



## OVERVIEW OF STARS RESEARCH PROGRAMS

The Science and Technology Academicians on the Road to Success (STARS) undergraduate research program provides opportunities for students to carry out independent research projects with the guidance of NSU Science and Technology faculty. Students learn the latest methodologies in research while improving observation and communication skills. Through meetings with great scientists, the STARS program promotes awareness of the diversity of research areas. The STARS program also conducts workshops and field trips that provide information and career guidance about research and other types of science professions in academia, government, and the private sector. STARS is intended for students with a genuine desire to pursue careers in biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering, mathematics, physics, or technology. Please contact Ms. Zenora Spellman concerning the STARS Research Program at 823.2889 or [zspellman@nsu.edu](mailto:zspellman@nsu.edu) - The following programs are combined under the STARS Program:

Center for Materials Research (CMR) - The Summer Undergraduate Research Experience Program at the Center for Materials Research offers you, as a student majoring in chemistry, physics or engineering, unique opportunity to participate in cutting-edge research projects sponsored by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and the Department of Defense (DOD). As a participant, you will work on research problems of fundamental and practical importance in nanomaterials, photonics, and spin electronics. You may choose to work with random medium lasers, photovoltaic polymers, transparent gain ceramics, optical composites, computational modeling or spin-polarized transport phenomena. These materials and phenomena have applications in new generation computers, efficient conversion of sunlight into electricity, expansion of lasers applications, and improvement of optical communications. The program will immerse you in exciting research, and learning, while having fun and making new friends. We look forward to sharing with you our excitement for our research. For additional information, please contact Ms. Jennifer West at 823.2153 or [jdwest@nsu.edu](mailto:jdwest@nsu.edu).

Washington, Baltimore, Hampton Roads – Louis Stokes Alliance Minority for Participation (WBHR-LSAMP) - The Washington, Baltimore, Hampton Roads Louis Stokes (WBHR-LSAMP) is an alliance of seven historically black colleges and universities. The ultimate goal of the WBHR-LSAMP Program is to double the number students receiving a bachelor's degree in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and to encourage students to pursue graduate degrees. The WBHR-LSAMP program is offered to **juniors and seniors only**. For additional information, please contact Ms. Zenora Spellman at 823.2889 or [zspellman@nsu.edu](mailto:zspellman@nsu.edu).

For additional information on the STARS Program, visit: <http://stars.nsu.edu>



# Science and Technology Academicians on the Road to Success



Please check the program you are applying for:

- STARS
  WBHR-LSAMP (JR and SR only)
  CMR (Summer Only)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Last First MI
- \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID Number  
 Social Security Number
- \_\_\_\_\_ City State Zip  
 Local or Campus Address
- Local Phone Number: Area Code ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ City State Zip  
 Permanent Address
- Permanent Phone Number: Area Code ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- Email: \_\_\_\_\_
- Race:  African American  White  Hispanic  Asian  Native American  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Gender:  Male  Female D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. Citizen:  Yes  No
- On-campus housing? (out-of-state only)  Yes  No Any special dietary needs?  Yes  No

## EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

- Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Emphasis: \_\_\_\_\_
- Classification:  Freshman  Sophomore  Junior  Senior
- Number of Credits Completed: Total \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_ G.P.A. \_\_\_\_\_
- Graduated:  Yes  No What Year: \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Anticipated Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Are you interested in graduate/medical school/or career? Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Please Submit:

1. An essay consisting of no less than 300 words. This essay should describe why you selected a science or technology discipline as a major and your future plans (graduate/career) upon completion of your undergraduate degree. Also highlight previous research performed.
2. Two completed recommendation forms from NSU faculty (if outside NSU, two letters of recommendation)
3. Resume
4. Transcript or Evaluation
5. Please indicate if you are planning to attend summer school, the number of courses you plan to take, and reason for courses. (separate sheet)
6. Mentor Data Form

**Please return application packet to the STARS Office, Room 100 RTC Building or mail to STARS; Norfolk State University, 700 Park Avenue, 100 RTC Building, Norfolk, VA 23504; Phone: 757-823-2891; Fax: 757-823-2968. All materials must be included!**

## NSU CSET STARS Undergraduate Research Program Guidelines for Students

**Weekly Hours:** You will need to perform research a minimum 10 hours a week during the academic year and 35 hours during the summer. You must record the time you spend in the lab on the time sheet provided by the program. You **MUST** submit your time sheet to the STARS office in a timely manner, according to the established schedule.

**Compensation:** Your compensation depends on your classification. You will be paid periodically throughout the summer. You may be terminated at any time due to poor performance. If you miss any mandatory activity, display unacceptable behavior, or do not follow guidelines set forth by the STARS Program, your stipend will be reduced. There are limitations in your stipend due to financial aid requirements. We will assist you in determining your eligibility. You may not receive compensation from two sources for the same activity. You will be requested to return your stipend if we determine that you have done so.

**Mandatory Meetings & Activities:** A calendar will be distributed of mandatory meetings and activities of all student interns. Check your e-mail often for updates.

**Final Report:** At the end of the STARS Research Program, you will prepare an oral presentation highlighting your work and results. You must also write a final research report (see report guidelines). NSU students must present their results at the Fall Undergraduate Research Symposium.

**Mentor and Student Assessment:** At the end of the program, your mentor will have an opportunity to evaluate your performance and vice versa. Evaluation forms will be provided.

**Mentors:** Your mentor has volunteered her/his time to advance your professional training. You should show your appreciation by assisting your mentor as much as possible and applying yourself to your work.

**Other things to remember:** Since most of your work will be done without significant supervision, you are responsible for setting and reaching goals and milestones. It can be very helpful to keep a log of what you do on your project. This effort can be a guide to you so that you can best utilize your time and discover where your difficulties lie. The STARS program only provides funds for your stipend. No other costs can be supported through the project's budget.

**Resolving Problems:** If you have problems unrelated to your research during the internship period, you may contact either Zenora Spellman at 823-2889 ([zspellman@nsu.edu](mailto:zspellman@nsu.edu)) or Valencia Ingram at 823-2694 ([vhingram@nsu.edu](mailto:vhingram@nsu.edu))

**I agree to adhere to all program guidelines:**       accept       decline

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Norfolk State University**  
***Science and Technology Academicians on the Road to Success (STARS)***  
***Faculty Recommendation Form***  
Please Print or Type all Information

To be completed by applicant:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID or Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

I  do  do not waive my rights to examine this application form. If you do waive your rights, the NSU faculty member should place this form in a sealed envelope with your name on the front and sign the back of the envelope.

To be completed by NSU Faculty member:

How long have you known this applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

In what capacity: (Circle) Instructor Academic Advisor Senior Seminar Advisor Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Among other students you have taught, how do you rank the applicant's:

1. Oral Communication Skills	Exceptional (top 3%) Good (top 60%)	Excellent (top 10%) Poor or inadequate	Very Good (top 40%) Not able to observe
2. Written Communication Skills	Exceptional (top 3%) Good (top 60%)	Excellent (top 10%) Poor or inadequate	Very Good (top 40%) Not able to observe
3. Initiative	Exceptional (top 3%) Good (top 60%)	Excellent (top 10%) Poor or inadequate	Very Good (top 40%) Not able to observe
4. Computer Skills	Exceptional (top 3%) Good (top 60%)	Excellent (top 10%) Poor or inadequate	Very Good (top 40%) Not able to observe
5. Research Experience	Exceptional (top 3%) Good (top 60%)	Excellent (top 10%) Poor or inadequate	Very Good (top 40%) Not able to observe
6. Career Aspirations/Goals	Exceptional (top 3%) Good (top 60%)	Excellent (top 10%) Poor or inadequate	Very Good (top 40%) Not able to observe
7. Ability to Work in a Team	Exceptional (top 3%) Good (top 60%)	Excellent (top 10%) Poor or inadequate	Very Good (top 40%) Not able to observe
8. Ability to Work Independently	Exceptional (top 3%) Good (top 60%)	Excellent (top 10%) Poor or inadequate	Very Good (top 40%) Not able to observe
9. Relationship to Others in Department	Exceptional (top 3%) Good (top 60%)	Excellent (top 10%) Poor or inadequate	Very Good (top 40%) Not able to observe

If you have anything additional to express about this student, please write them on the back of this form or make a separate attachment. Check  if there is any additional information.

PRINT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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If you have anything additional to express about this student, please write them on the back of this form or make a separate attachment. Check  if there is any additional information.

PRINT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



## Mentor Data Form

The STARS program at Norfolk State University supports activities that will increase the retention and graduation rates in the Sciences, Mathematics, Engineering, and Technology programs at NSU. Through this program students can receive stipends to work as teaching or research assistants. Faculty mentors would benefit by having STARS student's assist in performing research under their guidance. Please refer to the **Guidelines for Students** for details on the program.

Please complete the following information if you would like to have one or two students working with you during the summer/academic year (underline the appropriate period).

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

Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Contact #: \_\_\_\_\_ Office Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

The key to the success of the program is to increase students participation in their own academic development and that of their peers, under the close mentoring of faculty members.

We are pleased that you would like to participate in this effort as a mentor, and would like to learn how the new activities you plan to implement will assist us in achieving the STARS goals. Please answer the questions. We must use the information in an upcoming report. At the end of the semester we will ask you to fill a short report form, telling us about your STARS experience.

**Please answer the questions on the back of this page to complete your application.**

- 1) Name of student(s) working with you : \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) How many hours a week you expect to work? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Where will the student(s) be working? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Would you be willing to chaperone student field trips? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Will you attend the STARS Annual Poster Sessions? YES  NO
- 6) For each of your students, write a short description of his/her research duties

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Please indicate your research topic.

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Do you intend to measure the outcomes of the activities? How?

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