

Is Research for you?

Research at Bronx Science is a 3-year opportunity for highly motivated students to design and complete a major independent research project. The program has three divisions: biology/physical science, math, and social science.

Research gives you the opportunity to work with a professional scientist or professor, so you can find out if you might enjoy a career in research. You'll enter big-name competitions and build skills that will be tremendously useful to you in the future, like:

- Sophisticated lab techniques
- In-depth data analysis
- Presentation skills
- How to manage your time well
- How to write (and edit!) top-quality research proposals and papers

Biology/Physical Science Research students must commit to spending two summers working at their mentor's lab.

Sound like a lot of work? It is. But if you're prepared to put a lot into it, we can pretty much guarantee you'll get a lot out of it!

Completion of the 3-year Research Program fulfills Bronx Science's Technical Drawing and STL requirements.

Bronx Science Research students have the advantage of working with awesome mentors and extraordinary faculty advisors.

A side benefit to this valuable experience is that our students have won many awards in major contests in recent years:

American Academy of Neurology Neuroscience Awards
Intel Science Talent Search
International Science & Engineering Fair
Junior Science Humanities Symposium
New York City Science & Engineering Fair
Otto Burgdorf Competition
Siemens-Westinghouse Contest
Young Epidemiology Scholars

Bronx High School of Science

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The Research Program at Bronx Science



**What it is
What to expect
How to Succeed**

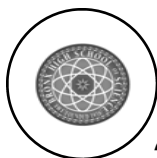
Getting Started: Sophomore Year

During your sophomore year you'll begin a structured program that will help you identify your area of interest. You'll find a mentor, develop a research proposal, and hone your problem-solving skills. The summer after sophomore year, Bio and Physical Science students will begin working at their mentor's lab.

Tips for success:

- You may have to send as many as 20 query letters out to find a mentor. Choose your topic early, and be prepared to persevere!
- Practicing your presentation skills will make you more comfortable in front of a group. It will also help you no matter what you choose to do in life!

Biology and Physical Science students are expected to devote two full summers to working full-time on lab projects.



"What I love most about Research is interacting with real scientists. It's an intense and awesome experience!"

Developing Your Project: Junior Year

Junior year you'll focus on your independent project in earnest, and start writing progress reports about it. You'll present a formal seminar on your topic to other students. Junior year is also the time to start the extensive Intel application. By year end you will have written a second proposal, outlining the work you'll do over the summer.

During your junior and senior years, be prepared to spend an average of two afternoons a week (and/or all day Saturday) at the lab. Most students also reserve spring and winter vacations for lab work.

Tips for success:

- Get started on your college search and applications early! This summer and the fall of your senior year will be packed with research deadlines. Use your junior year wisely.
- Don't plan time-consuming activities for the summer months
- Get your mentor letters of recommendation during the summer, so you're set to go for the major science fair applications next fall.
- Make sure you've completed the first draft of your paper before you return to school for your senior year. Your chances of success at the big competitions will improve dramatically if you leave plenty of time for editing.

Polishing and Presenting: Senior Year

It's crunch time! The first big contest deadline is Siemens Westinghouse — and it's at the end of September. The Intel, NYCSEF, and JSHS deadlines are in mid-November. You'll have a lot to do, and many rewrites of your paper this fall. You'll also present a formal seminar on your topic to other students, and mentor juniors during the spring.

Tips for success:

- Your mentor may know how to write papers for publication... but it's your advisor who knows how to tailor them to competitions! Pay close attention to your advisor's comments, and meet his or her deadlines for revisions.
- The judges will be scientists, but not necessarily specialists in your field of research. Putting your work in context is essential to success. Your paper should articulate how your work builds on other work, and why your research matters.

Math & Social Science Research

The math and social science research programs follow the same basic outline as for science, but do not usually require lab work.

Social science students develop their own research study, collecting data or drawing upon existing data sets.

The math program emphasizes discovery and problem solving; students select a topic for either pure or applied research.