Beginning in Summer 2014, the father of a Brandeis student reached out to offer to help connect current Brandeis students with surgeons in his field – Colon & Rectal Surgery.

A large number of sites were contacted and through trial and error – and the hard work of the students who followed through with the program – a number of Brandeis students were able to have strong summer experiences shadowing and/or participating in summer research opportunities.
A number of sites and physicians had such good experiences with Brandeis students that they have graciously agreed to host students again this summer.

The timing and focus of each site varies based upon the preferences of the physicians and/or the hospital.

The application process allows us to match students based on the needs and fit of each site.
The Application

WHO, WHAT, AND WHEN
Any Brandeis student may apply
- Preference will be given to current sophomores and juniors (students who will have completed between 3 and 6 semesters of academic work by May 2015).
- There are no GPA cutoffs
- There is no specific coursework requirement
- Students interested in ANY health profession are welcome.
Academic Work

- **There is no specific coursework requirement**
  - You do not need to have completed specific pre-health coursework to be considered. However, having completed at least one science course may be advantageous, to ensure that you want to pursue a science-based curriculum and ultimately a health profession.

- **Transcripts and GPA**
  - Pre-Health Advising will review transcripts as a part of the application process.
  - There is no specific GPA cutoff for the program, however, we expect that a 2.7+ will be needed to be competitive.
  - No preference will be given to any specific majors or minors.
Other Factors

- **Experience in the Health Professions Field**
  - You will be asked to list any experiences you have already had in a health professions field and include month/year.
  - You should include any that occurred in high school as well as any you have participated in in college.
  - This can include volunteer, shadowing, and/or paid activities.

- **Non-Health Related Activities**
  - Non-health related activities should be restricted to post-high school experiences.
  - Include any that are important to you, including hobbies and/or research.
  - Please note any leadership or specific roles you may have held.
# Essays!

## Statement of Interest

- Please describe your academic and professional interests, your reason for applying to the Brandeis Summer Surgery Program, and/or the ways in which this experience will help you to meet your short and long term goals.

- Character limit is 4500, including punctuation and spaces. (Approximately 1 page).

## “Initiative” Short Response

- Please tell us about a time in which you showed initiative (either in your personal or academic life).

- Character limit is 1500, including punctuation and spaces.
Deadlines & Application

- All Applications MUST be submitted by March 16 at 11:59pm

- Pre-Health Advising will inform students by April 15th of their standing.
  - We expect to have a waitlist of 1-2 people for each site in case the individual selected is no longer able to take the position.
  - We will attempt to confirm all placements and let waitlisted students know of final standing no later than the end of April.

- The Application may be accessed online here.
Site Information

PLEASE SEE THE HANDOUT FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION
Sites and Duration

- **Massachusetts General Hospital** *(Boston, MA)* - Duration of Experience: 8 weeks; 2 days per week, 8 hour shift.
- **Cambridge Health Alliance** *(Cambridge, MA)* - Duration of Experience: 2 weeks, hours will be determined with physician.
- **Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center** *(Boston, MA)* - Duration of Experience: 8 weeks, hours will be determined with physician.
- **Stony Brook University Medical Hospital** *(Stony Brook, NY)* - Duration of Experience: 2-4 weeks, hours will be determined with physician. Availability in June and early July.
- **Stony Brook University Medical Hospital** *(Stony Brook, NY)* - Duration of Experience: 4 weeks, hours per week will be determined with physician. Experience will start at the end of July.
- **Mount Sinai Hospital** *(New York, NY)* - Duration of Experience: 2 weeks, hours per week will be determined with physician.
- **North Shore Long Island Jewish (LIJ) Medical Center** *(New Hyde Park, NY)* - Duration of Experience: To be determined directly with physicians.
- **Thomas Jefferson University Hospital** *(Philadelphia, PA)* - Duration of Experience: 4 weeks, hours per week will be determined with physician.
- **University of Pennsylvania Hospital** *(Philadelphia, PA)* - Duration of Experience: 10 weeks, hours per week will be determined with physician.
Selecting Sites

- Duration and focus of the experiences varies
  - Please read through the descriptions so that you are aware of the timing and expectations of each site.

- Housing and transportation are not included in the Summer Surgery Program
  - When applying, please select only those programs which are feasible for you to be able to commit to (time and/or location).

- You will only be considered for those sites you select
  - You will be asked to rank order the sites based on your level of interest.
  - You would start with a “1” for your top site, then a “2” for the next, etc.
  - You will only be considered for those programs which you indicate a rank.
  - You do NOT need to rank all of them. Any that you would not be able to participate in should be left blank.
You Agree...

THERE ARE REQUIREMENTS EXPECTED OF THOSE WHO ARE SELECTED. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU CAN AGREE TO THESE REQUIREMENTS BEFORE APPLYING AND/OR BEFORE ACCEPTING A PLACEMENT.
Before you go

- **Pre-Departure Workshop**
  - Students placed will be required to attend a Pre-Departure Workshop.
  - This workshop will cover basic HIPPA information, conduct, and shadowing guidelines.

- **Student Contract**
  - At the Pre-Departure Workshop, you will be required to sign a Student Contract.
  - This contract will stipulate expectations regarding conduct and privacy. Violations may result in judicial referral to the Department of Student Development and Conduct.
  - See the handout for a sample of this contract.
During/After Your Experience

- Reflective Writing
  - Participating students will be expected to submit a reflective writing piece about their experience to Pre-Health Advising no later than the first day of Fall semester classes.

- Final Survey
  - Participating students will also be required to respond to a survey about their experiences.
Questions?

Abby Voss, Assistant Director
Misty Huacuja-LaPointe, Director
Nicole Labrecque, Department Coordinator
PHA@brandeis.edu

For appointments, call Student Financial and Academic Services at 781-736-3470 or book [online here](#).

Thank you for attending!