IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY STAR CAMPS RESIDENT ASSISTANT (RA) APPLICATION

The STAR Program: STAR is an acronym for Science Teacher Attraction and Retention. ISU's Center for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Education has established STAR Clubs for Iowa high school and middle school students potentially interested in science education as a career. This includes both prospective secondary science teachers and prospective elementary teachers that would like an emphasis in science. Funding comes from a U.S. Department of Education grant. Dr. Tom Andre is the P.I. for this grant.

Club activities include science and education components and could include, for example, serving as a lab assistant, developing WebQuests, and organizing a district science fair. Club members and advisors will be invited to attend a STAR summer camp. Non-club participants are also recruited and accepted as space permits. We are currently recruiting RAs for these camps.

STAR Camps: We plan to offer four camps this summer:

1) Toying with Technology will present middle school students with design problems and opportunities to engineer solutions to those problems. Participants will also design Lego robots to perform specified functions. Staff members and students from ISU’s Materials Science and Engineering Department will serve as instructors for this camp. This camp is based on the ISU campus, with housing in the ISU Memorial Union.

2) Iowa Lakeside Lab participants will have an opportunity to work with Lakeside faculty, staff, and students on a variety of hands-on ecology projects in prairies, wetlands, and lakes. These will range from water quality studies to studies of prairie and wetland restoration to studies of local amphibians and reptiles. In addition, participants will work with ISU staff members, students, and graduate students on an educational component of the camp. STAR offers both a middle school and a high school session. Iowa Lakeside Laboratory is located on West Okoboji Lake in northwest Iowa. Lodging for the camp will be in cabins at Lakeside Lab.

3) WYOtuouts will provide high school students the opportunity to investigate the geology and ecology of northern Wyoming and western South Dakota. Camp highlights are planned to include Badlands National Park, the Black Hills, the Big Horn Mountains, Yellowstone National Park, and more! This camp will include tent camping and hiking at high elevations and in bear country. ISU staff members, students, and graduate students, and local experts such as national park rangers, will serve as instructors for the camp. Lodging for the camp will include camping, motel stays, and, for the last two nights, Iowa State University dormitories. Travel will be in 12-passenger ISU vans.

4) Biotechnology high school students will experience activities such as DNA fingerprinting, DNA extraction, bacterial transformation, model organism genetics, DNA isolation and analysis, PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction), TLC (Thin-layer Chromatography), recombinant DNA transformation, GMO (Genetically Modified Organism) technology and testing, and bioinformatics. Mike Zeller, ISU Biotechnology Outreach Education Coordinator for the Office of Biotechnology, will serve as the instructor for this camp. This camp is based on the ISU campus.

An educational component will be important in all camps. Students will return from the camps with lessons, activities, and/or skills that they have developed to help teach the topics that they have experienced in their fieldwork.
Dates of employment: Employment must include a 2-day training, dates to be arranged, in addition to the camps themselves:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WYO outdoors (high school)</td>
<td>June 12-26, 2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toying with Technology (middle school)</td>
<td>July 11-17, 2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iowa Lakeside Lab (middle school)</td>
<td>July 18-24, 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biotechnology (high school)</td>
<td>July 25-31, 2004</td>
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Hiring will be contingent upon sufficient student enrollment. Enrollment should be finalized in early April.

Pay: $400/week, plus room and board with this exception: RAs are responsible for their own housing for dates when camps are not in session.

Duties and Responsibilities: The Resident Assistant (RA) for STAR Camps will serve as a liaison between STAR Camp staff and program participants. The RA will be the direct representative of STAR for the participants and will have the role of helping participants have a meaningful educational experience. For STAR Camps based on the ISU campus, RAs will also serve as a liaison between Department of Residence staff and program participants. The RA position is a challenging one. RAs may be called upon at any time by students and staff. Situations will arise that require the full abilities of the RA. The RA will need to recognize his/her limitations and seek the help of other staff when needed. An outline of RA responsibilities follows:

1. Training
   a. RA group training
   b. Individual training on ISU Professional Policies and Procedures (e.g. Policy on Sexual Harassment, Policy on Racial and Ethnic Harassment, Policy on Consenting Relationships, Human Subjects Research Training)

2. Provide leadership to the STAR program. Be a good role model.

3. Assist in fieldwork and classwork; assist students with educational activities, plans, and lesson plans.

4. Be alert to student needs, both physical and mental.
   a. Be a good listener.
   b. Encourage individual growth.
   c. Help students learn problem-solving and conflict management skills.
   d. Appreciate diversity

5. Communicate
   a. Communicate concerns to appropriate program staff.
   b. Respect confidences.
   c. Use discretion in all communications.

6. Intervene in the event of rule violations.

7. Be prepared for emergencies such as illness, fire, tornado and be sure students in your charge are familiar with emergency procedures.

Visit our web site at www.public.iastate.edu/-mstar
Application Form

Name: ____________________________________________________

Last                          First               Middle

Male ___  Female ___                   Birthdate: ______________________

Local Address: ______________________________________________

City ____________ State _____ Zip__________  Phone (___) __________________

Permanent Address: __________________________________________

City ____________ State _____ Zip__________  Phone (___) __________________

E-Mail: _______________________

Classification: Undergraduate ____  Special Student ____ Graduate ____

Major: _______________________  Minor: ___________________

Total ISU credits: _____ Cumulative ISU G.P.A.: _______

Other credits, if any: ________ Where earned: ____________________________  Overall G.P.A.: ______

If you hold a bachelor's degree:

Degree: __________  Date received: mo ___ yr ___  Major: __________________________

Institution: ____________________________  G.P.A.: _____

If an education major:

Teaching level: PK-3 ___  K-6___  7-12 ___  K-12 ___

Endorsement areas: _______________________________________________________

Advisor’s Name: _____________________________

Expected date of graduation: ______________________

Number of semesters in ISU residence halls: _____

Number of semesters in residence halls of other universities and colleges: _____

Background Check -Self-Reporting

1. Have you ever had an education-related license revoked or suspended? *Yes ____ No ____
2. Have you ever been disciplined by a university disciplinary system? *Yes ____ No ____
3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than parking or traffic violations? *Yes ____ No ____
4. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? *Yes ____ No ____
5. Are you or have you ever been on the child abuse registry? *Yes ____ No ____

*If you answer "yes" to any of the above, please attach an explanation on a separate sheet of paper.
Attach a separate page if necessary when responding to the following:

Why do you want to be an RA?

Experience working with youth -- include brief descriptions of each event/activity, age of youth, dates, and your responsibilities:

What leadership experiences, volunteer and/or paid, have you had?

What personal qualities do you feel will make you an effective RA?

What special talents do you possess that would enhance our program?

How would you maintain control of a group of 12 high school or middle school students?

What do you see as the most challenging aspect of this RA position?

What relevant training or experience have you had? (CPR? Experience with ESL students? Certifications?)

This application must be submitted by March 15, 2004, to
STAR Camp --Attn.: Kathy Megivern
N157 Lagomarcino Hall
Iowa State University
Ames, IA 50011

A complete application file includes:
1) This 2-page application form
2) Three recommendation forms (submitted directly by the reference writer by March 15, 2004)

Hiring is contingent upon sufficient student participant enrollment.
Upon selection, a criminal record history check will be conducted. (The fee will be paid by the STAR program.)

The statements made in this application are true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Applicant ___________________________________________ Date ________________________