Yale Cognition & Development Lab Summer Internship Program:
Frequently Asked Questions

How many interns are accepted each year?
The number of applications that we are able to accept each year depends on a variety of factors including the strength of the applications received and the availability of our full-time researchers to oversee and collaborate with accepted interns. This program is competitive. The number of interns accepted varies by year, but 8–10 interns are typically accepted.

Is housing provided for students in the internship program?
No. Summer housing, on campus or otherwise, is not provided by the lab nor by the University for students participating in our summer internship program. However, we do provide recommendations for finding appropriate housing, and we put accepted interns in touch with each other as potential flatmates.

I have limited previous research experience. Does this hurt my application?
We do consider previous research experience as we evaluate the relative strengths of the applications that we receive, but there is no single factor that determines whether an application will be accepted or not. Also keep in mind that we offer our internship program as a learning opportunity for students to expand their research skills.

Is there a minimum GPA required for acceptance into the internship program? No—no one factor is decisive in our evaluation of applications.

Are international students / non-U.S. citizens able to apply?
Yes. However, all of our interns must be legally eligible to work or to participate in an internship program in the United States. The Cognition and Development Lab may not be prepared to support individuals who require visa sponsorship in order to become legally eligible to work or to participate in our internship. If you are an international student currently studying in the United States, then you should check with your international student coordinator regarding options that may be available to you with support from your institution.

I will have completed my bachelor’s (or equivalent) degree on or before the start date. Can I still apply?
Starting in 2015, we are accepting applications from students who have already received their bachelor’s degrees. We will give these applications equal consideration to those we receive from undergraduates.

What are the dates for the internship program?
The dates vary each year but generally the internship begins in early June and ends at the end of July, with the days surrounding July 4 usually available for vacation. Please check the announcement for our internship program (usually available in January) for the precise program dates each year.

I will have a scheduling conflict with the program dates. Can I still apply?
The program dates for our internship program are usually invariable. You are welcome to apply despite your scheduling conflict, but please be aware that your availability will be considered as we evaluate the strength of your application relative to the overall set of applications received.

Is there a stipend offered to summer interns?
A stipend of up to $2000 pending funding and number of interns will be provided to accepted applicants.

What if I cannot complete my application before the deadline?
The application deadline is the date after which we begin reading completed applications in earnest. While we will not discard incomplete materials, any delay after the deadline reduces the likelihood that your application will be reviewed.