



## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION STEP PROGRAM Big Thicket Summer Research Institute Application

The Summer Research Institute is a *two month, time* intensive commitment from May 28<sup>th</sup> – July 28<sup>th</sup> and involves a trip to the Big Thicket Research Station in rural Saratoga, Texas from June 5 – June 15, 2009. *Students receive three hours of college credit for Biology 2389 and a \$3,000 stipend. Satisfactory program commitment requires a total of 320 hours.* The summer research students are selected on a competitive basis. Eastfield College NSF STEP program selects from eight to twelve students majoring in STEM disciplines.

**Instructions:** Complete the form below. In order for your application to be considered you must include all the items listed at the bottom of this form. Applicants will be notified of application outcome via email or personal letter. Final selections will be based on strength of application and personal interview.

**Application materials must be received by 4 p.m. on Friday, March 26, 2010.**

### I. GENERAL INFORMATION

*(PLEASE PRINT or TYPE)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone or Alternate # \_\_\_\_\_

Gender:  Female  Male Ethnicity \_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship:  U.S. Citizen  Permanent Resident # A- \_\_\_\_\_

Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's or Guardian's Highest Level of Education:**

Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Father \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### II. ACADEMIC INFORMATION

School in which you are currently enrolled \_\_\_\_\_  
*(name and city)*

Current Academic Classification:  Freshman  Sophomore  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Last High School Attended \_\_\_\_\_  
*(name and city)*

Cumulative GPA (HS) \_\_\_\_\_

College(s) Attended: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(name and city)*

Declared Major at Eastfield \_\_\_\_\_

STEM Degree(s) you plan to pursue at your transfer school: \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative College GPA \_\_\_\_\_ Expected Date of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

**III. BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT**

1. Briefly discuss any research experience, field experience and/or skills you may have that would help you succeed in this program.
2. Have you ever been part of a team or group experience? If so, what are your strengths and weaknesses at working with others?
3. Do you have any family responsibilities, dietary restrictions, medical, religions or other needs requiring special consideration for you to participate?
4. A component of this program involves outdoors field work. Are you allergic to anything such as bees, certain plants etc? If so, please describe and provide information on the treatment to follow in case you had an allergic reaction.
5. Field experience can be unpredictable and challenging. Please list and discuss some of your personal strategies that would help you succeed in this type of activity.

**IV. PERSONAL STATEMENT**

In essay style, describe yourself and discuss each of the following. You are NOT limited to these areas: (1) Why do you want to participate in this field experience activity, (2) How would this experience contribute to your academic development and future career goals, (3) Why are you interested in biodiversity, (4) Describe your experience with laboratory equipment and computer technology, (5) Describe experiences or interests that may be related to this field study summer program. You may attach separate sheets of paper if desired, but do not exceed two pages of double spaced text.

**V. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION**

The following documentation must be submitted **with** your application to be considered complete. Failure to include these documents will prohibit the applicant from being considered for the program.

1. Submit a copy of your most recent transcript with this application.
2. Submit a copy of your most recent advising report with this application.
3. Attach **two** letters of recommendation from science faculty/teachers which address:
  - (a) Length of time the teacher has known you
  - (b) Level of motivation exhibited and academic performance in his/her classes
  - (c) Intellectual curiosity – interest in learning
  - (d) Commitment to educational endeavors and quality of work
  - (e) Reliability- intellectual and personal integrity, promptness, conscientiousness
  - (f) Personal character and maturity
  - (g) Likelihood of succeeding in a science related program.

Letters of recommendation must be verifiable and may be submitted on letterhead or include contact information of the faculty member making the recommendation.

**VI. AGREEMENTS, AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

I understand that if selected for The Big Thicket Research Summer Program I must remain in the program during its entire duration (Flexible scheduling for students in Summer 2). I also understand this summer research program involves outdoor fieldwork and that I may be required to work under various weather conditions. Finally, I understand that I will be required to present what I learned once the program is completed (e.g. poster presentation).

I authorize Eastfield College and STEP program staff to obtain information necessary to the execution and mandatory reporting of the program.

The information in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit completed applications to:  
***Eastfield College NSF STEP Office, Room C 123,  
3737 Motley Drive, Mesquite, TX, 75150,***

For more information, please contact:

Laura Thomason at (972)860-7379.

Laurathomason@dcccd.edu

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Education opportunities are offered by Dallas County Community Colleges without regard to race, age, national origin, religion, sex, disability or sexual orientation