

**THE 52nd DR. BESSIE F. LAWRENCE
INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCIENCE INSTITUTE
JULY 7th - JULY 30th 2020
THE WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
REHOVOT, ISRAEL**

Application Process and acceptance criteria:

1. **Age:** Participants are required to be **18 years** old by June 2020. Minors would not be able to participate in the program

Please note **an exception**: Several spots in the program are reserved as awards to winners of specific national or international competitions. **Minors receiving these specific awards may attend the program.**

2. **Academic studies:** The program is intended for high school graduates or 1st year bachelor's degree students.
3. **Academic requirements:** Candidates are required to present strong scientific background. A successful candidate will demonstrate excellent academic achievements in science studies as well as proven involvement/ interest in scientific research that outside the classroom. This can be manifested by means of extracurricular scientific activities, projects, competitions, summer programs, etc.
4. **English requirements:** The ISSI is an English spoken program. High proficiency in English is mandatory.
5. **Social Skills:** While the ISSI is an international science program, the social interactions and activities are an integral part of the program. Thus, successful candidates will be required to share rooms (4 beds/ room), work on a scientific project in teams of 2-3 students and team up for various cultural, artistic and social activities.
6. **Medical condition:** Candidates are required to hike in the Israeli summer, on rocky trails, in the streams and in the desert. Thus candidates must be medically and physically capable of hiking, and should be able to handle heights and walk the trails.

A complete application to the ISSI includes:

1. **Complete** application form as a **singular pdf or docx file**.
2. A complete transcript or list of courses (with grades) the applicant has taken in his/her studies.
3. **Two letters of recommendation** from teachers, advisors, school principal, professors or others who know the applicant well.
4. A photograph of the applicant needs to be pasted at the top of this page.

All forms must be printed; handwriting forms will not be accepted!

The application deadline is **March 1, 2020**. Applications received after the deadline will be processed only on availability basis. Note: Written responses and essays are not limited to the provided space.

Please send completed applications and all supporting materials to your country's selection committee. Successful candidates will be invited for an **interview** (either in person or via skype).

Student Application Form

Applicant
photograph
here

General Details

Name:

First Last

Date of Birth:

Day/Month/Year

Address:

Place of Birth:

Current grade in school or year in the academia:

Gender: Male Female

Passport No.:

Country of issue:

Phone (home):

Email:

Name of Parents or Guardians:

Parents' E-mail:

School Name and Address:

List of classes you take this semester:

List of science classes you took in previous years:

Please specify **programming languages** you know and your **level** of knowledge/experience in each of them (limited/fair/excellent):

List of academic or other significant **awards**:

List of **science journals** you read:

Extra-curricular activities, interests and hobbies:

To which colleges or universities have you applied?

Which colleges or universities have accepted you?

Which **field of study** do you intend to pursue in University?

Essay Topics

The following essays will reflect on your academic and scientific backgrounds as well as your scientific and personal interests. **These essays will determine your assigned scientific project.** Thus, we strongly recommend for you to present yourself, elaborate on your previous achievements, interests, goals, both scientifically and socially, if you have unique interests, traits or hobbies - let us know who you are so we can match you with the most appropriate project.

1. Write your personal statement:

- 1.1. Elaborate on **science activities** you've been involved in, extracurricular scientific projects, university courses, etc...
- 1.2. Describe what your **main fields of interest** are and how you broaden your knowledge through your involvement in them.
 - 1.2.1. In order to improve your placement with a research group, we encourage you to share more than one interest.
- 1.3. Write about your present career goals and your motivation to pursue these particular professional directions.
- 1.4. Explain why you want to participate in the ISSI program, your **motivation** and what will you do this summer in the event that you will not be selected to participate in the program.

2. Please write an essay about a topic of your interest. You may choose to write about a project that you were involved with, a paper that you've read, a book that has made an impression, a talk that you found inspiring, your future professional plans, or other topics that are close to your heart.

RECOMMENDATION FORM #1

NOTE TO THE PRINCIPAL, ADVISOR OR SCIENCE TEACHER: The Summer Science Institute at the Weizmann Institute in Israel, conducted in **English**, offers an exciting summer of study and experience in various branches of science under the guidance of the Weizmann Institute's scientific staff. Applicants are required to **excel** in their academic science studies and demonstrated their intellectual curiosity and self-initiative by participating in scientific research beyond the classroom – i.e. extra research projects, science competitions, summer programs, etc.

In addition, the applicant should present **excellent social skills**, **cooperate** in group activities, be **team players**, **respectful** to their peers and staff and **follow the rules** and **regulations** of the program, **on and off campus**.

The non-scientific parts of the program include tours around the country and exposure to its culture and people.

A major factor in the final selection of a candidate is the following evaluation submitted by the principal, science teacher or advisor. We would appreciate your valuable input.

Name of student:

Name and address of school:

Name, position, address and email of person filling out this form:

How long and how well have you known the applicant?

Please circle below your opinion of the applicant:

Academically: **Outstanding, above average; average, below Average**

Personally: **Outstanding, above average; average, below Average**

Comments:

The applicant's social behavior for his/her age is:

More mature than most students, average, immature

Please describe the applicant's level of **scientific curiosity, initiative**, knowledge, readiness for individual and extracurricular work and background along with a description of any particular project in which he/she has excelled.

The ISSI is an intensive educational and **social experience** that requires serious study as well as individual and group laboratory work from each of the participants. How will the student adjust to this type of environment? Please include any observations you may have of the applicant's behavior in groups, both in a social and educational context.

If you have further comments to add which would be helpful for the candidate's selection process, kindly write them on a separate sheet.

ALL RESPONSES WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL

RECOMMENDATION FORM #2

NOTE TO THE PRINCIPAL, ADVISOR OR SCIENCE TEACHER: The Summer Science Institute at the Weizmann Institute in Israel, conducted in **English**, offers an exciting summer of study and experience in various branches of science under the guidance of the Weizmann Institute's scientific staff. Applicants are required to **excel** in their academic science studies and demonstrated their intellectual curiosity and self-initiative by participating in scientific research beyond the classroom – i.e. extra research projects, science competitions, summer programs, etc.

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Name, position, address and email of person filling out this form:

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Please circle below your opinion of the applicant:

Academically: **Outstanding**, **above average**; **average**, **below Average**

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The ISSI is an intensive educational and **social experience** that requires serious study as well as individual and group laboratory work from each of the participants. How will the student adjust to this type of environment? Please include any observations you may have of the applicant's behavior in groups, both in a social and educational context.

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Participant Statement and Parental consent

1. I hereby consent to my son/daughter enrolling in the ISSI at the Weizmann Institute of Science.
2. We are fully aware of the fact that the ISSI is a multicultural program and thus the activities during the weekends are not specifically tailored to Shabbat observers.
3. We are aware that all weekend trips are **obligatory** and constitute an essential social and educational part of the program.
4. I hereby give my permission for _____
to be absent from the ISSI only upon permission of the program's staff. ***I absolve the Weizmann Institute from all responsibility for him/her during these times as well as before or after the period of July 7- July 30, 2020.***
5. I acknowledge the fact that usage of or involvement with **liquor, drugs or narcotics or anti-social behavior may be cause for immediate dismissal** from the program; that no refunds will be given and that participants dismissed from the program will be returned home at their own expense.

Name and Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Name and Signature of Participant

Date

Medical statement (to be completed by a licensed physician):

We request that this or an equivalent statement will be filled by a physician to **confirm** that the participant is **physically and mentally** capable to participate in **ALL** aspects of the program. Please take into account that exploring the country by traveling within the program includes hiking, climbing and other strenuous activities.

Participants will experience temperatures around the **high 90's (32C-34C)**. Tel Aviv will be hot and humid, Jerusalem is dryer. Massada & Eilat are **extremely hot** with temperatures rising above 110F (43C), but dry.

- 1.1.1 A participant who arrives suffering from any pre-existing condition that prevents him/her to take part in the programs' activities will be sent back home at his/her own expense.
- 1.1.2 A participant who takes medication on a regular basis is responsible for self-administration.

General physical state:

Traumas or surgeries during the past two years:

Allergies and severity:

Chronic disease or condition (physically or mentally):

Mental state:

Medications taken on a regular basis:

Anti-tetanus vaccine:

Special diet requirements:

General recommendations:

Physician's statement

After evaluating Mr./Ms. _____ medical profile, I find him/her capable/incapable of participating in the ISSI (as outlined above) and physically fit to participate in sports activities (on his/her free time during the program) and hiking during the trips.

Comments:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Date:

(Stamp and signature of physician)

(License number)

Applicant's Statement

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the above medical form is complete in all its details and fully realize that any illness or disability that I have suffered from prior to arrival in Israel, and which is not described in full in the form or in any accompanying letter, or any extraordinary illness or complication thereof that may arise, will be due cause for my return to my country of origin or treatment in Israel at my expense. **I also realize that medical coverage does not include dental treatment of any form whatsoever, or eye-glasses.** All medications that I take regularly are at my expense, and have been detailed in the form.

Name of applicant: _____

Signature of applicant

Date

Signature of parent or guardian (Required for applicants less than 18 years of age):

*All medical information will be regarded as highly confidential.

ISSI FAQ

Outstanding science students of all denominations and from a variety of countries have the opportunity to meet and work together in the exciting atmosphere of the Weizmann Institute of Science. The one-month program, is conducted in English, consists of a dedicated scientific research and exposure to different scientific fields.

Q. WHAT SCIENTIFIC TOPICS ARE OFFERED TO PARTICIPANTS OF THE PROGRAM AT THE WEIZMANN INSTITUTE RESEARCH LABORATORIES?

- A. Participants will spend about three weeks at the Weizmann Institute. The program provides participants with insights into the nature of scientific research by working directly with researchers in their laboratories. Projects are assigned according to participants' background and interests, as were described in the application form. The projects introduce the scientific method, planning, overcoming the challenges, running experiments, data acquisition and analysis. At the end of the program students submit their scientific reports and present their projects as a group.

All efforts are made to assign each student to a research group that best suits his or her interests and skills. Research projects are may be offered from all five faculties of the Weizmann Institute of Science. However, the program is limited to the specific available projects within a year, thus we cannot guarantee a place within the main focus of a participant. **We encourage candidates to keep an open mind and flexibility regarding the assigned projects.**

Q. HOW IS THE ISSI PROGRAM INTEGRATED IN THE WEIZMANN INSTITUTE?

- A. The program is designed to be a mixture of scientific and cultural enrichment, including social and sports activities. Senior scientists meet with the participants and present different topics in science, technology or worldwide problems. These invited lectures from diverse disciplines expose participants to various scientific subjects outside their specific fields of interest. Lectures may also be given on Israeli society and culture.

Q. WHAT OTHER ACTIVITIES ARE INCLUDED IN THE SCHEDULE?

- A. Participants tour the Judean and Negev deserts. The students study the wildlife, geology, ecology, archaeology and history of the surrounding area. This is achieved primarily through first-hand experience including extensive hikes, field experiments, wildlife observation and lectures at the Ben Gurion University of the Negev, The Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research. Students also visit the city of Jerusalem and tour the Galilee.

Q. WILL I BE ABLE TO PRACTICE MY RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS?

- A. ISSI is an international and multi-cultural program. With regards to Jewish religious observance, the Weizmann Institute serves kosher food, and a synagogue is located within a 15 min walk from the institute. The weekend trips, are obligatory. Some of the weekend activities may not be suitable for Shabbat observants, and it is the choice of the participant whether to join such activities.

We make all efforts to choose restaurants with kosher certification, and if we cannot, we offer alternatives. While we do our best to accommodate individual needs, we are unable to tailor our program for all. Candidates with a specific question or need should contact the ISSI staff.