application instructions

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

All of the undergraduate courses offered at Columbia University's Biosphere 2 Center require at least one year of completed undergraduate course work at an accredited college. Graduating high school students who have completed extensive undergraduate or AP-level course work may be accepted into an undergraduate summer course at the Biosphere 2. Please contact one of our Biosphere 2 counselors to discuss this issue before applying. All high school applicants applying for undergraduate course work will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Research Semester is open only to junior and senior college students majoring in environmental biology, environmental science, physics, astronomy, engineering, geoscience, applied mathematics, and relevant policy fields. It is not open to high school students or to first-year and sophomore college students. Applicants for the Research Semester are required to submit a letter of recommendation from a faculty adviser in their home institution department and an essay detailing their interest in the program and their research project of choice.

1. Please fill out Forms 1, 2, and 3A of the application. Submit a separate copy of Form 1 if you are applying for both semester and summer programs or for more than one semester program. If applying for multiple programs, please prioritize your choices.

2. After completing Form 3A, please submit the form to your dean for approval of your attendance at Columbia University's Biosphere 2 Center. The dean should complete the form, seal it in an envelope, sign it across the seal, and return it to you. If the dean chooses to send the form directly to Biosphere 2, he or she should send it to the Biosphere 2 address, bottom right.

3. If you are applying for financial aid, please fill out Form 4A and send it with the rest of your application. Biosphere 2 awards need-based financial assistance to eligible applicants. Applicants are expected to exhaust all other resources (e.g., family and student loans, federal and state grants) that can be transferred from other institutions. The best source of such information is your home institution's financial aid office. The FAFSA code for Biosphere 2 is E00817. If you have any questions regarding financial aid, please contact Michael Omiecinski at momiecin@bio2.columbia.edu.

4. Please arrange for your registrar to seal your official transcript in an envelope, sign the envelope across the seal, and return it to you. If the registrar would rather send the form directly to Biosphere 2, he or she should use the Biosphere 2 address at right. All transcripts must be official.

5. Submit your completed application with a nonrefundable $25 check or money order payable to Columbia University Biosphere 2 Program to the Biosphere 2 address at right. Application deadlines are given above, right. All early decision applications will receive a response within 30 days of our receipt of the completed application.

DEADLINES FOR APPLICATION

Summer Programs—March 30; early decision, February 1

Spring Semester—November 30; early decision, November 1

Fall Semester—April 30; early decision, February 1

CHECK LIST

A completed undergraduate application must include all of the following items:

- Application Forms 1 and 2, filled out completely
- Form 3A, the Statement of Good Standing, completed by your academic dean
- An official transcript from your registrar's office
- The Undergraduate Application for Financial Assistance (Form 4A), if you plan to apply for financial aid
- A nonrefundable $25 check or money order
- For Research Semester students only: letter of recommendation (from faculty adviser) and essay detailing interest in the program and research project of choice

All application materials should be sent to the following address:

Biosphere 2 Center
The Earth Institute
at Columbia University
405 Low Library, MC 4335
535 West 116th Street
New York, NY 10027

application instructions

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

High school summer programs at Columbia's Biosphere 2 Center are designed for rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors in high school, as well as those students who are currently graduating high school and entering college.

1. Please fill out Forms 1 and 2 of the application. Be sure to indicate your session(s) and program name(s).

2. All transcripts must be official. Please arrange for your high school guidance counselor to seal your official transcript in an envelope, sign it across the seal, and return it to you. If the registrar would rather send the form directly to Biosphere 2, please have him or her use the Biosphere 2 address below. All transcripts should be official.

3. Please arrange for a teacher or guidance counselor to write a letter of recommendation for you. The letter of recommendation should be placed in an envelope, signed across the seal, and returned to you. If instructors would rather send the letter of recommendation directly to Biosphere 2, please have them use the address below.

Alternatively, you may have a reference complete the Academic or Professional Recommendation Form 3B. He or she may either send it directly to us or place it in an envelope, sign it across the seal, and return it to you to send to us with your other application materials.

4. Include a separate personal statement of no more that one page, describing your interests, extracurricular activities, and goals for the future.

5. If you wish to apply for financial aid, complete Form 4B, High School Application for Financial Assistance. Biosphere 2 awards need-based financial assistance to eligible applicants. Applicants are expected to exhaust all other resources (e.g., family and student loans, federal and state grants) that can be transferred from other institutions. The FAFSA code for Biosphere 2 is E00817. If you have any questions regarding financial aid, please contact Michael Omiecinski at momiecin@bio2.columbia.edu.

6. Submit your completed application with a nonrefundable $25 check or money order payable to Columbia University Biosphere 2 Program to the Biosphere 2 address at right. Application deadlines are given above, right. All early decision applications will receive a response within 30 days of our receipt of the completed application.

DEADLINES FOR APPLICATION

Regular, March 30; early decision, February 1

CHECK LIST

A completed high school application must include all of the following items:

- Application Forms 1 and 2, filled out completely
- An official high school transcript
- A letter of recommendation from a teacher or guidance counselor, or Form 3B (Academic or Professional Recommendation) from a reference
- A personal statement of no more that one page, describing your interests, extra curricular activities, and goals for the future
- The High School Application for Financial Assistance (Form 4B), if you wish to apply for financial aid
- A nonrefundable $25 check or money order

All application materials should be sent to the following address:

Biosphere 2 Center
The Earth Institute
at Columbia University
405 Low Library, MC 4335
535 West 116th Street
New York, NY 10027

1 BIOSPHERE 2 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Application for High School and Undergraduate Students

Biosphere 2 Center
The Earth Institute
at Columbia University
405 Low Library, MC 4335
535 West 116th Street
New York, NY 10027

212-854-3142
212-854-6309 Fax
lar46@columbia.edu
www.columbia.edu/biosphere

Undergraduate Semester Programs
Please check the one program and one season for which you are applying. You may duplicate this form if you intend to apply for a second program.

☐ Earth Semester ☐ Fall 2003
☐ Universe Semester ☐ Spring 2004
☐ Research Semester

Summer 2003: High School and Undergraduate Programs
Please check your level of study (high school or undergraduate) and the session or sessions for which you are applying, and write in the name of the program or programs you would like to attend. For high school programs, see page 37; for undergraduate, pages 36 to 37.

		Program Name
☐ High School	☐ Session 1	_____
☐ Undergraduate	☐ Session 2	_____

☐ Male ☐ Female

LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | MIDDLE INITIAL

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER | DATE OF BIRTH (MONTH/DAY/YEAR) | PLACE OF BIRTH

☐ U.S. ☐ Other: | ☐ Yes ☐ No

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP | U.S. PERMANENT RESIDENT (GREEN CARD)

How did you first hear about Biosphere 2's education programs?

☐ Advertisement ☐ Brochure ☐ Friend ☐ Home Institution ☐ Web ☐ Other: _____

School Information

SCHOOL PRESENTLY ATTENDING | GRADUATION YEAR | MAJOR/INTEREST

Current or School Mailing Address

STREET | VALID UNTIL (MONTH/YEAR)

CITY | STATE | ZIP/POSTAL CODE | COUNTRY

TELEPHONE NUMBER | E-MAIL ADDRESS

Permanent Address (if different from Current Address)

STREET

CITY | STATE | ZIP/POSTAL CODE | COUNTRY

TELEPHONE NUMBER | E-MAIL ADDRESS

Parental Information

FATHER'S FULL NAME (INDICATE IF DECEASED)

MOTHER'S FULL NAME (INDICATE IF DECEASED)

NAME OF PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN WITH WHOM YOU RESIDE

STREET ADDRESS

CITY | STATE | ZIP/POSTAL CODE | COUNTRY

Optional: Columbia attempts to draw students from diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds. We ask you to assist us in this effort by describing yourself as a member of one of the following groups: ☐ Alaskan Native ☐ Asian American ☐ African American ☐ Caucasian ☐ Hispanic ☐ Pacific Islander ☐ Native American ☐ Other: _____

I intend to apply for need-based financial aid from Biosphere 2 Center: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Columbia University admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin, and age to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the University. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, handicap, age, sexual orientation, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other University-administered programs. I affirm that all information on this application is complete and accurate. If admitted to the Biosphere 2 Center, I agree to abide by all regulations established by Biosphere 2 Center.

_____

APPLICANT SIGNATURE DATE

If applicant is under 18 years of age, a parent or legal guardian must also sign this application.

_____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE DATE

Please send my admissions decision to my

☐ permanent address ☐ current address

2 BIOSPHERE 2 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Biosphere 2 Center
The Earth Institute
at Columbia University
405 Low Library, MC 4335
535 West 116th Street
New York, NY 10027

212-854-3142
212-854-6309 Fax
lar46@columbia.edu
www.columbia.edu/biosphere

Academic History for High School and Undergraduate Students

Please arrange to have your transcript sent along with your application.

APPLICANT'S LAST NAME FIRST NAME MIDDLE INITIAL

Please list all college courses taken in Astronomy, Biology, Economics, Environmental Sciences, Geology/Earth Sciences, Mathematics, Physics, Political Science, or Social Sciences:

Please indicate the letter grade you have received:

Please list all Advanced Placement courses you have completed:

Please indicate the letter grade you have received:

Please list your research experience and interests:

Undergraduate Students: Do you plan to apply to graduate school? If so, in what field?

3A BIOSPHERE 2 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Biosphere 2 Center
The Earth Institute
at Columbia University
405 Low Library, MC 4335
535 West 116th Street
New York, NY 10027

212-854-3142
212-854-6309 Fax
lar46@columbia.edu
www.columbia.edu/biosphere

Undergraduate Statement of Good Standing

To Student Applicant:

Please submit this Statement of Good Standing to your academic dean for approval of your attendance at Columbia University's Biosphere 2 Center (B2C). **Please complete the information indicated in this section before submitting it to your academic dean.**

NAME SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

Semester Programs (indicate program and season for which you are applying)

☐ Earth ☐ Fall 2003
☐ Universe ☐ Spring 2004
☐ Research

Summer 2003 Programs (indicate session and name of program)

	Program Name
☐ Session 1	_____
☐ Session 2	_____

Note: Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, applicants admitted to and enrolling in a college-based program are entitled to review their records on file. Applicants who want recommendations submitted on a confidential basis can waive this right of access by signing here:

APPLICANT SIGNATURE DATE

To Academic Dean:

The student listed above is applying to the indicated program at Columbia University's Biosphere 2 Center. We require the following information to determine the student's eligibility for attendance at B2C. Please assist us by completing this form and returning it to the above address, or alternatively, you may seal it in an envelope, sign the envelope across the seal, and return it to the applicant.

ACADEMIC DEAN (FULL NAME & TITLE)

TELEPHONE NUMBER E-MAIL ADDRESS

The student's cumulative grade point average is _____ on a scale of _____.

The applicant has completed the courses checked below:
☐ Laboratory science course ☐ College-level mathematics course ☐ College-level social sciences course

Has the applicant received any disciplinary sanctions while attending your college? ☐ Yes ☐ No

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS REGARDING THE STUDENT'S ABILITY TO SUCCEED AT BIOSPHERE 2

I certify that this student is in good standing at my college and that the credits awarded through Columbia University's Biosphere 2 program are transferable to this institution.

SIGNATURE DATE

3B BIOSPHERE 2 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

High School Academic or Professional Recommendation

Biosphere 2 Center
The Earth Institute
at Columbia University
405 Low Library, MC 4335
535 West 116th Street
New York, NY 10027

212-854-3142
212-854-6309 Fax
lar46@columbia.edu
www.columbia.edu/biosphere

SECTION I: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT

LAST NAME FIRST NAME M.I. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

Biosphere 2 Program of Interest (Please select only one course per session.)

☐ Exploring Earth, Life, and the Summer Sky ☐ Session 1 or ☐ Session 2 (Indicate first choice.)
☐ Worlds into Words (Session 1)
☐ Earths Under Glass (Session 2)

Note: Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, applicants admitted to and enrolling in a college-based program are entitled to review their records on file. Applicants who want recommendations submitted on a confidential basis can waive this right of access by signing here:

APPLICANT SIGNATURE DATE

SECTION II: TO BE COMPLETED BY REFERENCE

The above student is applying for admission to a summer high school program offered by Columbia University's Biosphere 2 Center. Your candid responses are greatly appreciated. (Please attach additional sheet if necessary.)

- What are the first words that come to your mind when describing the applicant?

- In what ways do you believe Biosphere 2's programs will help the applicant reach his/her academic, professional, and/or personal goals?

- Using a numeric scale of 1 to 5 (1 = weak, 5 = strong), how do you rate the applicant's

  ___ maturity? ___ ability to work in teams? ___ motivation level?
  ___ relationship with professors/teachers? ___ work ethic? ___ level of independence?

- What would you say has been the applicant's most valuable contribution to your classroom, workplace, or community?

- What are the applicant's strengths and weaknesses of which we should be aware?

NAME (PLEASE PRINT) TITLE

SCHOOL/ORGANIZATION

RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT

STREET ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP/POSTAL CODE COUNTRY

SIGNATURE DATE

Please help us by completing this form and returning it to the above Biosphere 2 address. Alternatively, you may seal it in an envelope, sign the envelope across the seal, and return it to the applicant. THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE.

4A BIOSPHERE 2 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Biosphere 2 Center
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at Columbia University
405 Low Library, MC 4335
535 West 116th Street
New York, NY 10027

212-854-3142
212-854-6309 Fax
lar46@columbia.edu
www.columbia.edu/biosphere

Undergraduate Application for Financial Assistance

(not for High School Students, who should use Form 4B)

Biosphere 2 awards need-based financial assistance to eligible applicants. Applicants are expected to exhaust all other resources (e.g., family and student loans, federal and state grants) that can be transferred from other institutions. The best source of such information is your home institution's financial aid office. The FAFSA Code for Biosphere 2 is E00817.

APPLICANT'S LAST NAME FIRST NAME SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

Are you currently enrolled in college? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you currently receive financial aid? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please consult your home institution's financial aid office to transfer this aid to Columbia University via a Consortium Agreement.

What are your current academic year costs at your college?

Tuition: $_____

Room: $_____

Board: $_____

Travel: $_____

Other: $_____ Explain: _____

TOTAL: $_____

What financial aid are you presently receiving? List all sources, including nontransferable aid.

Amount of Annual Aid	Source	Transferable to Columbia?

SCHOOL'S FINANCIAL AID OFFICER TELEPHONE NUMBER E-MAIL ADDRESS

Please attach a copy of your most recent Student Aid Report (SAR).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR FINANCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

I certify that all information on this application and other documents I submit for financial aid consideration is complete and accurate.
I understand that I am responsible for the fees and costs associated with the undergraduate program to which I have applied, including my transportation to and from Biosphere 2 Center.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE DATE

If applicant is under 18 years of age, a parent or legal guardian must also sign this application.

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE DATE

Submit completed form to Biosphere 2 address above.

4B BIOSPHERE 2 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

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New York, NY 10027

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212-854-6309 Fax
lar46@columbia.edu
www.columbia.edu/biosphere

High School Application for Financial Assistance

(not for Undergraduates, who should use Form 4A)

Biosphere 2 awards limited need-based financial assistance to eligible applicants. Those interested in applying should complete the following information and return the form with the rest of the application. Any additional information that can be included that shows the student's/parents' financial situation is important. Applicants are expected to exhaust all other resources first. Please also consider contacting someone at your local bank about obtaining a student loan from your local financial institution.

APPLICANT'S LAST NAME FIRST NAME SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

Financial Resources:

List all resources available toward payment of Biosphere 2 program costs. Please indicate both guaranteed and unsecured sources.

Source	Amount	Guaranteed?
You	$_____	☐ Yes ☐ No
Your family	$_____	☐ Yes ☐ No
Other (please list sources)	$_____	☐ Yes ☐ No
Total:	$_____	

Secondary School Costs:

Do you currently pay tuition at your secondary school? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, do you currently receive financial aid? ☐ Yes ☐ No

What are your current academic year's costs at your high school?

Tuition: $_____

Room: $_____

Board: $_____

Travel: $_____

Other: $_____ Explain: _____

TOTAL: $_____

What financial aid are you presently receiving? List all sources, including nontransferable aid.

Amount of Annual Aid Source Transferable to Columbia?

Household Information:

Parents' Marital Status ☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Single ☐ Separated ☐ Widowed

Number of family members living at home: _____

Number of family members in college in 2002–2003: _____

Please list names of colleges and yearly tuition paid:

_____ $_____

_____ $_____

Parent Income, Earnings, and Benefits:

Type of 2002 tax form used: _____ Exemptions claimed: _____

Adjusted gross income from IRS form: $_____ U.S. Income tax paid: $_____

• Parents, if you have a completed FAFSA or SAR for another family member, please attach a copy. •

Additional information concerning your financial circumstances (attach additional sheet if necessary):

I certify that all information on this application and other documents I submit for financial aid consideration are complete and accurate. I understand that I am responsible for the fees and costs associated with the high school program to which I have applied, including my transportation to and from Biosphere 2 Center.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE DATE

If applicant is under 18 years of age, a parent or legal guardian must also sign this application.

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE DATE

Submit completed form to Biosphere 2 address above.