Department of Computer Science
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Turing Scholars Program Application

(For non-UT Austin college students.)

Full Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City, State, and Zip: _____
E Mail Address: _____
Phone: _____

Include the following materials with this application form:

1. Prepare a description (using no more than one page and no more than 500 words) of your background that is relevant to the study of computer science. For example, this may include classes, computing and programming activities, other science and math activities, honors, and awards of all sorts, and other activities, including jobs, that demonstrate leadership potential. You may write your description in the form of a resume, a narrative, or something of your own design.

2. In a paragraph, identify your educational and career goals.

3. Write a 300-500-word essay on the following topic:
Explain a belief you accepted at some time in your life but recently rejected on the basis of a rational process. You might choose your former belief in the existence of Santa Claus, for example, but you should remember that the rejection you discuss must have been made on a rational basis. Perhaps you changed your mind because of something you have heard, or because of some experience you have had; but for this essay you must go beyond reporting what you heard or describing what happened to you; you must display the process of reasoning that carried you to your new belief. In your essay, explain the belief itself, your former reasons for holding it, and, most important, the rational process that led you to reject it.

You may interpret "rejection" in a weak sense, such that you do not need to show that your former belief was false. For example, if you rejected "eating spinach makes me strong," you need not have come to the conclusion "eating spinach does not make me strong." All you need for this example is good reason for thinking that your information is not sufficient to support any conclusion as to whether or not spinach makes you strong. Please consider your topic carefully. We mentioned "Santa Claus" by way of illustration only. A good essay will use a serious belief that you have rejected recently.

4. A copy of your current college transcript.

5. Include letters of recommendation from high teachers or college instructors. (OPTIONAL)

Send all materials **in one envelope**, to (or hand deliver to PAI 5.60):

Turing Scholars Program
Department of Computer Sciences
The University of Texas at Austin
1 University Station, C0500
Painter Hall 5.60
Austin, Texas 78712