

Honors Program

WHAT IS THE HONORS PROGRAM?

The Honors Program at Cleveland State University offers a challenging program designed to meet the needs of academically talented students interested in attending an urban university. Students enjoy the benefits of being in a large, diverse, comprehensive university located in a dynamic urban center, while at the same time receiving the personalized attention, small class sizes, and opportunities for undergraduate research and creativity typical of smaller schools. Students graduating with Honors from CSU typically go on to graduate study and professional careers.

The Honors Scholarship

In addition to the academic challenges associated with the Honors Program, all Honors students receive a scholarship that covers tuition, books and academic fees. Students must maintain a GPA of 3.5 to remain eligible for the scholarship. Students admitted as freshmen receive a scholarship good for four years; students admitted at the upper-level receive a scholarship good for two years.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission into the Honors Program is selective. To be considered for admission, applicants must meet the following criteria:

Incoming Freshmen

(Students who have completed or are in the process of completing high school and who have not earned college credit after receiving their high school degree.)

Students must meet at least ONE of the following criteria:

- 30 ACT Composite score, OR
- Equivalent SAT score (1950), OR
- Rank in the top 10% of their high school class

Upper-division Applicants

(Normally, upper-division applicants enter the program as Juniors. Applicants should be in a position to complete their college degree in approximately two academic years.)

Students must meet ALL of the following criteria:

- A cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above in all college-level coursework
- A rigorous curriculum overall and in the major
- Commitment to completing honors work in the major
- Completion of 60 earned semester hours by the end of the semester in which the student is applying
- Completion of most general education requirements by the end of the semester in which the student is applying.

HOW TO APPLY

All students wishing to apply to the Honors Program must also apply for regular admission to CSU. The CSU application can be completed and submitted on-line at www.csuohio.edu/admissions.

Deadlines:

Please note: The deadlines below refer to students wishing to enter the Honors Program for the following Fall semester. Students may not begin the Honors Program (either as freshmen or upper-division students) in the Spring or Summer semesters.

To ensure full consideration, freshmen applicants should submit applications by January 15. Applications received after that date will be considered on a space-available basis.

Upper-division applicants must submit applications no later than February 28. Applications received after that date will be considered only after the review of “on time” applications is complete and only if space remains in the incoming class.

The Application Process:

All applicants to the Honors Program must complete the paper application contained in this booklet. The application is also available on the Honors College web page (www.csuohio.edu/honors). The application may be mailed, faxed, or hand-delivered to the Honors Program office.

Incoming Freshmen:

Applicants must submit the completed Honors application and submit a written autobiographical essay (see below for more information). Letters of reference are optional.

Upper-level Students:

Applicants must complete the written application and submit a written autobiographical essay (see below for more information). Applicants must also submit three letters of reference from faculty familiar with their academic work.

The Autobiographical Essay:

All applicants are required to submit a typed autobiographical essay of no more than 1000 words. The essay should be submitted at the same time as the application form. Applicants should include their name at the top of their essay. An application that does not include an autobiographical essay will be considered incomplete.

Applicants are free to write any type of autobiographical essay they wish. However, the essay should provide insight into the applicant's area(s) of interest and describe any personal characteristics or experiences that make the applicant a strong candidate for the Honors Program.

Letters of Reference:

Letters of reference are optional (but recommended) for freshmen applicants and required for upper-level applicants. Upper-level applicants must submit three letters of reference from faculty members familiar with their academic work. Applicants are encouraged to seek letters from reviewers able to comment on the student's ability to complete honors-level work in their major.

Letters of reference should be submitted using the attached form. They may be submitted together with the application or sent separately to the Honors Program office. PLEASE NOTE: all letters of reference should be sent DIRECTLY to the Honors Program office, not the CSU Admissions office.

Interviews:

An interview is not required; however, applicants to the Honors Program are encouraged to visit the Honors Program and meet with a representative. Applicants wishing to schedule a meeting with a representative of the program should call the program office (216.687.5559) during normal work hours.

Check List for Honors Program Application

- I have read and understood the FAQ tab of the Honors Program website at www.csuohio.edu/honors.
- I have submitted an application to Cleveland State University

Please check your Honors Program Application to make sure that you have included the following items:

- Completed Honors Program Application form.
- An autobiographical essay of no more than 1,000 words.
- Upper-division applicants: Three letters of reference. (This is a program requirement.) See attached form.
- Freshmen: Three letters of reference (optional).

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

1. Submit Honors Application, Essay and Reference Letters to:

Honors Program
Cleveland State University
2121 Euclid Avenue MC 412
Cleveland, OH 44115-2214

FAX: 216.687.5552

Any questions, please call: 216.687.5559
E-mail: honors.program@csuohio.edu

2. Cleveland State University Application

Submit the Cleveland State University Application, official transcripts, standardized test scores and application fee to the address indicated on the Cleveland State Application form.

Honors Program Academic Letters of Reference

NOTE: Letters of reference are required for all upper-level applicants. Optional for freshmen applicants.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANT

1. Please make three copies of this form.
2. Ask each of your academic references to complete this form and return it with their letter of recommendation to you in a sealed letterhead envelope.
3. Return completed letters of reference along with your completed application to the Honors Program at the address listed below.

Statement of Confidentiality of Recommendation

- I desire that this recommendation be accessible to me after I have received a decision regarding my application to the Cleveland State Honors Program under the provisions of the Family Privacy Act.
- I desire that this recommendation be considered as confidential and hereby waive my right of access to this recommendation

Signature of Applicant _____

Applicant's Printed Name _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ACADEMIC REFERENCE

The above student has applied to the Cleveland State University Honors Program.

The Honors Program allows upper-division students to focus on their majors. Students will have the opportunity to do additional honors work under faculty supervision in established courses, enroll in graduate courses, participate in a faculty member's research project or laboratory, become involved in independent research projects, participate in a service learning project, and/or an internship/job, or engage in a co-op experience. The specific program depends on the student's major.

Please comment on the applicant's ability, creativity, task commitment, scholastic achievements and potential for success. Please also state in what capacity you have known the applicant and for how long.

Type your recommendation on institutional letterhead and attach it to this form. Be sure to sign your letter of recommendation. Place both documents in a sealed letterhead envelope and return them to the applicant as soon as possible.

Your letter of recommendation will become part of the applicant's file, intended for use by the Honors Admission Committee in making its determination for admittance into the Honors Program.

Reference Signature _____

Printed Name _____

Position _____

Date _____

Honors Program
Cleveland State University
2121 Euclid Avenue MC 412
Cleveland, OH 44115-2214
216.687.5559

Cleveland State University

Honors Program Application

Applying as: Freshman applicant Upper-division CSU# (If applicable) _____

Please type or print

Name (as it appears on official documents)

First _____ Middle _____ Last _____ Birth Date _____

Address

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Telephone Number () _____ Other Telephone Number () _____ Work Cell

E-mail Address _____

FIRST-YEAR APPLICANTS ONLY

High School _____ Graduation Year _____ Rank in Class _____

Guidance Counselor _____ Telephone Number () _____

List AP courses with test score(s) or test date. (NOTE: List only those AP courses in which you will be taking an AP test or in which you have taken an AP test.)

AP subject(s) and score(s) _____

Did you take courses for college credit while enrolled in high school? Yes No

Name(s) of college/university where courses were taken _____

UPPER DIVISION APPLICANTS ONLY

Are you currently a CSU student? Yes No

Transfer student: Is your admission to Cleveland State University complete? Yes No

Name of former college/university _____

ALL APPLICANTS

Required: Attach an autobiographical essay of no more than 1,000 words to your application. Applications without an essay will not be considered.

Area of academic interest (major)		Note: Upper-division applicants must specify a major			Grade Point Average (GPA)	
ACT Composite Score:	Test Date:	SAT Scores:	Critical Reading	Math	Writing	Test Date
Other Test (i.e., SAT II, TOEFL, etc.) Please indicate subject and score						

Please complete activity sheet on reverse side.

ACTIVITIES

Please list your extracurricular and community activities, paid and unpaid jobs and honors/awards. You may attach a separate sheet.

Extracurricular and Community Activities

Activity/Organization	Dates	Hours/Month	Description of activity, including offices held

Paid and Unpaid Jobs

Position/Company	Dates	Hours/Month	Job Responsibilities

Honors/Awards

Name of Honor/Award	Date Received	Reason for Honor/Award

Were you a National Merit Commended Student Semifinalist Finalist None

Were you an AP Scholar AP Scholar with Honor AP Scholar with Distinction National AP Scholar None

Applicants entering as **freshmen students are encouraged to apply by January 15.**

Applicants entering as **upper-division students must apply by February 28.**

To be accepted into the Honors Program, you **must also apply and be admitted to** Cleveland State University.

I certify that the information provided by me for the Honors Program Application is true, correct and complete.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please return this application to:

Cleveland State University, Honors Program,

2121 Euclid Avenue MC 412, Cleveland, OH 44115-2214

FAX: 216.687.5552

E-mail: honors.program@csuohio.edu

Cleveland State University is an AA/EOE committed to nondiscrimination. M/F/D/V encouraged to apply.