



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

STAR

Scholars Program

Students Tackling Advanced Research

STAR Scholar/ Mentor Contract

This STAR Scholar/Mentor Contract was developed in consultation with participants and mentors who have been involved in the STAR Scholars Program at Drexel University in past years. The Contract outlines expectations for incoming STAR Scholars and Mentors.

STAR Scholars:

1. ...Are hired as student employees by the Pennoni Honors College and will be provided with a summer stipend, free summer housing, and access to university resources. STAR Scholars must meet all requirements for employment by Drexel University and all requirements for membership in the Pennoni Honors College, including a cumulative GPA of 3.4.
2. ...Are expected to work independently on their research/creative projects but will receive sufficient guidance from their mentors to advance and complete their projects.
3. ...Are expected to work a *minimum* of 35 hours/week but should anticipate working more than 40 hours/week on their projects. It is understood that the work may entail irregular hours or adverse field conditions.
4. ...Must request time off during the summer *at least one (1) week in advance*; this time off must be cleared by the STAR Mentor. Any requested time off during the summer research period must be made up.
5. ...Are expected to be active participants in all aspects of the STAR Scholars Program, including orientation activities and STAR Scholars Summer Showcase.
6. ...Will create a visual presentation (e.g., research poster) and write an abstract on their research/creative work to be displayed at the STAR Scholars Summer Showcase.
7. ...Who are involved in laboratory research will be expected to participate as a member of the research team in tasks that keep a research laboratory functioning properly. Responsibilities may include ordering supplies and materials, maintaining research equipment, or assisting lab technicians.
8. ...Will act responsibly when using University equipment. Research/creative facilities will be kept orderly and well maintained.
9. ...Should recognize that their independent projects are not guaranteed to produce research results that can be published or exhibited in the scientific literature. Experiments can fail and the ten-week period may be too brief to collect adequate data. Prior projects have been published, but these projects have usually required additional effort by the STAR Scholar after completion of the STAR Scholars Program.
10. ...Will make all of the data from their project available to their Mentor before they leave the STAR Scholars Program.
11. ...Will assist STAR Program Directors by responding promptly to requests for information.

12. ...Will successfully complete any required safety trainings to participate in the research project as mandated by the STAR Mentor.
13. ...Will abide by all University and Residence Life regulations while living in STAR housing during the Summer Term. ...May take one (1) course during the summer research term **at the discretion of the STAR Mentor**. The cost of this course will **NOT** be funded by STAR but is the responsibility of the STAR Scholar.

STAR Mentors:

1. ...Will post the STAR project on the *Discover* website and select mentees from the pool of approved STAR applicants.
2. ...Will provide an environment in which STAR Scholars can gain first-hand knowledge about designing and performing research or creative activity.
3. ...Will offer STAR Scholars opportunities for independent research and creative activity and will not use them primarily as laboratory technicians or clerical assistants. Mentors will generally be available to Scholars for in-person consultation.
4. ...Will guide STAR Scholars in the selection of research/creative problems but may require that project topics be restricted to areas of work that are the focus of the Mentor's research or creative work.
5. ...Will inform STAR Scholars prior to the beginning of the summer term of any specific expectations about the research or creative work to be conducted.
6. ...Will provide adequate guidance to STAR Scholars as their research or creative project progresses. The Mentor may be assisted by graduate students and postdoctoral scholars in the Mentor's laboratory.
7. ...Will provide an assessment of the caliber of the STAR Scholar's work through the completion of the Post-Program Faculty Mentor Survey.

Additionally, STAR Mentors and STAR Scholars authorize the use of photographs taken in the course of the STAR Scholars Program and STAR Scholars Summer Showcase to be used by the Pennoni Honors College and the University for promotional purposes.

Scholar Name

Mentor Name

Scholar Signature

Mentor Signature

Date

Date