University of Houston African American Studies Department
2025 EMERGE Institute Application Instructions

Program Overview
The University of Houston African American Studies Department's EMERGE Institute is an intensive leadership development program designed to prepare high school juniors and seniors with essential academic, professional, and leadership skills. The program emphasizes emotional intelligence, critical and strategic thinking, and collaborative learning. While open to all students, the EMERGE Institute is particularly designed to support students from historically underserved and underrepresented communities.

The EMERGE Institute is offered at no cost to participants. Students who will be classified as juniors or seniors by Fall 2025 and who demonstrate a commitment to leadership within their classrooms, communities, and future careers are encouraged to apply.

During this two-week program, students will engage in workshops and coursework focused on academic excellence, personal development, and leadership training. Topics covered will include, but are not limited to, college preparedness, executive functioning, and strategic thinking. Instruction and mentorship will be provided by University of Houston faculty, African American Studies alumni, and distinguished community leaders.

Program Details:

- **Dates:** June 9 – 18, 2025
- **Time:** 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM
- **Location:** University of Houston – Main Campus, Agnes Arnold Hall
  Address: 3553 Cullen Boulevard, Houston, TX 77004
- **Eligible Participants:** Students from the Greater Houston Metropolitan Area, including school districts within Harris, Fort Bend, Brazoria, and Galveston counties.

Application Requirements
To be considered for the EMERGE Institute, applicants must submit the following materials:

1. **Completed Student Application Form** (see below).
2. **A 250-word personal statement** addressing the essay prompt provided in the application.
3. **A teacher recommendation letter** supporting the applicant's academic and leadership potential.

Submission Instructions

Completed applications must be submitted via email by **March 28, 2025** to **Christopher Knight at cknight3@cougarnet.uh.edu**. Applicants will be notified of their selection status no later than **April 3, 2025**. Some applicants may be invited for an interview prior to final selections.

For additional inquiries, please contact Christopher Knight at **cknight3@cougarnet.uh.edu**.

Application Submission Deadline: March 28, 2025

Student Information
(Please type or print legibly in blue or black ink.)

- **Full Name:** _____
  (Last, First, Middle)
- **Home Address:** _____

  (City, State, Zip Code)

- **Ethnicity:** _____
- **Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY):** _____
- **Gender:** ☐ Female ☐ Male
- **Adult T-Shirt Size:** _____
- **Email Address:** _____
- **Current School Name:** _____
- **School Type (Check all that apply):**
  ☐ Public ☐ Parochial ☐ Private ☐ Charter
- **Current Grade Level:** _____
- **School District/Parish:** _____
- **How did you learn about the EMERGE Institute?**
  _____

Essay Prompt: In 250 words, describe your leadership experiences and aspirations. How do you envision the EMERGE Institute supporting your academic and personal development?

Teacher Recommendation Letter
A teacher recommendation letter should be included with your application submission, providing insight into your academic abilities, leadership potential, and personal character.

We look forward to receiving your application and your participation in this enriching leadership experience.