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

Disabilities
Opportunities
Internetworking
Technology
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](http://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.

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DO-IT Scholars 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.

All DO-IT Scholars program offerings are contingent upon receipt of continued funding. All DO-IT Scholar participants are required to be residents of Washington State. The University of Washington reaffirms its policy of equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, disability, or status as a disabled veteran or Vietnam era veteran in accordance with University policy and applicable federal and state statutes and regulations.
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 \textit{DO-IT Scholars} program. ([www.uw.edu/doit/programs/do-it-scholars](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 \underline{\text{________________________}} (e.g., Mac or PC)  
   Model \underline{\text{______________________}} (Model name is written on the CPU box, e.g., Apple G2)  
   CPU \underline{\text{______________________}} (e.g., Pentium, Power PC)
6. \textit{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:  
   \begin{itemize}  
   \item Computer \checkmark 
   \item Printer \underline{\checkmark} 
   \item Software \underline{\checkmark} 
   \item Adaptive technology \underline{\checkmark} 
   \item Internet service \underline{\checkmark} 
   \end{itemize}

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\begin{itemize}  
\item \textbf{Summer Study}—Over the course of two summers, \textit{Scholars} participate in one and two week live-in summer programs at the University of Washington in Seattle. \textit{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, \textit{Scholars} can apply to be Interns and will assist with the program.
\item \textbf{Internetworking, Mentoring, and Peer Support}—\textit{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 \textit{DO-IT} participants from home using computers and, if necessary, special adaptive technology. \textit{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.
\item \textbf{Work-Based Learning}—\textit{DO-IT Scholars} can apply to be a \textit{Summer Study Intern} and a participant in other work-based learning opportunities.
\end{itemize}

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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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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.