except for medical or family emergencies.
- I understand that I must fulfill all program requirements, including attendance at weekly meetings, participation in lab visits and program activities, and writing an abstract.
- I understand that a Simons Program project is subject to time constraints and **will not generally satisfy the more comprehensive eligibility requirements for submission to science fairs/competitions** (i.e. Intel ISEF, Intel STS or Siemens) **unless considerable follow-up work is done on the research project, by mutual agreement with my university faculty mentor.**
- I understand that I must follow all Simons Program rules. I understand that if I do not fulfill these requirements, the opportunity to participate in the program as well as the stipend award can be revoked.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

This certifies that I approve of this application and that my son/daughter has my consent to participate if selected. I also agree to disclose fully any health problems of the applicant on participant medical forms (required) if the applicant is selected.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

## APPLICATION PROCEDURES & GUIDELINES

**ELIGIBILITY:** Applicants must be in their junior year (11<sup>th</sup> grade) of high school (no exceptions) and must be at least 16 years of age by the start of the program. Students interested in science who have demonstrated independence, creativity and an aptitude for doing hands-on work are especially encouraged to apply.

**SCHOOL NOMINATION:** Interested applicants must first seek nomination by their high school. Each school may nominate a **maximum of three students per school**. Independently submitted, late or incomplete applications will be disqualified. Please note also that submission of more than 3 nominations per school will result in disqualification of all candidates.

**HOUSING OPTION:** Simons program participants can opt to reside on campus during the program (*typically local-area students return home on weekends; special arrangements can be made for out-of-state students*). Students who opt to live on campus will be assigned to a double room in a university residence hall, supervised by live-in residence staff and will be responsible for paying their own housing fees prior to the program start date. Students must sign a consent form agreeing to abide by all housing rules.

**DATES:** The Simons Summer Research Program will run from **June 28 - August 13, 2010** (excluding weekends). Simons Fellows must agree to participate **full-time** during the **entire program** period. **No exceptions**.

**TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS:** Please consult the form (guidelines) provided for letters of recommendation. Additional letters of support from **Stony Brook faculty** (for those applicants who have already arranged for specific mentors) may be emailed directly to Karen Kernan. Email: karen.kernan@stonybrook.edu

**APPLICATION:** A completed application consists of:

- application form**, including attached essay/question responses (see page 2)
- three letters of recommendation** two from science or math teachers; one from a teacher/supervisor of an extracurricular activity in or outside school;
- an official school transcript**; and a
- nomination form** (to be completed by a school official)

Students are responsible for returning the completed application materials and the sealed letters of recommendation **to the appropriate office within their school**. The school is responsible for sending the student's completed application and letters, together with an **official school transcript**, and the **nomination form**, to:

**Simons Summer Research Program  
Stony Brook University  
Melville Library N-3070  
Stony Brook, New York 11794-3357**

Schools nominating more than one student should submit all eligible applications in one package (if possible), together with the transcript(s) and nomination form, by the due date to the address above.

**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2010.**

**SELECTION PROCESS:** Additional admissions procedures (including interviews, by telephone or in person) may be required for placement within certain research groups/labs (e.g. the Laser Teaching Center). Note that obtaining an interview is not an indication of acceptance into the Simons program.

**PLACEMENTS IN RESEARCH GROUPS / UPDATES:** Applicants who currently do not have a research placement at the time of the application submission but are actively seeking placements and obtain/accept a research placement at Stony Brook University **prior to March 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 should notify Karen Kernan as soon as possible. (Otherwise, accepted applicants will be assigned to a mentor determined by the Simons program staff). Requests for specific mentors (or for changes to the assigned research group placement) cannot be accommodated after March 1.**

*\*Note also that students interested primarily in doing Materials Science /Polymers Research should apply to the Garcia Program as limited numbers of placements are available through the Simons Program.*

**NOTIFICATION:** Applicants will generally be notified by mail by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. Because of the high volume of competitive applications and the excessive administrative requirements involved, we are unable to provide critical commentary on unsuccessful applications.

**QUESTIONS?:** Contact Karen Kernan, tel: 631-632-7114 / fax: 631-632-4525 / email: karen.kernan@stonybrook.edu

**WEBSITE:** <http://stonybrook.edu/simons>

## Simons Summer Research Program at Stony Brook University

The Simons Summer Research Program was established in 1984 to foster and develop interest in scientific research among highly motivated, academically-talented high school students. Select students between their junior and senior years are given the opportunity to engage in hands-on research in science, math or engineering with distinguished Stony Brook faculty mentors. The program is supported by the Simons Foundation and individual faculty grants. Simons Fellows are awarded a \$1,000 stipend.

During their time at the Stony Brook campus, Simons Fellows join a research group or team, assume responsibility for a project, and conclude their apprenticeship by producing a written research abstract. In addition to learning valuable research techniques and experiencing life at a major research university, Simons Fellows attend weekly research talks, visit other students' laboratories, and participate in special workshops and events. Participants may elect to live on campus with other student researchers or to commute.

To obtain further information and see examples of previous Simons research projects, visit:

<http://www.stonybrook.edu/simons/archive.htm>

To learn more about the wide range of research at Stony Brook University, consult individual academic department webpages (for ex., Biochemistry, Chemistry, Pharmacological Sciences, Physics):

<http://www.stonybrook.edu/sb/departments/>



*Stony Brook University does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, age, disability, marital status, or status as a disabled or Vietnam-era veteran in its educational programs or in employment. Also, the State of New York prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.*