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. There is no application fee.

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.

The Watson School Ph.D. program stipend is adjusted annually - currently $34,000 per year. Students who are awarded an external fellowship receive $37,400 or the amount of their fellowship stipend (whichever is higher). The Watson School pays all tuition costs and associated study fees for its students. Students receive a new laptop and all necessary software and textbooks, roughly $3,500 of materials. Once students join a research lab, they receive $8,000 in research funds annually to help support their thesis work.

Students are eligible for full health and dental benefits, and an on-campus health center offers routine medical and wellness services. Students have access to affordable campus child care. First-year students live in private rooms in the historic Knight or Cutting Houses on the harbor, a short walk from the main campus. CSHL offers relocation costs and housing subsidies. Dining services at the Laboratory are also subsidized.

CSHL has a free on-campus gym, and students receive an annual fitness supplement. In addition, there are numerous recreational activities at CSHL, including tennis and volleyball courts, kayaks and rowing boats, private beaches, hiking trails, and quiet back roads for running or cycling. In the summer, the Laboratory offers gardening plots on a first-come basis. There are a number of bands, dance groups, and sports teams organized by students and postdocs.

Since the first graduate in 2003, the Watson School has conferred more than 100 Ph.D. degrees. Our graduates have gone on to pursue careers in academia, industry, biotechnology, publishing, management, and consulting. About a quarter of Watson School graduates - and more than half who graduated six or more years ago - have already secured tenure-track faculty positions at major research universities in the US and abroad. They are making significant impacts in the scientific community with their independent research.

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