

The City College of New York
STEM Research Academy
Spring 2026

Introduction

The CCNY College Now STEM Research Academy (SRA) is designed to provide high-performing students from the College Now partner schools in under-resourced New York City Department of Education high schools with an opportunity to develop the essential skills to be strong scientific thinkers by engaging in activities that enhance the process of obtaining, evaluating and communicating information, and that construct and design solutions.

The SRA is a two-semester program: a spring pre-college science course and a summer research experience; both are designed to provide students with an opportunity to build essential literacy and numeracy skills by engaging in authentic inquiry activities.

Selected students will be enrolled in an in-person Spring 2026 DNA Detectives course. Upon successful completion of the research science course, students will have the opportunity to apply to the Summer Research Internship. Students will be partnered with a CUNY- CCNY college faculty member, to conduct ongoing research the faculty mentor has in progress in their respective laboratory.

Program Description and Schedule

SPRING 2026 (2/10/26 – 5/23/26) – 25 students will be enrolled in a 45-hour science research course. This course will meet in-person, Tuesday and Thursday, 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. on the City College of New York campus. Students can receive a high school elective credit in science for successful completion of the spring course, subject to the respective high schools' approval.

SUMMER 2025 (7/6/26 – 8/6/26) Optional*– 10 of the original 25 students will participate in a five-week structured research program, where the mentees will be matched with a CUNY- CCNY faculty member, based as much as possible on the student's area of interest. The mentees will be required to work in a research laboratory four to five days a week (Saturday may be included). Mentees will complete a scientific research project that will be presented on campus and at *the New York Science Center for Research and Mentoring* (NYSCRM) poster presentations at the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH).

Students who successfully complete the campus-based research mentorship/internship project, participate in the weekly seminar and workshop, and the poster presentations may be eligible to received a \$1,575 stipend.

Eligibility Requirements

In order to be eligible for the CCNY College Now STEM Research Academy, you must meet the following requirements:

1. You must be a New York City Public High School
2. 10th or 11th-grader during spring 2026 semester.
3. Grades:
 - You must have a **minimum overall High School grade point average of 80**
 - AND**
 - You must have **received a 75 or above on either of the NYC Regents –**
 - **English Language Arts (ELA);**
 - **Algebra**
 - **Living Environment;**
 - **Earth Science**

Note: Applicants who will be enrolled in more than two Advanced Placement (AP) classes or enrolled in a College Now course in Spring 2026 **will not** be prioritized.

How to Apply

The following must be submitted:

1. The attached **application**
2. An official high school **transcript** (not report card)
3. A 300 - 350 word **essay** that includes an answer to this question (must also include a subject line, first and last names and the name of your high school):

ESSAY WRITING PROMPT

In your answer, you must address the following:

- Why are you interested in participating in the STEM Research Academy?
 - How would you describe your academic performance to date?
 - What type of research are you most interested? Why?
 - How will your participation in the STEM Research Academy (SRA) assist you in achieving your college, and possibly professional and career goals?
 - What extracurricular programs/activities are you involved (including College Now, if applicable)? How often are you engaged in the programs/activities?
 - What are your expected outcomes from participation in the spring DNA Detectives course?
4. A signed **letter of recommendation** must be written on school letterhead from your high school science **or** math teacher. Share link below with recommender within a timely manner to allow submission of support letter before or by deadline.

The application and required documents (essay, official transcript and letter of recommendation) **must** be received by **11:59 p.m. on Friday, January 16, 2026**. All documents are to be uploaded in the [Dropbox folder](#) is as followed: <https://www.dropbox.com/request/mY17Lzmj26nea7blpQ5X>

CCNY COLLEGE NOW STEM RESEARCH ACADEMY **APPLICATION**

PLEASE PRINT or TYPE (black or blue ink) CLEARLY :

I have read the information and this application completely. I understand that if I am accepted into the College Now STEM

LAST NAME		FIRST NAME		MI
OSIS NUMBER	Gender Male (M) Female (F) Non-binary (X) Transgender (T) Gender Nonconforming (G) Not-specified (U)		DATE OF BIRTH (mm/dd/yyyy)	
ADDRESS (House Number and Street)				APT. #
CITY		STATE	ZIP CODE	
HOME TELEPHONE #		CELL #		
COUNTY and BOROUGH				
EMAIL (EMAIL ADDRESS MUST BE LEGIBLE and must be THE STUDENT's email address)				
HIGH SCHOOL		HS COUNSELOR		
OVERALL HS AVERAGE	ELA REGENTS Score	MATH (ALGEBRA I OR II OR GEOMETRY) REGENTS Score:	SCIENCE (LIVING ENVIRONMENT or EARTH SCIENCE) REGENTS Score:	
WHAT IS THE HIGHEST EDUCATION LEVEL OF YOUR PARENT/GUARDIAN?		ARE YOU BI-LINGUAL? IF YES, WHICH LANGUAGES DO YOU SPEAK?		

Research Academy at CCNY, I will complete the High School credit research science course in Spring 2026, and I will have the option to apply to the Summer 2026 STEM Research Academy Mentorship/Internship.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE

GUIDANCE COUNSELOR SIGNATURE

Name, EMAIL (Please print) and Contact Number