

2020-2023 HHMI BioInteractive Ambassador Academy Application

GENERAL INFORMATION

To be eligible to apply, you must:

- be a full-time biology or environmental science educator with the teaching of high school or undergraduate introductory biology students as part of your responsibilities. Retired educators are not eligible.
- have teaching experience of no less than
 - 5 years for high school educators and hold a current license to teach
 - 3 years for undergraduate educators
 - or a combined 5 years teaching experience at both levels
- intend to continue working in science education
- be legally employed in the U.S., U.S. territories, Mexico or Canada¹
- be comfortable teaching and learning in English

Key Dates and Links

Intent to apply: November 18, 2019-January 6, 2020

Application submission due: March 23, 2020

Notification of status: May 11, 2020

Finalist interviews: May 18-July 10, 2020

Finalist additional materials due: July 10, 2020

Notification of invitees: August 17, 2020

Acceptance due: September 8, 2020

Start date: September 28, 2020

First in-person cohort meeting: November 5-8, 2020

More information is available at www.biointeractive.org/ambassador-community.

Access the application at pathway.hhmi.org.

To request application support in compliance with the National Rehabilitation Act/Section 508, please contact us at biointeractiveacademy@hhmi.org or 301-215-8868 so that we may best accommodate your needs.

¹Successful applicants outside the United States are expected to obtain all necessary visa documentation to attend the U.S.-based events identified in this application. Successful applicants are not employees or agents of HHMI and are not entitled to participate in any of HHMI's employee benefit plans, including pension, 403(b), profit sharing, retirement, deferred compensation, welfare, insurance, disability, bonus, vacation pay, severance pay and other similar plans, programs and agreements.

COMPONENTS OF THE INTENT TO APPLY

- Applicant Information
- Acknowledgement of Conditions
- Optional Survey for Eligible Applicants

COMPONENTS OF THE APPLICATION

- Personal Statement
- Teaching Philosophy
- Teaching Experience
- Collaboration
- Familiarity with BioInteractive
- Education
- Professional Learning & Development
- Leadership Activities

COMPONENTS OF THE FINALIST REVIEW

Applicants selected as finalists will be asked to submit additional materials and participate in a video interview with HHMI BioInteractive representatives.

Additional Materials:

- A descriptive narrative of a lesson (written or video)
- Two professional references
- A signed form from the applicant's administrator acknowledging their support of the applicant's participation
- Interview

DETAILED COMPONENTS OF THE INTENT TO APPLY

Contact Information

Provide your permanent contact information. This will be used for all communication throughout the application process. If a change is necessary after your application is submitted, please contact HHMI staff at biointeractiveacademy@hhmi.org.

- First Name
- Middle Initial (optional)
- Last Name
- Preferred Name (if different than first name) (optional)
- Pronouns (he/his, she/hers, they/them, other) (optional)
- Email Address
- Institution Location (Address)
 - Country (United States, U.S. territories, Canada, Mexico)
 - City/Province
 - State
 - Postal Code

Conditions

The following conditions are requirements for participation in the 2020-2023 HHMI BioInteractive Ambassador Academy. Please confirm that the statements below are true:

- I am a full-time biology or environmental science educator with the required amount of teaching experience
 - 5+ years for high school educators
 - 3+ years for undergraduate educators
 - or a combined 5 years teaching experience at both levels
- I currently teach biology and/or environmental science to high school or undergraduate students.
- I intend to continue working in science education.
- I am legally employed in the U.S., U.S. territories, Mexico or Canada.
- I am comfortable learning and teaching in English.
- I understand that Academy activity will cycle through periods of intense work and periods of minimal work. I am expected to maintain a full and sustained commitment to cohort activities during the Academy.
 - Specifically, I commit to participating in the following:
 - National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT) Annual Conference November 5-8, 2020 (Baltimore, MD)
 - National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT) Annual Conference November 11-14, 2021 (Atlanta, GA)
 - 3 annual weeklong summer meetings during the month of July
 - 1 state, regional, or national conference per year
 - Presenting on behalf of HHMI BioInteractive at least once during the Academy.
 - 5-15 hours monthly outside of the above-mentioned for professional learning (example: virtual meetings, journal readings, reflection prompts)
- If selected as a finalist, I will be able to obtain a signed form from my administrator acknowledging their support of my participation. For high school educators, this administrator must be your principal, assistant principal, or other equivalent building administrator. For undergraduate educators, this can be your department chair, dean, provost, or president.
- I understand that successful applicants are not are not employees or agents of HHMI and are not entitled to participate in any of HHMI's employee benefit plans, including pension, 403(b), profit sharing, retirement, deferred compensation, welfare, insurance, disability, bonus, vacation pay, severance pay and other similar plans, programs and agreements.
- I understand that successful applicants outside the United States are expected to obtain all necessary visa documentation to attend the U.S.-based events identified in this application.

Optional Survey for Eligible Applicants

Please note: HHMI would like to collect this information to better understand the applicant pool and aid our outreach efforts during the Intent to Apply period. Submission of this information is voluntary and will not affect your eligibility. If you do not wish to submit some or all of this information, respond with the "No Response" option. We appreciate your input.

These data allow HHMI to gauge whether we are fairly reaching and benefitting members of the education community and ensure that individuals from all groups have the same knowledge of and access to the opportunities we offer.

The information collected in this section may be disclosed to HHMI staff, and in aggregate to experts and researchers contracted by HHMI in order to support HHMI's assessment of its initiatives. HHMI may also use the aggregated information to assist in the selection of an appropriately diverse group of reviewers. Any individual demographic information disclosed in the section will not be shared with reviewers at any stage of the application review process.

Teaching Context

Select responses from the lists in the categories below to share specific details about your school setting, student populations, and teaching role at the time of the application due date.

School Setting:

- No response
- Rural
- Urban
- Suburban

Years Teaching Experience:

- No response
- <5
- 5-10
- 11-15
- 16-20
- 20+

High School description

- No response
- Public
- Charter
- Independent or Parochial
- Selective or Magnet School
- Title 1 School/Free and Reduced Lunch >40%
- Special ed population >10%
- English Language Learner population >10%
- Alternative Setting
- Other (please describe)

Number of students in your school/institution

- No response
- <200
- <500
- <1000
- <2000
- <5000
- 5000+

Higher Ed description

- No response

- Public
- Private
- 2-year college
- 4-year Primarily Undergraduate Institution (PUI)
- 4-year with graduate programs
- R1
- Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) with an enrollment of undergraduate full-time equivalent students that is at least 25 percent Hispanic students
- Historically Black College or University (HBCU)
- Tribal College

of students in your school/institution

- No response
- <500
- <1000
- <2000
- <5000
- 5000-10,000
- 10,001-20,000
- 20,001-40,000
- 40,000+

How Did You Initially Hear About This Opportunity?

- No response
- HHMI news or website
- Message from your academic institution
- Mention in a BioInteractive workshop
- Personal communication from a mentor or colleague
- Personal communication from a current HHMI BioInteractive Ambassador
- Social media
- Message from another science education organization
 - which organization?
- Message from another scientific organization
 - which organization?
- Other

Demographic Information

Please select the group(s) with which you most closely personally identify.

- No response
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latinx
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White
- Other (allow them to self-describe)

DETAILED COMPONENTS OF THE APPLICATION

Contact Information

Your contact information will be prepopulated from the answers you provided in the Intent to Apply section.

Personal Statement Video

Upload a video of yourself explaining why you want to join the HHMI BioInteractive Ambassador Academy. Include information about how the work of HHMI BioInteractive and the focus of the Academy biointeractive.org/ambassador-community aligns with your personal values and professional goals and how you and the broader science education community will benefit from your participation (3-5 minutes).

Teaching Philosophy

Write a self-reflective narrative that conveys your beliefs about teaching and learning and what it means to be an effective teacher in the context of your discipline and institution, including any challenges you regularly encounter. Use specific examples of what you and the learners do, explain the rationale for why you choose these practices, and describe how they contribute to student learning (750 words or less).

Teaching Experience

Document your teaching experience, including student teaching, and/or mentoring learning assistants (LAs), and/or teaching assistants (TAs) (if applicable). All fields are required for each listed experience:

- Time period
- School/Institution
- Courses Taught
- Brief description of learners

Collaboration

Describe your approach to working with others. Include a specific example of a collaboration in which you participated, and explain how your personal attributes contributed to the work and the project benefited from being a team versus an individual effort. (250 words or less).

Familiarity with BioInteractive

If you have experience with BioInteractive, list some resources you have used with students, workshops you have attended, and any experiences you may have had sharing the resources with other educators at your academic institution, at a workshop or conference, or in other settings (250 words or less).

If you do not have experience with BioInteractive, visit the website biointeractive.org and identify one resource or sequence of resources you could use with your students. Describe where you would integrate it into your course and what modification(s) you would need to make for it/them to be most useful for your students and course structure. Include the rationale for any modification(s) you would make (250 words or less).

Education

Document your educational and, if applicable, research training. For each educational or training experience, provide the information detailed in the list below. All fields are required unless noted with "if applicable."

- Type of Training (select from the following options)
 - Undergraduate training (BA, BS, or equivalent)
 - Graduate training (MA, MAT, MS, EdD, PhD, or equivalent)
 - Postdoctoral training following PhD, or other doctoral-level graduate program
 - Other (specify)
- Degree Awarded (if applicable)
- Institution
- Department/Program/Major (if applicable)

Professional Learning & Development (Optional)

List up to five professional development, online courses, certifications, workshops, and other programs you have completed. Choose those experiences that have had the greatest impact on your teaching and/or career development (250 words or less).

Leadership Activities (Optional)

If applicable, list your activities as a leader in your personal and/or professional life. Some examples of leadership activities are sponsoring school clubs, coaching, mentoring, Big Brothers Big Sisters (250 words or less).

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR FINALISTS

Teaching Practice

Upload one of the following:

- a detailed written lesson plan
- a written narrative; or
- a video narrative

of one classroom lesson (approx. 50 minutes) that you have taught with students. The lesson should illustrate your teaching philosophy in practice and demonstrate:

- your depth of content knowledge, and include relevant learning objectives, potential misconceptions, and how you address each with students,
- your ability to employ appropriate and effective instructional methods to engage all students, and
- your assessment of student learning.

If you choose to provide a written lesson plan or narrative, you may submit directly within the application using the text box function or as a separate PDF document. If you choose a video narrative, you may record the video on a smartphone or camera and upload the video to the link within the application.

Professional References

Upload two letters of support from colleagues or collaborators who can speak to your potential as an HHMI BioInteractive Ambassador.

Administrator Support

You must have the support of an administrator to participate. The supporting administrator must have institutional authority to approve your full participation in the 3-year Academy, which may include time away from work. For high school educators, this administrator must be your principal, assistant principal, or other equivalent building administrator. For undergraduate educators, this can be your department chair, dean, provost, or president.

Scheduling and Completion of a Video Interview

An HHMI representative will contact finalists to schedule a remote video interview.