Scholars

A program to prepare high school students with disabilities for college, careers, and leadership

**Disabilities
Opportunities
Internetworking
Technology**

DO·IT Scholars

The *DO-IT Scholars* program prepares young people with disabilities for college, careers, independent living, and leadership roles in society.

DO-IT Scholars:
- experience college life on a university campus in the summer.
- explore careers and the world of work.
- learn to select and use adaptive technology, software, and Internet resources.
- learn about reasonable accommodations at school and in the workplace.
- network with peers and working professionals with disabilities.
- gain requisite knowledge to enter and succeed in college and challenging careers.
- participate in leadership opportunities that promote accessible environments, worksites, and community activities.

Consult the Research to Practice Brief at *www.ncset.org/publications/viewdesc. asp?id=1168* to learn how the *DO-IT Scholars* program components are grounded in research. These research-based strategies include:
- computer and Internet access,
- peer support,
- mentor support,
- college preparation, and
- work-based learning.

The *DO-IT Scholars* program consists of three phases. After graduating from high school and the third phase, *Scholars* become *DO-IT Ambassadors*. At the end of each phase, *Scholars* are asked to evaluate their experiences.

Phase I Scholars

Through their first Summer Study session, Phase I *DO-IT Scholars* participate in the following activities:

Internetworking—*DO-IT Scholars* learn to use computers to enrich their education and to explore academic and career interests using the Internet. They communicate with mentors and other DO-IT participants using computers and, if necessary, special adaptive technology. *DO-IT Scholars* who do not have the necessary technology are loaned equipment and software while they participate in program activities.

Mentor and Peer Support—Frequent electronic communications and personal contacts bring *Scholars* together with *DO-IT Mentors* to facilitate academic, career, and personal achievements. *Mentors* are college students, faculty, and other professionals, many with disabilities themselves.

Summer Study I—During a two-week, live-in summer program at the University of Washington in Seattle, *DO-IT Scholars* participate in academic lectures and labs, stay in residence halls, and practice skills that will help them be successful in college and careers.

Phase II Scholars

Through their second Summer Study session, Phase II *DO-IT Scholars* are supported with information about college application procedures, entrance requirements, and additional tips and resources to help them prepare for their transition to college. Additionally, Phase II *Scholars* participate in the following activities:

Projects—*DO-IT Scholars* apply their interests, skills, and knowledge to design and complete independent and team projects. *DO-IT Mentors* and staff act as resources.

Internetworking and Mentoring—*DO-IT Scholars* develop and practice communication and leadership skills by acting as peer mentors for incoming Phase I *DO-IT Scholars*. Communication occurs in-person during the Summer Study program and online throughout the year.

Summer Study II—*DO-IT Scholars* return to the University of Washington campus for a one-week, live-in summer program to create and complete projects of personal interest with other *DO-IT Scholars*, faculty, and professionals.

Phase III *Scholars*

Phase III *Scholars* (through high school), complete high school and transition to college. Throughout the year, they participate in e-mentoring and other DO-IT activities. Some become *Interns* at DO-IT Summer Study and participate in other work-based experiences.

Ambassadors

(After high school graduation), a *DO-IT Ambassador* participates in helping with e-mentoring and other DO-IT activities. They engage in making their colleges, worksites, and communities more welcoming to people with disabilities.

Eligibility

Washington State high school students with disabilities may apply. Priority is given to students in their sophomore year in high school, followed by students in their junior year.

Application Process

Applications are accepted throughout the school year for the upcoming summer. However, priority is given to applications received by January 30th. Applications received after that date are considered on a space-available basis.

Only complete application packets are reviewed by the Advisory Board. Application materials are found online at *www.uw.edu/doit/programs/do-it-scholars/applying*, and may be submitted by postal mail, fax, email, or online. The application includes
- Student Application
- Parent/Guardian Recommendation and Consent
- High School Teacher, Administrator, or Counselor Recommendation
- Student's Current Grade Report/Transcript
- Grade Report/Transcript Request Form

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is previous experience working with computers required?
    No. However, an interest and willingness to develop computer skills and participate on the Internet is essential.

2. Are *DO-IT Scholars* charged for instructional materials, housing, meals, activities, and accommodations such as sign language interpreters?
    No.

3. Can I apply for funding to assist with the costs associated with travel and/or hiring personal care assistants?
    Yes.

4. What does the Advisory Board look for when reviewing application packages?
    The Board considers an applicant's interest and aptitude in college studies, motivation to participate in DO-IT, contribution to the diversity of the program, and perceived benefit from program offerings.

5. When will applicants be notified of the Advisory Board's decisions?
    Most applicants are notified between March and June.

6. When are the Summer Study sessions held?
    Phase I Summer Study typically occurs during the last two weeks of July. Phase II Summer Study typically occurs during the last week of July.

7. Who do I contact with my questions?

    DO-IT, University of Washington
    Box 354842, Seattle, WA 98195-4842
    doit@uw.edu
    http://www.uw.edu/doit/
    206-685-DOIT (3648) (voice / TTY)
    888-972-DOIT (3648) (toll free voice / TTY)
    206-221-4171 (FAX)
    509-328-9331 (voice/TTY) Spokane

About DO-IT

DO-IT (Disabilities, Opportunities, Internetworking, and Technology) serves to increase the successful participation of individuals with disabilities in challenging academic programs such as those in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Primary funding for DO-IT is provided by the National Science Foundation, Washington State, and the U.S. Department of Education. Funding from Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation, the Boeing Company, NASA, the Samuel S. Johnson Foundation, the Jeld-Wen Foundation, Microsoft, the U.S. Department of Labor, and other organizations have supported DO-IT activities.

University of Washington
College of Engineering
UW Information Technology
College of Education

09/21/15

DO-IT Scholars Program Application

DO-IT Scholar applicants must be residents of Washington State, have a disability, and be enrolled in their sophomore or junior year at high school. Deadline for priority application is **January 30th**.

A complete *DO-IT Scholars* application includes all of the following items:

☐ Student Application
☐ Parent/Guardian Recommendation and Consent
☐ High School Teacher, Administrator, or Counselor Recommendation
☐ Copy of Student's Current High School Grade Report/Transcript
☐ Completed Grade Report/Transcript for DO-IT Scholar Applicant Form

Instructions: The student applicant must complete the form below and the ten essay questions. The application materials may be submitted in your native language and in audio or video format. Attach additional pages as needed to address the items below. Return your complete *Scholar* application packet via mail to *DO-IT Scholars* Application, DO-IT Center, University of Washington, Box 354842, Seattle, Washington 98195-4842, fax at 206-221-4171, email to *doit@ uw.edu*, or online at *www.uw.edu/doit/programs/do-it-scholars/applying*.

Deadline: January 30th. Applications for the upcoming summer are accepted throughout the school year; however, priority is given to applications received by the DO-IT Center by January 30th. Applications received after January 30th will be considered on a space available basis.

Applicant name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Date of birth _____ Gender _____

Ethnicity (select one): ☐ Hispanic or Latino ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino

Race (select one or more): ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native ☐ Asian
☐ Black or African American ☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander ☐ White

High school name _____

Grade level _____ Expected date of graduation _____

Academic and other awards (if any) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

(essay questions on reverse)

Respond to items 1-10 on a separate piece of paper (or in audio or video format, if your disability affects your ability to respond in printed form).

1. Describe your interest in your two favorite academic areas (for example, science, math).
2. Describe your education and career goals.
3. Describe how you feel about meeting and corresponding with other high school students who have a variety of disabilities and are interested in going to college.
4. Describe the nature of your disability and how it affects your learning or school participation.
5. Describe the accommodations (including personal assistant) you use at school.
6. Describe your computer and Internet experiences (if any).
7. If you use a computer, describe any special software or hardware you use and what products you find most useful.
8. State in one hundred words or less why you would like to be included in the *DO-IT Scholars* program.
9. If you received assistance from another person or used another accommodation to complete this form, please describe fully the type of assistance you received (for example, dictated answers to someone).
10. Additional comments (optional).

About the *DO-IT Scholars* Program

The *DO-IT Scholars* multi-year program prepares young people with disabilities for college, careers, independent living, and leadership roles in society. It consists of three phases and after graduating from high school, the opportunity to be a *DO-IT Ambassador*. Key aspects of the *DO-IT Scholars* program include:

- **Summer Study**—Over the course of two summers, *Scholars* participate in one and two week live-in summer programs at the University of Washington in Seattle. *DO-IT Scholars* participate in academic lectures and labs, live in residence halls, and practice skills for college and career success. For the third summer, *Scholars* can apply to be Interns and will assist with the program.
- **Internetworking, Mentoring, and Peer Support**—*DO-IT Scholars* learn to use computers to enrich their education and to explore academic and career interests. They communicate online with mentors and other DO-IT participants from home using computers and, if necessary, special adaptive technology. *DO-IT Scholars* who do not have the necessary technology are loaned equipment and software while they participate in program activities. This may include a computer, printer, software, assistive technology, and Internet service.
- **Work-Based Learning**—*DO-IT Scholars* can apply to be a *Summer Study Intern* and a participant in other work-based learning opportunities.

If you have questions about the *Scholars* program or this form, please contact DO-IT at 888-972-DOIT (3648) (toll free voice/TTY) or *doit@uw.edu*.

Parent/Guardian Recommendation and Consent
DO-IT Scholars Program

DO·IT

Instructions: A parent or guardian must complete the form below and the six essay questions. The application materials may be submitted in your native language and audio or video format. Attach additional pages as needed to address the items below.

Return this form and attachments to the student applicant or to the DO-IT Center via

>   FAX: 206-221-4171
>   Mail: *DO-IT Scholars* Application, DO-IT Center, University of Washington, Box 354842, Seattle, Washington 98195-4842
>   Email: *doit@uw.edu*

Deadline: January 30th. Applications for the upcoming summer are accepted throughout the school year; however, priority is given to applications received by the DO-IT Center by January 30th. Applications received after January 30th will be considered on a space available basis.

Student applicant's name (please print) _____

Name of parent/legal guardian (please print) _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Name of additional parent/legal guardian(s) (please print) _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

I give approval for (applicant) _____ to participate in the *DO-IT Scholars* program and I authorize the release of school documentation related to his/her disability and academic record to DO-IT. I understand that, if accepted, my child must attend Summer Study (usually held the last two weeks of July).

Signature _____ Date _____

(essay questions on reverse)

Respond to the items below on a separate piece of paper (or in audio or video format, if needed). You must respond to each question.

1. Please comment on the interest the applicant has shown in attending a college after high school graduation.
2. Describe the applicant's academic and/or career interests.
3. Explain why you consider the applicant a good candidate for the *DO-IT Scholars* program. (*www.uw.edu/doit/programs/do-it-scholars*)
4. Provide additional information regarding the applicant that would be useful to the DO-IT selection board.
5. Describe computers and/or assistive technology the applicant is using at home or school.
   Platform _____ (e.g., Mac or PC)
   Model _____ (Model name is written on the CPU box, e.g., Apple G2)
   CPU _____ (e.g., Pentium, Power PC)
6. *DO-IT Scholars* who do not have the necessary technology are loaned computer equipment while they participate in program activities. This may include computer, printer, software, adaptive technology, and Internet service. Please indicate the needed equipment:
   ☐ Computer ☐ Printer ☐ Software ☐ Adaptive technology ☐ Internet service

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- **Summer Study**—Over the course of two summers, *Scholars* participate in one and two week live-in summer programs at the University of Washington in Seattle. *DO-IT Scholars* participate in academic lectures and labs, live in residence halls, and practice skills for college and career success. For the third summer, *Scholars* can apply to be Interns and will assist with the program.
- **Internetworking, Mentoring, and Peer Support**—*DO-IT Scholars* learn to use computers to enrich their education and to explore academic and career interests. They communicate online with mentors and other DO-IT participants from home using computers and, if necessary, special adaptive technology. *DO-IT Scholars* who do not have the necessary technology are loaned equipment and software while they participate in program activities. This may include a computer, printer, software, assistive technology, and Internet service.
- **Work-Based Learning**—*DO-IT Scholars* can apply to be a *Summer Study Intern* and a participant in other work-based learning opportunities.

If you have questions about the *Scholars* program or this form, please contact DO-IT at 888-972-DOIT (3648) (toll free voice/TTY) or *doit@uw.edu*.

High School Teacher, Administrator, or Counselor Recommendation
DO-IT Scholars Program

Instructions: A teacher, counselor, or administrator must complete the form below and the eight essay questions. Attach additional pages as needed to address the items below. Applicants may request recommendations from one or more of these individuals.

Return this form and attachments to the student applicant or to the DO-IT Center via fax at 206-221-4171, email to *doit@uw.edu*, postal mail to *DO-IT Scholars* Application, DO-IT Center, University of Washington, Box 354842, Seattle, Washington 98195-4842, or online at *www. uw.edu/doit/high-school-teacher-administrator-or-counselor-recommendation*.

Deadline: January 30th. Applications for the upcoming summer are accepted throughout the school year; however, priority is given to applications received by the DO-IT Center by January 30th. Applications received after January 30th will be considered on a space available basis.

Name of person recommending applicant (please print) _____

Position/Title _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Student applicant's name _____

High school name _____ District number _____

School address _____

Grade level, current academic year _____

Student's cumulative high school GPA _____ for grades _____ through _____

Applicant's disability _____

Percentage of the applicant's time spent in Specially Designed Instruction (SDI)? _____

Indicate academic area of SDI _____

Endorsement by school principal (printed name and signature) _____

(essay questions on reverse)

Respond to items 1-8 on a separate piece of paper (or in audio or video format, if needed). You must respond to each question. Your honest and thorough assessment of this applicant is helpful.

1. What is the nature of the student's disability and how does it affect him/her academically?
2. What types of accommodations and supports (including aides and attendants) does this student use at school presently?
3. Please comment on this student's academic interests.
4. Please comment on this student's potential to complete a college program.
5. Please comment on how this student works in group learning environments.
6. Please comment on this student's computer skills.
7. Please comment on why you think this student is a good candidate for the *DO-IT Scholars* program. How would they benefit from this program as described in the *DO-IT Scholar* brochure (*www.uw.edu/doit/programs/do-it-scholars*)?
8. Additional comments (optional).

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- **Work-Based Learning**—*DO-IT Scholars* can apply to be a *Summer Study Intern* and a participant in other work-based learning opportunities.

If you have questions about the *Scholars* program or this form, please contact DO-IT at 888-972-DOIT (3648) (toll free voice/TTY) or *doit@uw.edu*.

☐ Please submit your current high school grade report or transcript with your application to

> FAX: 206-221-4171
> Mail: *DO-IT Scholars* Application, DO-IT Center, University of Washington,
> Box 354842, Seattle, Washington 98195-4842
> Email: *doit@uw.edu*

and

☐ Please also complete and submit the form below with your application to the DO-IT Center. This form is a tool for DO-IT to request grade reports directly from your school that may be issued after your application is submitted.

Student's name _____

Home address _____

Phone _____

Birth date _____

Name of school _____

Grade level in school _____

I request and give permission for high school grade reports/transcripts for the past two years be faxed to DO-IT (Disabilities, Opportunities, Internetworking, and Technology) at 206-221-4171 (FAX).

Student signature _____ Date _____

Parent/guardian signature _____ Date _____

Parent/guardian name (print) _____

Please fax grade reports/transcripts to 206-221-4171 (FAX).

For information, call 206-685-DOIT (3648) (voice/TTY) or email *doit@uw.edu*.