



CSST 2016 SUMMER PROGRAM

July 3 – September 9, 2016

Information for Prospective Applicants

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The CSST Summer Program is a 10-week intensive research training and PhD recruitment program at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Each program participant will be enrolled in 12 units of UCLA courses, conduct research under the guidance of a UCLA faculty mentor, and participate in required CSST activities including professional development and networking events. UCLA PhD programs will preview potential CSST applicants' research performance and begin early evaluation for the next year's graduate school admission cycle.

About 90-95% of CSST participants came from biomedical & life sciences, physical Science, and engineering majors (STEM majors). But we also welcome students from non-STEM majors such as geology, sociology, political science, urban planning, and so forth. (STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics.)



ONLINE APPLICATION

We will announce the application link soon. Please check back on your university website for application instructions in a few weeks. Below is an overview of what you would be asked to provide in the online application form. If you are interested to apply, we strongly encourage you to **start preparing the application materials ahead of time.**

- Your basic information: name, contact information, etc..
- Your academic background.
 - GPA, ranking, etc.
 - Please use <http://www.foreigncredits.com/Resources/GPA-Calculator/> to calculate your GPA. Use: Country → , Grading Scale → .
 - You will be asked to upload your **Official Transcripts** in English (it takes time to obtain official transcripts so please plan ahead)
- English tests that you have taken
 - National English Test in China (CET-4/6), TOEFL, IELTS, GRE, etc..
 - Applicants' English proficiency will also be assessed during our in-person interviews.
 - Although you are not required to provide these test scores during application, if you are admitted into the program, however, you **must** provide a TOEFL iBT minimum score of **79**, or IELTS minimum score of **6.5**, or iTEP minimum score of **5** by **March 1st 2016** in order to be qualified for F1 visa to participate in the program.
- Your research experience
 - You may describe up to 3 research experiences you have.
- Your Curriculum Vitae
- 2-Part Essay
 - Please browse [UCLA department webpages](#) and [PhD program information](#). Then write an essay describing:
 - Your reason for applying to the CSST Summer Program. What do you hope to gain from this experience?
 - Your short & long-term career goals.
 - The UCLA PhD Programs that interest you.
 - Please browse UCLA research topics on [UCLA department webpages](#). Then write an essay describing:
 - General research topic(s) that interest you. Be flexible and list more than one.
 - Area(s) you would like to focus on this summer. Be flexible and list more than one.
 - Note: It is **NOT** recommended to name a specific faculty member in the essay as we will use it for mentor matching if you are admitted into the program.



TIMELINE

- **October - November, 2015**
Applicants submit CSST online application. There will be a **non-refundable** \$80 application fee.
- **November 2015**
CSST announces 1st-round selection results and invites selected applicants for interview.
- **December 2015 - January 2016**
CSST faculty conduct on-site interviews of selected applicants.
- **February 2016**
CSST announces final roster of admitted 2016 Summer Program students.
- **March 2016**
2016 Summer Program students' mentor wish-lists are due.
- **March through June 2016**
Mentor matches confirmed, and students receive summer project assignments.
- **July 3-4, 2016**
CSST 2016 Summer Program begins; students arrive at UCLA campus.

PROGRAM EXPENSE

The estimated total program expense of \$10,601 per student is shared by UCLA, the partner universities, and the students' personal fund. Expenses for Summer 2016 will be **confirmed in May 2016**.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
10-week CSST Program Fee	\$5,343 (CSST scholarship)
UCLA On-Campus Housing & Meals	\$3,268
UCLA Summer Session Reduced Registration Fee	\$150
UCLA Document Fee	\$50
UCLA iSTART Fee	\$59
UCLA Visa Processing Fees	\$325
UCLA Summer Session Health Insurance	\$345
UCLA IEI fee (\$61
Airfare	\$1,000
TOTAL	\$10,601

Each student will receive a **CSST scholarship** covering the program fee, which includes tuition, administrative fee, etc.. Living, travel, insurance expenses, and other fees will be shared by the partner universities and the students: about **\$5,258** in total.



HOUSING

Housing plays an important role in developing a community of CSST colleagues and promoting cross-disciplinary interaction among students. Each student will be assigned a bed in a triple room in UCLA campus housing. All CSST students are required to live in their assigned housing. No exceptions. A meal plan of 11-meals or 15-meals per week is also included in the housing package.

ENROLLMENT

CSST will enroll each student in 4 units of 199 or 197 independent study course with his/her UCLA faculty mentor and 8 units of CSST Colloquium (aka M Pharm 194) with Professor Ren Sun, CSST Director. Course grades will be based upon research performance, CSST program attendance, and personal conduct.

NOTES

Students are strongly encouraged to take the GRE examinations before attending the Summer Program. Although GRE scores are not a requirement for participating in the Summer Program, it will be useful for evaluating the student's admissibility to UCLA PhD programs at the end of the Summer Program. Additionally, taking the exams early will allow students to retake it later if necessary.

Please contact CSST at: csst@ieo.ucla.edu