Ph.D. Program

The Ph.D. Program at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory is an innovative, accelerated program designed for exceptional students, offering several important features:

- approximately 4 - 5 years from matriculation to Ph.D. completion
- broad representation of the biological sciences
- course work and laboratory rotations in separate phases and completed in the first 10 months
- elective advanced courses throughout the graduate studies
- two-tier mentoring and scheduled thesis committee meetings
- complete funding - stipend, tuition, research allowance and associated costs - provided by the School, allowing full choice of research projects

Approximately 10 students join the program each year. Any student with an undergraduate degree from an accredited academic institution is eligible. Watson School students come from all over the world, with more than 20 US states and 25 countries represented in the program. The Watson School encourages applicants from any academic background, including non-bioscience majors like computer science, engineering, math, chemistry, and physics. The application requires official transcripts, a personal statement, and three letters of recommendation. Students from non-English language universities must submit TOEFL or IELTS test scores. The GRE general test is recommended but not required. Applications must be submitted online by December 1.

For more information, visit www.cshl.edu/gradschool or contact us at gradschool@cshl.edu

Undergraduate Research Program

The Undergraduate Research Program at CSHL provides an opportunity for undergraduate scientists from around the world to conduct first-rate research. Students learn the scientific process, technical methods and theoretical principles, and communicate their discoveries to other scientists. Approximately 20 students come to CSHL each summer for the 10-week program, living and working in the exciting Laboratory environment.

Any matriculated college sophomore or junior with a strong academic background may apply. Prior research experience is an asset but not a requirement. The selection committee places particular importance on letters of recommendation and the applicant’s personal statement. Applications must be submitted online by January 15. In addition to free room and board, participating students receive a $5,250 stipend for the summer.

For more information, visit www.cshl.edu/URP or contact us at urpadmin@cshl.edu

Career paths of Watson School Ph.D. graduates

- Faculty
- Industry/biotech
- Postdoctoral research
- Other, scientific
- Other

Currently, ≥6 years after graduation 2003-2011 (n=41)

Post-graduate paths of URP participants

- Ph.D.
- M.D.-Ph.D.
- M.D.
- M.S.
- scientific or quantitative career
- J.D.