

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

What are the dates for the internship program?

For 2020, our internship will run from Wednesday, June 3rd to Tuesday, July 28th. For full consideration, all application materials should be submitted by 11:59pm March 23rd.

What can I expect from the summer internship?

Interns will be expected to work approximately 30 hours per week, which may include work on weekends (weekend work will be offset by time off during the week). Interns will be matched with a primary mentor with whom they will work closely, and will also work collaboratively with other lab members and summer interns.

When can I expect to hear back?

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted for video-chat interviews by March 30th, and final decisions for accepted applicants will be released during the first week of April.

How many interns are accepted each year?

The number of interns accepted varies by year, but 5–10 interns is typical.

Is there a stipend offered to summer interns?

A stipend of \$2000 will be provided to accepted applicants. In addition, we strongly encourage candidates to apply for outside funding from their own institutions or national funding programs. Talk to your academic advisor or career resources office – they may know about these types of funding opportunities for undergraduates interested in research internships!

Is housing provided for students in the internship program?

Unfortunately, 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. We do make recommendations for how to find appropriate housing, and we put accepted interns in touch with each other as potential roommates.

What skills/experience are you looking for?

Most of our research involves interviews with children between the ages of 3 and 10. If you have research experience, or other useful experience with children that age, that's a big plus. In terms of other applicable skills, interns with programming, web development, statistical software, and design or arts skills are often a big help to researchers in developmental psychology.

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I have limited previous research experience. Does this hurt my application?

We 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. We consider our internship program to be an opportunity for students to expand their research skills, so while prior experience with research helps, we're looking for applicants who show initiative and interest.

Is there a minimum GPA required for acceptance into the internship program?

Not at all! We evaluate applications holistically, so no one factor is decisive.

Are international students / non-U.S. citizens able to apply?

Yes. However, all interns must be legally eligible to participate in an internship program in the United States. Unfortunately, we can't provide visa sponsorship. If you are an international student currently studying in the US, then you should check with your international student coordinator about visa support. Your university might already sponsor you for summer internships!

I will have completed my bachelor's (or equivalent) degree on or before the start date. Can I still apply?

Yes!

I will have a scheduling conflict with the program dates. Can I still apply?

The dates for our internship are set, and we can't change them for single individuals. However, you're welcome to apply even if you have a minor scheduling conflict. We have occasionally had applicants start a few days to a week later than the larger group. We evaluate the strength of each application relative the overall set, but the number of applications we receive makes it very competitive.