

2009 THINK Summer Institute Application Overview

Depending on space availability, applications will be reviewed on a monthly basis. In order to be considered, complete applications must be received by: **April 22nd**.
Decision letters will be sent within one month of being reviewed.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible, applicant must:

- be 13 – 16 years of age during THINK.
- be a U.S. citizen or permanent U.S. resident living in the United States.
- commit to being a full-time residential student from July 11 to August 1, which does not allow absences.
- meet or exceed the designated scores on the SAT or ACT as listed on page 3.
- receive positive nominations from two individuals as specified in the application. (Please note returning THINKers do not need to submit nominator forms.)
- never have demonstrated or threatened violence, harm, or other behavior that is grossly inappropriate toward any other person or to himself or herself or that otherwise indicates violent tendencies or other disturbing behaviors.

Application Procedure and Checklist

The following items must be completed and returned to the Davidson Institute by the Wednesday application deadlines: March 18th or April 22nd.

Davidson Institute for Talent Development
ATTN: THINK Summer Institute
9665 Gateway Drive, Suite B
Reno, NV 89521

- Section One: Personal Data (p. 2)
- Section Two: Test Score and copy of Official Score Report (p. 3)
- Section Three: Course Selections (p. 3)
 - If you selected **MATHEMATICS 176**, a copy of your transcript or equivalent must be included.
- Section Four: Résumé and Essay (p. 4)
- Section Five: Nominator List and Forms (p. 4 & 5)
 - Applicants must submit a list of two nominators (returning THINKers do not need to submit nominator forms). Forms must be submitted by the nominator directly to the Davidson Institute for Talent Development via fax or US Postal Service. It is the applicant's responsibility to see that all Nomination Forms are submitted on or before the application deadlines.
- Section Six: Signature Page and \$50.00 non-refundable application fee (p. 6)

Application Disqualification

An application will be disqualified if:

- the application is incomplete.
- the application is received after the deadline.
- the application contains plagiarized or false information.
- the nominator forms are not received by the deadline.

Tuition & Cancellation Policy

In addition to the non-refundable \$50.00 application fee, tuition of \$2,700 and actual cost of textbooks/materials are due by May 29, 2009. Additionally, participants are responsible for transportation to and from program and spending money. Scholarships are available based on financial need. Details will be included in the acceptance packet.

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NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION? VISIT www.DavidsonGifted.org/THINK

All applications must be received by 5 p.m. PST on or before the Wednesday application deadlines: **March 18th or April 22nd**. Acceptance is based on eligibility and availability. Applications are considered on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications may be faxed or sent via US Postal Service. All applications and attachments become property of the Davidson Institute for Talent Development and will not be returned to the applicant. Please keep a copy of application for your personal records. The Davidson Institute for Talent Development does not discriminate based on race, gender, religion, ethnicity or physical disability.

Section One: Personal Data

Applicant

Please type or print clearly, especially e-mail addresses.

(Circle One: Miss Ms. Mr.) First Name _____ Last Name _____

Gender: Female Male Are you a United States Citizen? Yes No

Have you previously attended THINK? _____ If not, how did you hear about THINK? _____

Date of Birth _____ Age _____ Home Phone () _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

1. (Circle One: Ms. Mrs. Mr. Dr.) First Name _____ Last Name _____

Relation to Applicant _____ Occupation _____

Work Phone () _____ Cell Phone () _____

E-mail Address _____

2. (Circle One: Ms. Mrs. Mr. Dr.) First Name _____ Last Name _____

Relation to Applicant _____ Occupation _____

Work Phone () _____ Cell Phone () _____

E-mail Address _____

Please provide home address and phone if different than the applicant's:

Parent or Guardian's Name _____ Home Phone () _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

School Information

Name of School _____

Current Grade Level _____ Have you ever been grade accelerated? Yes No

School Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone () _____

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Section Two: Test Scores & Official Score Report

Applicants must meet or exceed the designated scores on the SAT or ACT as listed below. Please provide scores in the appropriate box.

SAT – Math and Verbal Combined Score minimum 1130 (Excludes writing section of the new SAT)	ACT – Composite Score minimum 26
A copy of an official score report <u>must</u> be attached to this application at the time of submission.	A copy of an official score report <u>must</u> be attached to this application at the time of submission.

Section Three: Course Selections

The THINK Summer Institute is limited to sixty students; therefore, course placement is determined by student preference, essays and anticipated class size.

Please circle your first, second, and third morning and afternoon preferences:

Morning course options	Preference
COMPUTER SCIENCE 103: COMPUTER SCIENCE FOR ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS (3 credits) Description: CS 103 introduces the use of several strategies including elementary numerical and symbolic methods, and various programming tools to solve problems in engineering and science. Daily problems, projects, and quizzes will be assigned to be solved on paper and with computers. A final problem-solving project will be assigned near the end of the course. Professor: Michael Leverington, Instructor	FULL
POLITICAL SCIENCE 108: GREAT ISSUES OF POLITICS (3 credits) Description: The United States is often referred to as a “participatory democracy,” yet levels of participation are often rather low and vary considerably across key demographic groups. This course addresses why, how and even whether people should participate in politics and governance. Short papers, oral reports, discussion & debate and an integrative essay will be included requirements. Professor: Eric Herzik, Professor and Chair of the Department of Political Science	1 2 3
GEOGRAPHY 103: PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY (3 credits) Description: Physical Geography encompasses the geographic tradition known as the Earth Sciences Tradition. This course looks at the landscapes, surface processes, biomes, and climate of the Earth - all of the activity found in the four spheres (the atmosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere, and lithosphere) of our planet. Will include mandatory lab experiences, as well as field experiences. Professor: Geraldine McCarroll, Instructor	1 2 3

Afternoon course options	Preference
MATHEMATICS 176: INTRODUCTORY CALCULUS FOR BUSINESS & SOCIAL SCIENCES (3 credits) Description: Calculus 176 introduces the fundamental concepts of analytic geometry and calculus; functions, graphs, limits, derivatives, and integrals. The grade for the class is determined by the average scores of homework, 3 exams and a project score. Prerequisite: Satisfactory score on SAT (610 on Math section), ACT (27 on Math section) <u>and</u> must have completed Algebra II or equivalent. Must submit copy of school transcript. Professor: Darren Ripley, Instructor	1 2 3
JOURNALISM 101: CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF MASS MEDIA (3 credits) Description: What are we to make of the fact that 5 media companies control over 70% of media content distributed in the United States? How do we understand that the average American teenager spends 6+ hours per day consuming media? This course seeks answers to such questions in a critical analysis of mass media’s economic, political, psychological, and cultural power in contemporary American society. Requirements in the course include daily readings and quizzes, weekly thematic (3-5 page) papers, and a final project. Professor: David Ryfe, Associate Professor and Senior Scholar, Reynolds School of Journalism	1 2 3
ANTHROPOLOGY 281: INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE (3 credits) Description: This course will provide students with an introduction to the study of language in Linguistics and Anthropology. A portion of the course will be devoted to studying qualities of language that are universal and attributable to our human biological inheritance. Another section will cover ways that studying language gives us clues to historical change. Lastly, the course will examine the ethnographic study of language use in particular contexts. Particular attention will be paid to: intercultural communication, the importance of narratives for how we understand ourselves and others, and the relationship between gender and language. Professor: Eleanor Nevins, E.N., Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology	Full

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Section Four: Résumé and Essay

The following résumé and essay are required. They must be typed, in English, on 8 ½ x 11 white paper in an 11 or 12 point standard font. Each page should be labeled in the upper right hand corner with last name and first name. Written work should be neat, grammatically correct and demonstrate strong thought development and critical thinking. All work is to be completed by the applicant.

Résumé

Using a résumé format, list your schooling history and extracurricular activities, special study projects and/or activities in which you have been involved in the past two years. The activities may be school, community or personal pursuits. Please identify your role in each activity. Additionally, please list any/all academic awards and/or special recognition you have received in the past two years, including a brief description of the nature and source of each award. This document may be single-spaced.

Essay

In a narrative format, no longer than two double-spaced pages, introduce yourself to the selection committee. Please devote no less than half of your essay to a discussion about your interest in the courses you have selected for the 2009 THINK Summer Institute. Describe any/all experience you have with the subject matter of the courses offered. Be sure to describe what you hope to gain from the experience and what value you would add. You may also include a discussion of your background, interests (academic and non-academic) and any other aspects of your life that will aid the selection committee in determining whether or not you would be a good candidate for the program.

Section Five: Nominator List and Forms

******Please note returning THINKers do not need to submit nominator forms.******

Applicants must submit a list of two nominators. All nomination letters and forms (see page 5 of application) must be submitted by the nominator directly to the Davidson Institute for Talent Development. Nominators should be individuals who can speak to your abilities and aptitude for an intense residential college experience. One form must be from a current teacher in math, science or English. The second teacher nomination form may be from a current or past teacher in any subject. Family members may not serve as nominators. Applicants should mark the nominator type on the nomination form prior to giving it to the nominator.

1. Current Teacher in Math, Science or English

Name	School	Phone	E-mail

2. Current or Past Teacher

Name	School	Phone	E-mail

DO NOT STAPLE

Last Name

First Name

2009 THINK Summer Institute Nomination Form

Nominators Please Note: If the type of nominator is not marked when you receive this form from the applicant, please verify your nominator type with the applicant before checking any of the boxes below. Thank you.

This nominator is a: Current Teacher in Math, Science or English Past or Current Teacher

Applicant's First Name _____ Last Name _____

Please complete this form along with the typed answers to the bulleted questions below. Please fax or mail these documents directly to the Davidson Institute no later than the Wednesday application deadlines: March 18th or April 22nd. Applications with missing Nomination Forms will be disqualified. All nominating information is held in strict confidence. Nominator forms for THINK cannot be transferred to other Davidson Institute program applications.

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Telephone () _____ E-Mail _____

For each item below, please assess the applicant by assigning one of the following values:

Analytical Ability	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate
Confidence	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate
Disciplined Work Habits	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate
Initiative and Independence	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate
Interaction with Other Students	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate
Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate
Maturity	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate
Oral Expression	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate
Organization Skills	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate
Reaction to and use of Criticism	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate
Resourcefulness	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate
Responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate
Study Skills	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate
Time Management	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate
Willingness to Ask Questions	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate
Written Communication Skills	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Rate

How does the applicant compare in overall promise to other students you have worked with in the last three years?

Among the very best I've known Very good Average Below Average

Check one selection below to indicate your recommendation for the applicant to attend a rigorous 3-week college credit summer program:

Highly Recommend Recommend Recommend with Reservations Not Recommend

Please attach a letter on letterhead including the following information:

- How do you know the applicant?
- What are the applicant's strengths and weaknesses?
- Discuss the applicant's organization and time management skills (i.e. ability to work efficiently, follow-through capabilities, etc.)
- Additional information that will help the selection committee understand this applicant.

I attest that to the best of my knowledge, all of the information stated on this form and attached letter is accurate and true.

Signature _____ Date _____

This form and recommendation letter must be returned via fax or mailed directly to the Davidson Institute by the nominator on or before the Wednesday application deadlines: March 18th or April 22nd.



FAX:
775.996.7285

MAIL:
Davidson Institute for Talent Development
ATTN: THINK Summer Institute
9665 Gateway Drive, Suite B, Reno, NV 89521
Phone: 775.852.3483 ext. 6

2009 THINK Summer Institute Application

Section Six: Signature Page

Name and Likeness. We understand that the selection process will be conducted on a basis that reveals information about the undersigned and our background and family. We also understand that the Davidson Institute may, without compensation to us or anyone else, publicize the THINK Summer Institute, our child's participation in the program, information about us and our background. In that regard, we grant the Davidson Institute the right to use, for any lawful purpose related to the Davidson Institute or the THINK Summer Institute, in any legal form or manner, in whole or in part, in perpetuity, our names, biographical information and likenesses, the work and any information relating to it, as well as any statements made by us to the Davidson Institute. Such uses may be made in the Davidson Institute's discretion in any media or form. The Davidson Institute may take pictures, videos and audio recordings and may use any other form of media with respect to us and the matters described above.

Attestation. The undersigned each attest that all of the information submitted or to be submitted to the Davidson Institute, including the information in this application, is true and accurate and does not omit any information necessary to make the information provided not misleading.

Attendance. The applicant understands that if accepted to attend the THINK Summer Institute, full attendance to all classes and events is required. Failure to attend class or scheduled events, without just cause, will result in immediate removal from the program.

Behavior. The applicant agrees to adhere to a strict code of conduct that will be provided as part of the enrollment documents. Failure to adhere to the standards specified in the code of conduct will result in immediate removal from the program.

Initials I/We attest that my/our child/adolescent has never demonstrated or threatened violence, harm, or other behavior that is grossly inappropriate toward any other person or to himself or herself or that otherwise indicates violent tendencies or other disturbing behaviors. I understand the Davidson Institute reserves the right to request, at any time, information regarding a history of violence, threats of violence or other behavior that is grossly inappropriate and may in its sole discretion decide to remove my child/adolescent from the program.

I _____ HAVE _____ HAVE NOT consulted a psychologist or psychiatrist with regard to any form of inappropriate behavior or other psychological problems with respect to my child/adolescent. If you indicated "have," a complete copy of any and all psychological reports, signed by the psychologist or psychiatrist, must be submitted as attachments to this application.

Applicant's Statement and Signature

I certify that all information I have provided in this application is my own. I further certify that all provided information is accurate and true. I understand that it is my responsibility to see that this form is received by the Davidson Institute on or before the Wednesday application deadlines: March 18th or April 22nd. I also understand that it is my responsibility to see that my nominators submit the required nomination forms to the Davidson Institute on or before the Wednesday application deadlines: March 18th or April 22nd.

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian's Statement and Signature

I have reviewed the information in this application and the designated attachments and give my permission for the submission of this application. I authorize my child's school and its employees to release any information necessary for this application and understand that The Davidson Institute for Talent Development may request more information as needed. Furthermore, I recognize that it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the complete application and nomination forms are received by the Davidson Institute on or before March 18th or April 22nd. I acknowledge that the decision of the THINK Summer Institute selection committee is final.

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian - Custodial: Yes No (If no, signature is not required)

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian - Custodial: Yes No (If no, signature is not required)

The Davidson Institute strongly recommends that you keep a copy of this application for your records as the original will not be returned.

Please submit your application to the fax below or via US Postal Service. The \$50.00 non-refundable application fee must be mailed.



FAX:
775.996.7285
MAIL:
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ATTN: THINK Summer Institute
9665 Gateway Drive, Suite B, Reno, NV 89521
Phone: 775.852.3483 ext. 6