Southern California Academy of Sciences

2015-16 Research Training Program

Program Features

- Individualized research opportunities with an expert mentor during the Academic Year
- Open to all disciplines of science
- Visit professional laboratory facilities and learn about current research from professional scientists
- Learn how to conduct research with hands-on experiences
- Present findings at the Academy’s Annual Meeting, a professional science conference
- Abstracts are published in the SCAS Annual Meeting Program
- Compete to be a Student Delegate to the American Junior Academy of Science at the American Association of the Academies of Science 2017 meeting in Boston

Requirements

- Submit an application by June 1, 2015
- Attend 3 meetings during the school year
- Write a scientific paper
- Present results in the May 2016 Annual Meeting at the University of Southern California

Learn more by:

- Contacting your science teacher for more information
- Learn about the Academy at: [http://scas.nhm.org/](http://scas.nhm.org/)
- Learn about being a Student Delegate at: [http://www.academiesofscience.org/](http://www.academiesofscience.org/)

Southern California Academy of Sciences

Natural History Museum
900 Exposition Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90007
E-mail: scas.nhm@gmail.com

Supporting scientists and students in Southern California since 1881
Dear Science Teacher, Science Coordinator, Principal;

On behalf of the Southern California Academy of Sciences' Board of Directors, I am announcing the Junior Academy's Research Training Program (RTP) for the 2015-16 academic year.

This exciting program that has been in existence since 1980 provides high school students the opportunity to conduct science research under the mentorship of a professional researcher. Students are challenged as they learn about and implement the rigors of scientific research while reaping the rewards of presenting their results at the Academy's Annual Meeting where they interface with professional researchers.

Many high school students who have participated in this program have been inspired to pursue degrees in science, following with a career in science. During their participation in the program, students gain hands-on experience that reinforces and enriches knowledge acquired in the classroom. By presenting their results at the Annual Meeting of professional scientists, students gain their confidence in their newfound skills. Finally, students with the best research papers and presentations will be nominated to attend the national meeting of the Junior Academies held concurrently with the American Association for the Advancement of Science's national conference where they will be inducted as lifetime Fellows of the American Junior Academy of Science.

We ask you to solicit motivated students to conduct science research under a mentorship and also are capable of upholding their commitment to the program. Students must be prepared to spend up to eight hours weekly on their research project from August through May. Specifically, students must submit an application that is post-marked no later than June 1, 2015 that includes:

- A letter of recommendation from their teacher, which may be submitted by the student or separately by their teacher.
- A description of their preferred research interests and, if available, name of mentor.
- Include one original and 3 copies of the student’s application

Students will be required to:

- Attend 3 RTP meetings, held on Saturdays in September, November, and March (tba).
- Provide an abstract in March 2016 (tba) and written paper on their research by April 15, 2016.
- Present their research at the Annual Meeting in May 6-7, 2016 at University of Southern California.

Please distribute copies of the attached flyer and application to your students. You may also learn more about the program and obtained electronic versions of the flyer and application for easier distribution on the Academy’s website: http://scas.nhm.org/junior-academy/

Sincerely,

Gloria Takahashi
Board Member
RTP Program Manager

All contributions to the Academy are fully tax deductible as allowed by law.

Southern California Academy of Sciences is a Federally-recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization
Dear Student;

The Southern California Academy of Sciences's Board of Directors is pleased that you are applying to participate in the Academy's Research Training Program. We want you to be successful with your application, so please read the following instructions carefully.

Application Instructions:

- Application must be postmarked no later than June 1, 2015
- Application package must include:
  - The completed form shown below
  - A 1-page resume listing high school courses that you have taken, your previous science research, extracurricular activities, and details about any part-time job that you may have
  - Project description that is no more than 2 pages, double-spaced on 8½ x 11" paper that includes
    - Statement of Purpose
    - Objectives
    - Procedures and equipment you will use
    - Bibliography: List references that you have used in preparing for your project
  - Teacher's letter of recommendation (your teacher may send copies separately)
- Submit 1 original and 3 copies of all requested documents to:
  Southern California Academy of Sciences
  Research Training Program
  900 Exposition Boulevard
  Los Angeles, CA 90007

Research Training Program Requirements:

- Attend 3 RTP Saturday meetings (dates to be determined later):
  - September 2015 at Loyola Marymount University
  - November 2015 at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
  - March 2016 at University of California, Irvine
- Submit an abstract in March 2016 (tba)
- Submit a written research paper by April 15, 2016
- Present at the Academy's Annual Meeting, on Saturday in May 7, 2016 at University of Southern California

Additional Notes

- Finding a Mentor
  - Consult with your science teacher for potential mentors
  - We welcome students to the RTP program who have obtained a mentor on their own
  - Students who cannot find a mentor may submit an application and request a mentor
  - Mentors may ask you to work on a different project than you prefer, but you will still learn and enjoy conducting your scientific research
- Mentors may be reimbursed for supplies for your project for no more than $350 by the Academy

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## Southern California Academy of Sciences
### Application for the Research Training Program

#### Student Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>E-mail:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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| Phone: ( ) - | Grade for 2015-16: Circle one: 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th |

| Street address: | City: | State: | Zip: |

| Parent Name: | Parent E-mail: |

| Parent Signature: | Parent Phone: ( ) - |

#### School Information

| School Name: | School Phone: ( ) - |

| School Address: | City: | State: | Zip: |

| Science Teacher: | Teacher E-mail: |

| Teacher Signature: | Date Signed: |

| School Principal: | School Website: |

| Principal Signature: | Date Signed: |

#### Acknowledgement of Responsibilities

Participation in the Academy’s Research Training Program requires the student to:
- Attend all three training meetings (September, November, and March)
- Submit an abstract in March, 2016 (date to be determined)
- Submit a written science report on April 15, 2016 that will be reviewed by RTP judges
- Present at the Academy’s Annual Meeting in May 7, 2016 at University of Southern California

| Parent Name: | Student Name: |

| Parent Signature: | Student Signature: |

#### Application Submission

- The completed form shown above
- A 1-page resume listing your high school courses, extra-curricular activities, and work
- Project description that is no more than 2 pages, double-spaced on 8½ x 11” paper that includes
  - Statement of Purpose
  - Objectives
  - Procedures and equipment you will use
  - Bibliography: List references that you have used in preparing for your project
- Teacher’s letter of recommendation (your teacher may send it separately)
- Your prospective Mentor’s name, institution, and e-mail address

| Mailing Instructions: | Submit 1 original and 3 copies of all requested documents to: Southern California Academy of Sciences Research Training Program 900 Exposition Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90007 |