

CLARKSON UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM APPLICATION

The Clarkson University Honors Program is seeking qualified candidates for a four-year intensive undergraduate curriculum centered around current and emerging problems in science, technology, and society. The Program is highly selective, enrolling only 30 students per year.

The Honors Program challenges students to make full use of their intellectual gifts and to develop their creative, analytical, problem-solving, communication, and leadership skills. The Honors curriculum requires them to tackle course work that raises more questions than it answers.

The Clarkson University Honors Program is looking for students who:

- C love learning,
- C are intellectually curious,
- C possess initiative,
- C are highly motivated,
- C can handle risk and uncertainty,
- C have a good work ethic,
- C or have other outstanding qualities that qualify them for the program.

An application to the Clarkson University Honors Program consists of a completed Honors application data sheet, an essay, one or more letters of recommendation, and an interview.

ESSAY

Write an essay of approximately 500-to-1,000 words that demonstrates that you possess one or more of the above-mentioned qualities. We prefer essays that deal with a few qualities in detail to those that try to cover all of the qualities.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Please have one or more letters of recommendation forwarded to our office. If you wish, you may ask the same individuals that recommended you for admission to the university. We have included a sheet of instructions for you to give your recommender.

INTERVIEW

You are required to have an Honors admission interview. We encourage interviews in person but if this isn't possible a telephone interview can be arranged. In order to schedule an interview, please call the Honors office (315-268-2320/2290). In the interview we will cover many of the following question areas with you:

- C What are some examples of achievements in academics or other areas in which you take special pride?
- C When academic or personal obstacles or "failures" have presented themselves, how have you reacted and responded?
- C What specific talents, abilities, and interests would you bring to the Honors Program?
- C In what ways have you demonstrated curiosity and a love of learning?
- C In what kinds of situations have you found it easiest to feel motivated and involved? hardest to be motivated or involved?
- C What are some of the things you feel the Honors Program should be offering you?
- C What reactions do you have about the possibility for a substantial amount of research or project work, and how have you been involved in team efforts in the past? What have you learned about team work or working in groups?
- C In what sorts of learning situations have you felt the most and least challenged?
- C What are your future goals and hopes?

For us, the goal of the interview is to learn as much about you as we can. If there are things that you would like us to know that are not covered by these questions, please feel free to bring them up.

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

To the recommender: You have been asked by a prospective Clarkson University Honors Program candidate for a letter of recommendation. In order to give you a context for your letter, let us briefly describe the program.

The Clarkson University Honors Program is seeking qualified candidates for a four-year intensive undergraduate curriculum centered around current and emerging problems in science, technology, and society. The Program is highly selective, enrolling only 30 students per year. Its graduates frequently go on to prestigious graduate schools or assume fast track jobs in industry.

The Honors Program challenges students to make full use of their intellectual gifts and to develop their creative, analytical, problem-solving, communication, and leadership skills. The Honors curriculum requires them to undertake course work that raises more questions than it answers. In recent courses, Honors students have tackled such tasks: as building a computer simulation model of the Adirondack Park to explore environmental and economic issues, or as studying chaos theory and its implications for everything from the stock market to the weather.

The Clarkson University Honors Program is looking for students who:

- love learning,
- are intellectually curious,
- possess initiative,
- are highly motivated,
- can handle risk and uncertainty,
- have a good work ethic,
- or have other outstanding qualities that qualify them for the program.

We would appreciate your letter helping us to assess the extent to which the applicant possesses these qualities. If you have already written a recommendation for the student's admission to Clarkson University, we will have a copy of this letter. Usually, in such cases, we would like to see a supplement to the original letter which gives specific examples for some of the above qualities.

Some recommenders, especially in cases when they have already written a letter in support of the student's Clarkson application, prefer to provide their reference by phone. If this is your preference, please contact us to arrange a mutually convenient time.

Thank you for your candid assessment and for the time and attention that you will give to this task.

Please return the letter of recommendation to:

David M. Craig, Director
Honors Program
Clarkson University
PO Box 5755
Potsdam, NY 13699-5755
Phone: 315-268-2320/2290
Fax: 315-268-2344
Email: dcraig@clarkson.edu

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APPLICATION



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CLARKSON UNIVERSITY
PO BOX 5755
POTSDAM, NY 13699
PHONE: 315-268-2320/2290
FAX: 315-268-2344
dcraig@clarkson.edu

COLLEGE DATA (Transfer students should enclose a transcript)

COLLEGE NAME _____

MAJOR/S _____ GPA _____

COLLEGE CREDIT
Course

Date

Grade

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR REASONS FOR APPLYING TO THE HONORS PROGRAM

Please return all honors program application material to:

David M. Craig, Director
Honors Program
Clarkson University
PO Box 5755
Potsdam, NY 13699-5755
Phone: 315-268-2320/2290
Fax: 315-268-2344
Email: dcraig@clarkson.edu

I understand that a complete Honors Program application consists of: my Clarkson application for admission, an Honors essay, one or more letters of recommendation, an Honors interview, as well as this data sheet. I authorize the Honors Council to have access to my Clarkson application for admission and to my transcript.

Signature Date

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY

Clarkson University does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, color, creed, religion, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, veteran or marital status in provision of educational opportunity or employment opportunities.