

Application Process and Acceptance Criteria:

1. **Academic studies:** The program is intended for high school graduates, gap year students or 1st year bachelor's degree students. All participants must be 18 years old by July 4, 2023.
2. **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.
3. **English requirements:** The International Summer Science Institute (ISSI) is an English-spoken program. High proficiency in English is mandatory.
4. **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 a dorm room (4 beds per room), work on a scientific project in teams of 2-3 students and team up for various cultural, artistic and social activities.
5. **Physical activity:** Candidates are required to hike in the Israeli summer, on rocky trails, in the streams and in the desert. Candidates must be medically and physically capable of hiking, and should be able to handle heights and walk the trails. Candidates will be required to verify that they are physically fit and submit a physician's statement stating the same.

An 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. If relevant, attach syllabuses of programming courses or computational analysis courses.
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 included.

All forms must be printed; handwritten forms will not be accepted.

The application deadline is **March 1, 2023**. Applications received after the deadline will be processed only on the basis of availability. Please send completed applications and all supporting materials to **Rebecca Serber** at R.Serber@acwis.org. Successful candidates will be invited for an interview.

Note: Written responses and essays are not limited to the provided space.



SCIENCE FOR THE BENEFIT OF HUMANITY

THE 54TH DR. BESSIE F. LAWRENCE
INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCIENCE INSTITUTE
JULY 4-27, 2023
THE WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

Student Application Form

General Details

Name:

First Last

Date of Birth:

[Day/Month/Year]

Address:

Gender:

Phone (mobile):

Email:

Name of Parents or Guardians:

E-mail of Parents/Guardians:

Current grade in school or year in the academia:

School Name:

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):

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 you been accepted to?

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.
- 1.3. Write about your present career goals and your motivation to pursue these professional directions.
- 1.4. Explain why you want to participate in the International Summer Science Institute (ISSI) program, your **motivation** and what you will do this summer in the event that you are not 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.



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Recommendation Form #1

The International Summer Science Institute (ISSI) of the Davidson Institute of Science Education (Davidson) at the Weizmann Institute of Science (WIS) 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 demonstrate their intellectual curiosity and self-initiative by participating in scientific research beyond the classroom – i.e., extra research projects, science competitions, summer programs, etc. The non-scientific parts of the program include tours around the country and exposure to its culture and people.

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

A major factor in the final selection of a candidate is the following evaluation. 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.



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INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCIENCE INSTITUTE
JULY 4- 27, 2023
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Recommendation Form #2

The International Summer Science Institute (ISSI) of the Davidson Institute of Science Education (Davidson) at the Weizmann Institute of Science (WIS) 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 demonstrate their intellectual curiosity and self-initiative by participating in scientific research beyond the classroom – i.e., extra research projects, science competitions, summer programs, etc. The non-scientific parts of the program include tours around the country and exposure to its culture and people.

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

A major factor in the final selection of a candidate is the following evaluation. 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.

Participant Statement and Agreement

1. I hereby enroll and wish to participate in the International Summer Science Institute (ISSI) of the Davidson Institute of Science Education (Davidson) at the Weizmann Institute of Science (WIS). I understand this application and the program is facilitated by the American Committee of the Weizmann Institute of Science (ACWIS), a not-for-profit organization incorporated in the State of New York.
2. In order to participate in the ISSI, I understand that a condition is to have read, understand and sign this Participant Statement and Agreement ("Agreement"). I agree to the terms of this Agreement voluntarily and have freely chosen to participate in the ISSI upon my own initiative, risk and responsibility.
3. I am aware of the risks of travel worldwide, including risks associated with my safety and security. These risks include, but are not limited to, property damage and loss, death or injury by accident, disease or acts of third-parties ("the Risks").
4. I am voluntarily participating in the ISSI, with a full understanding of the Risks and I agree to accept any and all other risks to my safety and security during the course of my participation in the ISSI. I acknowledge and affirm that, regardless of any security arrangements that the WIS may provide, it cannot and does not guarantee my safety, cannot ensure my safety and is not, therefore, responsible for my personal safety or the safety of my property while participating on the ISSI or any ISSI-related or non-ISSI-related activities, including, but not limited to airline travel, ground transportation, meals, lodging and recreational activities.
6. I represent that I am in physical and mental conditions that will allow me to participate in the ISSI without undue risk to myself or others and that I have medical insurance that will cover me for any accidents, illnesses, treatments or hospitalizations while I am participating in the ISSI. I understand that should I have to return home to the United States before the end of the ISSI due to any of these accidents, illnesses, treatments or hospitalizations, I am responsible for the costs of travel and will not be refunded any travel payments made for the ISSI. As further evidence of my fitness, I am submitting a Physician's Statement stating

the same. All medications that I take regularly are at my expense and have been detailed in the Physician's Statement.

7. I am able to and do assume full responsibility for my own health and well-being while participating in the ISSI. I understand that WIS is acting in reliance on these representations and is allowing me to participate in the ISSI because of my and my physician's representations regarding my physical and mental conditions.
8. I am aware that the ISSI is a multicultural program and thus the activities during the weekends are not specifically tailored to Shabbat observers. I am also aware that all weekend trips are **obligatory** and constitute an essential social and educational part of the program.
9. 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; if dismissed, I am responsible for the costs of travel home and will not be refunded any payments made for the ISSI.
10. In light of the above and in consideration of being permitted to participate in the ISSI, I hereby release and forever discharge ACWIS, WIS, Davidson, their respective subsidiaries, affiliates, predecessors, successors and assigns and all of their respective past, present and future officers, directors, employees, agents and contractors, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns (collectively, the "Releasees"), from any and every claim which might arise from or by reason of any bodily injury, personal injuries known or unknown (including emotional trauma), death or property damage resulting or alleged to result from any accident, incident or other episode that may occur, whether based upon the negligence of, or breach of contract by, any Releasee or any other party for whose acts or omissions any Releasee may be responsible in law or in fact, or any other cause or principle of law, as a result of my participation in the ISSI or any activities in connection with the ISSI. If any third party should bring legal action against any of the Releasees as a result of my participation in the ISSI, I agree to indemnify those Releasees and hold them harmless from any loss, liability, damage and cost (including attorney's fees) that they may incur.
11. This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties to this Agreement and may only be modified in a writing signed by an ACWIS officer or director. This Agreement supersedes any prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings and negotiations regarding its subject matter. This Agreement shall be interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of New York and shall be as broad and inclusive as permitted by such laws. If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid, it is agreed that the remaining provisions shall, notwithstanding, continue on full force and legal effect. It is binding upon my estate, my heirs and my personal representatives.

12. I am at least 18 years of age, have carefully read the foregoing Agreement, understand its contents and acknowledge that this is a release of liability and as such is a binding and fully enforceable contract between me and WIS. I acknowledge that I have had the opportunity, if I so desired, to have this Agreement reviewed by my lawyer.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____
Initialing here constitutes as a signature for this form

Date: _____
(mm/dd/yyyy)

Parental Consent

[required for Participants under the age of 18 and/or covered by parent's medical insurance]

1. I have reviewed the above **Participant Statement and Agreement** and agree to the terms stated.
2. I hereby consent to my son/daughter enrolling and participating in the ISSI.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____
Initialing here constitutes as a signature for this form

Date: _____
(mm/dd/yyyy)



Physician's Statement (to be completed by a licensed physician):

We request that this or an equivalent statement be completed by a physician to **confirm** that the participant is **physically and mentally** capable to participate in **ALL** aspects of the program. This medical information will be regarded as **highly confidential**.

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 F (32-34°C)**. Tel Aviv will be hot and humid; Jerusalem is dryer. Masada and Eilat are **extremely hot** with temperatures rising above 110°F (43°C), but dry.

Additionally, 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; or 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:

Conclusion

After evaluating Mr./Ms. _____ medical profile, I find him/her capable/incapable of participating in the ISSI (as outlined above) and physically fit to work out at the gym (fitness club) on his/her free time during the program.

Comments:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Date:

(Stamp and signature of physician)

(License number)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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 International Summer Science Institute (ISSI) is conducted in English, consists of a dedicated scientific research and offers 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 the first three weeks at the Weizmann Institute campus. 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 lab that best suits his or her interests and skills. Research projects are offered from the five faculties at the Weizmann Institute of Science. The program is limited to the specific labs that participate in the program within that year.

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 lecturers 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 and 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-minute walk from the institute. The weekend trips are obligatory. Some of the weekend activities may not be suitable for Shabbat observance, 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.