

THE DR. BESSIE F. LAWRENCE  
HYBRID INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCIENCE INSTITUTE  
JUNE 30 - AUGUST 8, 2024

The 2024 Dr. Bessie F. Lawrence International Summer Science Institute will be **hybrid**. The digital scientific module will begin on June 30 and end on July 25<sup>th</sup>. During this time participants are expected to dedicate their time to their assigned scientific project and be engaged in the various online activities, including daily group meetings with their mentors and social activities. The on-campus social & cultural program will take place from July 28 – August 8<sup>th</sup>.

Application Process and Acceptance Criteria:

1. **Age:** Participants are required to be **18 years** old by July 1, 2024. Minors will not be able to participate in the program.
2. **Academic studies:** The program is intended for high school graduates, 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> year bachelor's degree students.
3. **Academic requirements:** Candidates are required to present a strong scientific background. A successful candidate will demonstrate excellent academic achievements in science studies as well as proven involvement/ interest in scientific research outside the classroom. This can be manifested by means of extracurricular scientific activities, projects, competitions, summer programs, etc.
4. **English requirements:** The ISSI will be conducted in English. 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 work on a scientific project in teams of up to 10 students and team up for various cultural, artistic and social activities.
6. **Medical condition:** The program is committed to inclusion of candidates with disabilities and will reasonably try to provide such candidates with the possibility to participate in the program, depending on the adjustments/ adaptations/ modifications needed in the program to fit their medical needs. Candidates with disabilities should include a medical statement detailing their medical status and the adjustments/ adaptations/ modifications needed. This will be processed only after acceptance to the program on the basis of all other qualifications.



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A complete application to the ISSI includes:

1. **Complete** application form as a **singular pdf or docx file**, including a photo.
2. A complete transcript or list of courses (with grades) the applicants have taken during their **last year's** academic studies. If relevant, attach syllabuses of programming courses or computational analysis courses.
3. **Two letters of recommendation** from teachers, advisors, school principal, professors or others, from relevant scientific oriented fields, who know the applicant well.

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

The application deadline is **April 1, 2024**. Applications received after the deadline will be processed only on availability basis. Note: Responses and essays are not limited to the provided space.

Please send completed applications and all supporting materials to:

Rebecca Serber, American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science

[r.serber@ACWIS.org](mailto:r.serber@ACWIS.org)

**Student Application Form**

**General Details**

Name:

First Last

Date of Birth:

Day/Month/Year

Address:

Place of Birth:

Gender:  Male  Female  Prefer not to say

Phone (mobile):

Email:

Current grade in school or year in the academia:

School Name:

School Address:

Applicant's  
photograph  
here



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List of classes you take this semester:

List of science classes you took in previous years:

Please specify **programming languages and computational analysis skills, experience, knowledge,** and **level**, (limited/fair/excellent):

Please describe your **general interest in computational projects** and previous computational projects you took part of:

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

List of **science journals** you read:



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**Extra-curricular activities, interests, and hobbies:**

To which colleges or universities have you applied or currently studying at?

Which colleges or universities have accepted you?

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

Please describe your **general interest** to participate in a **hybrid program**:



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Please describe your **general interest** to participate in a **multidisciplinary project** and how you & your team would benefit

Please describe in which **academic fields** you could **assist** other participants on the program

### 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.
- 1.3. 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 **hybrid ISSI program**, your **motivation**, your **expectations**, your **commitment** to the hybrid program: scientific, social, and other academic or cultural demands, unconventional hours related to different time zones, flexibility with international online meetings) and how you would fit the program with your other summer plans.

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.



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**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 researchers and students. 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 **good social skills**, **cooperate** in group activities, be **team players**, **be respectful** to their peers and staff and **follow the guidelines** and **regulations** of the program.

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**

Behavior: **More mature than most students, average, immature**

Please elaborate on your above indications:



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1. Please describe the applicant's level of **scientific curiosity, proactive initiative**, knowledge, readiness for individual and extracurricular work and background along with a description of any particular project in which the applicant has excelled.
  
2. The digital ISSI program is highly academic and requires intensive individual and group study. This presents high responsibility, self-driven motivation, independent learning as well as reaching out for other team members. How does the student's previous experience relate to these skills and traits? Please include any observations you may have of the applicant's behavior in groups, both in a social and educational context.
  
3. Other comments which may be relevant for the candidate's application:

ALL RESPONSES WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL

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**RECOMMENDATION FORM #2**

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

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**

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**Participant Statement and parental consent (for minor applicants)**

1. I hereby consent to my child 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 activities 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 of all responsibility for him/her during these times as well as before or after the period of June 30- August 8, 2024.***
5. I acknowledge the fact that usage of or involvement with **liquor, illegal drugs or narcotics, use of violence of any kind 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

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**THE ISSI FAQ**

Outstanding science students of all denominations and from a variety of countries will have the opportunity to meet and work together in the exciting atmosphere of the Weizmann Institute of Science. The 6-week program is conducted in English and is dedicated to scientific research and exposure to different scientific fields.

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

A. Participants will spend about four weeks working on scientific projects from the Weizmann Institute labs. The program provides participants with insights into the nature of scientific research by working directly with researchers. Projects are assigned according to participants' background and interests, as were described in the application form. The projects introduce scientific methods, 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 students to a group that best suits their interests and skills. Research projects are offered according to the available research projects at the Weizmann Institute of Science.

**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 activities and tours. 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.

**Q. I HAVE A DISABILITY THAT PREVENTS ME FROM PARTICIPATING IN SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES IF THERE ARE NO ADJUSTMENTS MADE TO THEM. WHAT SHOULD I DO?**

A. ISSI is committed to inclusion of candidates with disabilities and will reasonably try to provide such candidates with the possibility to participate in the program, depending on the adjustments/ adaptations/ modifications needed in the program to fit their medical needs. Candidates with disabilities should include a medical statement detailing their medical status and the adjustments/ adaptations/ modifications needed. This will be processed only after acceptance to the program on the basis of all other qualifications.



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

A. ISSI is an international and multi-cultural program. The weekend trips are obligatory. Some of the weekend activities may not be suitable for some religious practices, and it is the choice of the participant whether to join such activities.

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.