



Livingston High School
Science Department
30 Robert Harp Drive
Livingston, NJ 07039

Subject: **SCIENCE RESEARCH APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION**

Dear 9th Grade Student,

The Science Research Program at LHS is a 3-year program that provides students an opportunity to develop a deep understanding of scientific research and the methods of practicing science. The program is designed for students who wish to pursue excellence and move ahead into advanced areas of original research. Both laboratory and bibliographic research are addressed. Students learn to acquire, evaluate, and present journal articles on their individual topics of interest, attend group seminars, practice scholarly writing, deliver polished oral presentations, analyze data critically and with statistical rigor, propose valid research questions, and design experimental inquiries. The program is supervised by Livingston High School faculty; individual research (mostly carried out in the summers) is mentored by graduate scholars and/or professional scientists. Original research may be completed at the facility of the graduate mentor, or in-house at LHS and will be submitted to local, state, and national competitions.

Due to the individual attention provided to students in this program, registration is limited so all applicants may not be admitted. Priority will be given to students who demonstrate the following qualities:

1. A sincere interest in learning about research in some area of science or technology.
2. A willingness to be a self-starter and highly motivated independent researcher.
3. A genuine desire to invest a great deal of time in exploring an area of interest.

If you are interested in registering for the Science Research program, you must complete an application, which includes answering questions pertaining to three main topics. The response to each topic should be typed, double-spaced, and at least 500 words in length. In addition, please attach a copy of your current year's grades (Semester 1) to your application. You can access your grades through the Genesis portal. Your application should be submitted to Dr. Starace's mailbox in the main office by **Monday, January 27, 2024 no later than 8:00 AM.**

The faculty and administration are confident that your successful completion of the requirements of the Science Research program, should you be accepted, will provide you with the independent research, collaborative teamwork, and oral and written communications skills that are highly valued by undergraduate academic institutions and beyond.

Best wishes and good luck!

Dr. Starace
Science Research Faculty
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Mr. Coleman
Science Research Faculty
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Mr. Jay
Science Research Faculty
djay@livingston.org

SCIENCE RESEARCH APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Please type your name, student ID, and email address on each page (in a header is efficient).

Write a separate, concise essay to address each of the following three topics. Each essay should be typed, double-spaced, at least 500 words in length. Submit your best effort (i.e., proofread!) and include a word count at the end of each essay. We want to know about you so be creative and try to write so that both your excellence and personality shine through.

I. INITIATIVE

- ◆ What have you done outside of your school curriculum that shows initiative?
- ◆ Focus on one or two of these activities/hobbies/experiences and describe your involvement and leadership.
- ◆ What difficulties have you encountered, and what strength, value, or part of you helped you overcome it?
- ◆ Provide specific examples and anecdotes so that we can get a sense of who you are and evaluate your promise as a student in the Science Research Program.

II. INTERESTS

- ◆ Explain something that has made you passionate about science (other than a course or grade)
- ◆ What are your specific scientific or technical interests?
- ◆ What outside of school have you done to explore your scientific or technical interests?
- ◆ What is your approach to tackling a new concept that you don't know much about?
- ◆ What if you run into a roadblock in your search – what do you do to get past it?
- ◆ Provide specific examples and anecdotes so that we can get a sense of who you are and evaluate your promise as a student in the Science Research Program.

III. INSIGHTS

- ◆ Pick an historical figure from any time period, a fictitious character, or a modern individual to converse with for a couple of hours.
- ◆ Explain why you would want to meet this individual and why this person intrigues you.
- ◆ What would you talk about?
- ◆ What three questions would you ask your chosen person?
- ◆ You will also be enjoying a meal together. What do you imagine this person will order to drink and eat and why?

Your topical essays, along with your academic achievement, will be used in the selection process. In certain cases, you may be asked to sit for an interview to clarify your responses.

Best of Luck!