Dear University Laboratory High School Applicants and Families:

Thank you for considering the University of Illinois Laboratory High School (Uni). This packet contains a description of the application process and a copy of the application form. We highly recommend attending one of our Informational Meetings scheduled for 7:00 p.m. at Uni. Informational Meetings are scheduled for:

- September 16
- October 7
- November 4
- January 6
- February 3

You are also encouraged to visit our website at http://www.uni.illinois.edu/ to obtain more information about the school.

It is very important that you meet our application timeline and requirements. Your completed application packet should include: (1) application form; (2) Two teacher recommendation forms; (3) application fee or Application Fee Waiver Form; and (4) official school records as requested and (5) SSAT test scores. A checklist is provided for your convenience.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to confirm that the application is complete and received by Uni by the deadline. No late applications or application materials will be accepted.

**The deadline for Subfreshman application is February 26, 2016.** Admission decisions will be mailed on April 22, 2016. **The deadline for high school (grades 9 – 11) applications is March 18, 2016.** Admission decisions will be mailed on May 2, 2016.

Your questions regarding Uni may be answered by reviewing the Uni website, calling the Admissions Office at 217-244-4791 or by attending one of the Informational Meetings. Thank you again for your interest in the University of Illinois University Laboratory High School. Please contact Gwyn Ortiz by email (geortiz@illinois.edu) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

The Uni Admissions Committee
Dear Applicant,

Only complete applications, received prior to the appropriate deadline, are reviewed and considered for admission to Uni. We have provided this checklist for you because we want to assist you in making sure that all required application documents are on file at Uni by the stated Application Deadline dates.

For subfreshmen                        February 26, 2016
For freshmen, sophomores and juniors   March 18, 2016

The following materials must be on file by the appropriate deadline for the application to be considered complete:

_____ Application
_____ Applicant Information Sheet
_____ Application Fee
_____ School records (prior year)
_____ School records (1st and 2nd quarter of the current school year)
_____ Two (2) teacher recommendations: One from the previous year and one from the current year; or two recommendations from the current year. Recommendations must be from academic teachers: social studies, English, mathematics, foreign language, or science.
_____ SSAT scores from one date: If you take multiple tests, please include a note with the application which indicates the month and year of the test that you want the committee to see.

Please call Uni at 217-244-4791 to verify that all materials are on file.

Date(s) called:__________________________________________________________

Uni personnel with whom you spoke:__________________________________________

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeanette Nuckolls
Associate Director
University of Illinois Laboratory High School – or “Uni” as it is better known – is one of the great public high schools in the United States. It began in 1876 as a college preparatory school for the University of Illinois. In 1910 it was additionally charged to be a laboratory school for the study of applied methods of teaching. As such, Uni provides a balanced educational program for intellectual, creative, social, and physical development.

Uni High is a public school; however, as a unit within the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Uni is not supported by local property tax dollars. As a result, Uni must receive support from other sources. The State Board of Education provides the greatest portion of funds through legislative funding guidelines passed in 1983. The University of Illinois provides building maintenance, utilities, some salary support, and other services. Since Uni does not receive local property tax dollars, parents are asked to make a donation to help support the annual budget. Currently, parent donations provide 30% of Uni High’s budget. Voluntary financial support from parents ensures that the experiences of today’s students match those of our remarkable graduates.

**Information About Uni**

Uni offers a five-year accelerated high school curriculum that begins with the subfreshman year - a combination of the seventh and eighth grades. Requirements are the following:

- Five years of English;
- Two consecutive years of French, German, Japanese, Latin, or Spanish;
- Four years of mathematics, science, and social studies;
- Five years of fitness conditioning in physical education;
- One and a half years of fine arts (including the subfreshman Interrelated Arts program that includes art, drama, and music);
- One year of computer science (including the subfreshman Interdisciplinary Computer Literacy course);
- Required health course; and
- Completion of Consumer Education on-line course.

Uni students have the opportunity to select other courses to add depth and breadth to the requirements. For example, during the senior year, the Senior Project, as an elective course, affords students the opportunity for self-directed learning on campus or in the community. Additionally, Uni students who are at least 15 years old and have earned a “B” average may enroll concurrently in University of Illinois courses. Uni students are also eligible to work on independent study projects with UIUC professors and to take courses concurrently at Parkland College. Ninety-nine percent of Uni students attend four-year colleges or universities across the U.S. Several graduates each year defer admission to a four-year institution in order to study abroad, travel or volunteer.

Uni students also participate in a wide variety of school activities, and students may start new clubs related to their special interests after securing faculty sponsorship and Student Council approval. Membership in clubs is open to all students. Students assist the school through elected service on the Student Council and the Student-Faculty Advisory Committee. The arts and athletic programs at Uni are among the most extensive in the country for schools of similar size. The athletic program practices a “no-cut” policy that allows any student to participate in competitive athletics. The fine arts programs in music, drama, and art offer similar opportunities.
for students of various levels of talent. More than 66 percent of the students at Uni play on interscholastic teams, and more than 70 percent of the students at Uni participate in fine arts activities. During the year, Uni students participate in several school-wide programs. For example in February, during Agora Week, Uni students, parents, teachers, alumni and community experts have the opportunity to take or teach classes that represent the broad interests of the Uni community. This allows students to introduce themselves to new topics and experiences.

Admission

Uni High invites all academically talented students whose parents will be living in the State of Illinois to apply.

All current sixth and seventh graders whose parents will be living in the State of Illinois as of the first day of school are eligible to apply. An application fee of $30 is assessed for each applicant. An application Fee Waiver Form is included in the application packet for those who are eligible for reduced or free textbooks/lunch. Students must be at least 11 years old on the first day of classes. Students who are enrolled in 8th grade should apply for 9th grade admission. Applications for admission to grades 9-11 are considered only on a space-available basis.

Admission to Uni is highly competitive. An admissions committee reviews applications on a name-blind basis and makes recommendations to the Director of Uni. Each year, Uni accepts approximately 65 students into its subfreshman class.

The Admissions Committee considers the following criteria when making its decision:

- Demonstration of a superior school record;
- Evidence of strong academic motivation;
- Secondary School Admission Test results;
- Evidence of outstanding creativity, leadership, initiative, or interests;
- Evidence of writing ability based on the SSAT writing sample;
- Information on the application provided by the applicant;
- Two letters of recommendation from teachers of English, Math, Social Studies, Science and Foreign Languages. (The Admissions Committee will only consider two letters of recommendation. Please submit only two.)

Uni strives to maintain a reasonable balance of girls and boys in the subfreshman class. Admissions decisions are made without regard to home school district, familial relationships or any affiliation with the University of Illinois. Uni strives to build a class of incoming students that is inclusive and representative of the surrounding communities. Admission is for August entry only. Admission decisions are final. There is no appeal process.

Uni Costs

Uni is a public school and does not charge tuition. Expenses include student fees (approximately $1070-1610 per year) and books and supplies (approximately $500 per year). Financial assistance to pay part or all of the cost of fees and books is available for families who can demonstrate financial need. Fee waivers are available to those who qualify under federal guidelines for free and reduced lunch status. Payment plans are available to all families.

Finding Out More About Uni – Informational Meetings

Students and families interested in Uni are invited to attend an informational meeting. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. on the following dates: September 16, October 7, November 4, January 6, and February 3.
The Admissions Process

- Please download the application forms directly from the Uni website: http://www.uni.illinois.edu.
- If you do not have access to a computer, you may contact Gwyn Ortiz, 217-244-4791 for assistance.
- Use the release form in the admission packet to direct the applicant’s current school to send official school records to Uni. Records must be released directly by the school to Uni. We will not accept any school records provided by an applicant.
- Ask two teachers, who have met with the student on a daily basis within the past two academic years, to complete the recommendation forms for admission to Uni. We will only accept two recommendations. At least one recommendation must be from a teacher of the current year.
- Take the Secondary School Admission Test (SSAT). (See SSAT information below.)
- Submit completed application with $30 application fee by the published deadline. A Fee Waiver Form is attached for those families who cannot afford the application processing fee.
- The completed application may be delivered to Uni High in person, or may be mailed to University Laboratory High School, ATTN: Admissions Committee, 1212 W. Springfield Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801.

The Secondary School Admission Test (SSAT)

The SSAT is the examination Uni uses to help assess an applicant’s verbal, quantitative, reading, and writing aptitude which help predict the applicant’s ability to do the work at Uni. Registration forms for the SSAT are online at http://www.SSAT.org.

The SSAT is NOT the determining factor in considering selection for admissions. All parts of the application are taken into consideration.

SSAT offers a study guide (Preparing and Applying) for prospective applicants. The guide includes a full-length practice test, review tips and exercises, sample answer sheets, and test-scoring instructions. You can order this guide when you register for the test or use the order form of the SSAT Student Registration Guide. The cost is $37.

Applicants for the SUBFRESHMAN class must take the middle level of the SSAT. Test dates for SUBFRESHMAN admission are October 17, November 14, December 12, January 9, and February 6. SSAT scores taken before the 6th grade will not be considered.

Applicants for grades 9-11 must take the upper level of the SSAT. Test dates for HIGH SCHOOL admission are October 17, November 14, December 12, January 9, February 6, and March 5.

If an applicant has taken the SSAT more than once, the admission committee will consider only the test results from the last test date unless the committee receives a written request to use earlier scores.

The test registration fee is $127. Sign up after the original registration deadline is an additional $45. Rush registration is an additional $85. Fee waivers are available for eligible families. To determine if the applicant is eligible for a fee waiver for the SSAT, email Dr. Jeanette Nuckolls at nuckolij@illinois.edu, (e.g. those individuals who qualify for free/reduced lunch). For additional information about the SSAT, testing disability accommodations, or Sabbath Sunday accommodations, contact Dr. Jeanette Nuckolls, nuckolij@illinois.edu.

When registering for the SSAT, make sure that you request your scores be sent to University Laboratory High School (code number 7820). Uni will not accept unofficial score reports from the applicant.
Admission Deadlines

**SUBFRESHMEN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Informational Meetings, 7 p.m.</td>
<td>September 16, October 7, November 4, January 6, February 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSAT Tests for Subfreshmen</td>
<td>October 17, November 14, December 12, January 9, February 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Deadline</td>
<td>February 26, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admission Decisions Mailed to Students</td>
<td>April 22, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acceptance Decisions Must Be Returned to Uni</td>
<td>May 9, 2016</td>
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**HIGH SCHOOL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Informational Meetings, 7 p.m.</td>
<td>September 16, October 7, November 4, January 6, February 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSAT Tests for High School Applicants</td>
<td>October 17, November 14, December 12, January 9, February 6, March 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Deadline</td>
<td>March 18, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admission Decisions Mailed to Students</td>
<td>May 2, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acceptance Decisions Must Be Returned to Uni</td>
<td>May 13, 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE APPLICANT TO CONFIRM THAT THE APPLICATION IS COMPLETE AND RECEIVED BY UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LABORATORY HIGH SCHOOL BY THE DEADLINE.**

If you have any questions, please contact:

Gwyn Ortiz  
University of Illinois Laboratory High School  
1212 W. Springfield Ave.  
Urbana, IL 61801  
geortiz@illinois.edu

It is the policy of the University of Illinois not to engage in discrimination or harassment against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, unfavorable discharge from the military, or status as a disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam era and to comply with all federal and state nondiscrimination, equal opportunity and affirmative action laws, orders, and regulations. This nondiscrimination policy applies to admissions, employment, access to and treatment in the University programs and activities. Complaints of invidious discrimination prohibited by University policy are to be resolved within existing University procedures.

For additional information or assistance on equal opportunity and access policies, as well as other University policies or information on federal and state civil right laws, please contact: Menah Pratt-Clarke, Assistant Chancellor and Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Access, 100 A Swanlund Administration Building MC-304, 601 E. John Street, Champaign, IL 61820, (217) 333-0885.
Application for Admission

Please return to:
Admissions Committee
University of Illinois Laboratory High School
1212 W. Springfield Ave
Urbana, IL 61801
(217) 333-2870

SUBFRESHMAN Application Deadline: February 26, 2016
HIGH SCHOOL (9-11) Application Deadline: March 18, 2016

Student File Information (This page is not given to Admissions Committee.)

Full Name of Applicant: ________________________________________________

Home Address: _______________________________________________________

Is the applicant a U.S. citizen? __ Yes __ No If not, in which country are you a citizen? _______________________________

How long have you lived in the U.S.? ___________________________________

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Information:

Name(s): ____________________________________________________________________

Email Address: ____________________________________________________________________

Home Phone #: __________________ Work Phone #: ___________________ Cell Phone #: ___________________

Applicant’s Signature: ____________________________________________________________________

Parent’s/Guardian’s Signature: ____________________________________________________________________

It is the policy of the University of Illinois not to engage in discrimination or harassment against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, unfavorable discharge from the military, or status as a disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam era and to comply with all federal and state nondiscrimination, equal opportunity and affirmative action laws, orders, and regulations. This nondiscrimination policy applies to admissions, employment, access to and treatment in the University programs and activities. Complaints of invidious discrimination prohibited by University policy are to be resolved within existing University procedures.

For additional information or assistance on equal opportunity and access policies, as well as other University policies or information on federal and state civil service rights laws, please contact: Menah Pratt-Clarke, Assistant Chancellor and Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Access, 100A Swanlund Admin. Building, MC-304, 601 E. John St., Champaign, IL 61820, 217-333-0885
Gender: __________________     Birthdate: __________________

Current School and District: ___________________________     Current Grade: ______

City and State where you live: ____________________________________________

Is a language other than English spoken daily in your home?  ___ Yes  ___ No

If yes, what language is spoken in your home? ________________________________________

For Affirmative Action use only:

Race/Ethnic Designation (if you identify with more than one, please indicate):
Black, Non-Hispanic       Alaskan Native       Asian       Hispanic
American Indian       White, Non-Hispanic       Pacific Islander

Will you or any of your siblings be the first members of your immediate family (parents, grandparents) to attend college?  ___ Yes  ___ No

Extracurricular Activities: Use only the space provided. ONLY use black ink or tape in a typed response using Times New Roman font not smaller than 10 pt.

Please do not list more than 4 significant activities (camps, hobbies, music, scouting, sports, volunteer activities, work, etc.) that are important to you and comment on how they have had a significant impact on your life.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<td>3.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
All answers must reflect the student’s independent work.

(Use only the space provided. ONLY use black ink or tape in a typed response using Times New Roman font not smaller than 10 pt.)

1. Describe a personal challenge you faced at school and how you dealt with it.

2. To some degree, everyone is a product of his/her environment. How has your environment made you the person you are today? (Cultural identity, language spoken, home town, family dynamics, etc.)
3. If you had to give up one of your extra-curricular activities, which one would it be and why?

5. Why are you applying to be a student at Uni?

6. Explain your best qualities or characteristics that make you the best applicant for Uni.
7. What are some contributions you have made to your community or school?

The seven essays comprising this component of the application were written by me, the applicant.

Signed: __________________________________________________________
NOTE TO THE APPLICANT’S FAMILY:

Please sign this form and submit it directly to your child’s current school. The school should send the records directly to Uni. The Admissions Committee will not consider any records provided by the applicant or the applicant’s family.

TRANSCRIPT RELEASE

For ____________________________

Print Name of Student

I consent to the release of my child’s academic records to University of Illinois Laboratory High School.

_________________________________________          __________________________

Signature of Parent/Guardian          Date

NOTE TO THE SCHOOL REGISTRAR:

The above named student is applying for admission to University of Illinois Laboratory High School. After the first semester (second quarter) of current year is completed, please submit academic information (grade reports, standardized testing) for him/her from the previous year and the first semester (first and second quarters) of current year to:

Admissions Committee
University of Illinois Laboratory High School
1212 West Springfield Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801

Please note that these records need to arrive at University of Illinois Laboratory High School no later than February 26, 2016 for SUBFRESHMAN admission and by March 18, 2016 for HIGH SCHOOL (9-11) admission. For your convenience, you are welcome to send these records electronically to Gwyn E. Ortiz at geortiz@illinois.edu. Please send the records as soon as possible after receiving the release form. If you need to hold the records and mail as a batch, please discuss with Ms. Ortiz ahead of time. Thank you for your assistance.
Applicant’s Name: _________________________________________________________________________

To The Applicant:
Please provide your teacher with a stamped, addressed envelope to the Admissions Committee at the address above.

Under the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (Buckley Amendment), you have the right to review your educational records if you enroll at University Laboratory High School. If you choose to do so, you may waive your right of access to this specific recommendation. Your decision to waive or not to waive you right of access will have no bearing on the handling of your application by the Admissions Committee. Please check the appropriate response and sign your name below:

____ I waive     ____ I do NOT waive my right of access to this recommendation.

______________________________________     _______________________________________
Parent/Guardian Signature                      Student Applicant’s Signature

______________________________________     _______________________________________
Date
Academic Teacher Recommendation

To ensure fairness, the University of Illinois Laboratory High School will consider only information provided on this form. Also, as the applicant is anonymous, please do not refer to the student by name when completing the recommendation form. Written comments are particularly useful in the selection process. It is the teacher's responsibility to ensure the letter is received by Uni High by the published deadline.

NO SUPPLEMENTAL SHEETS MAY BE ATTACHED TO THIS FORM. PLEASE USE ONLY THESE SHEETS.

Name of Recommender: ___________________________ School: _______________________

Position: ___________________________ Recommender’s Signature: _______________________________

Date: ______________ What course and when did you teach the student? ______________________________

How long have you known the applicant? ______________________________________________________

PLEASE DO NOT USE THE STUDENT APPLICANT’S NAME IN ANY OF YOUR COMMENTS.

Please provide a general introduction to this student. How has this student changed or developed over the time period during which you have taught the student?

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Excellent (top 10%)</th>
<th>Above Average</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
<th>No basis for comment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Potential</td>
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<td>Intellectual Curiosity</td>
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<td>Critical and Abstract Thinking</td>
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<td>Consideration of Non-traditional Approaches</td>
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<td>Willingness to Take Intellectual Risks</td>
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<td>Quality/Competency of Daily Preparation</td>
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<td>Ability to Work Independently</td>
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<td>Ability to Work with Others</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creativity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Empathy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honesty/Integrity</td>
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<td>Emotional Stability</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall Evaluation as a Person</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall Evaluation as a Student</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Student Applicant’s Name (Print Clearly): ______________________________________________________

The name will not be seen by the committee.
Please comment on this student’s character and contributions to your school community.

How does this student adapt to new people and settings?

How does this student differ from the typical student in your class?

In your opinion how well does this student’s performance match his/her ability?

How would this student function in a learning environment that places high value on independence?

Please share any additional information that will give us a more complete picture of the student.

To what degree would you recommend this student to University Laboratory High School?

_____ Highly Recommend   Explain reservations

_____ Recommend

_____ Don’t Recommend

_____ Recommend with Reservations

Student Applicant’s Name (Print Clearly): ____________________________________________
The name will not be seen by committee.
A nonrefundable application fee of $30.00 is required for each application. Please complete this form and make your check payable to University of Illinois. Submit the form and application fee to:

University of Illinois Laboratory High School
ATTN: Admissions
1212 W. Springfield Ave.
Urbana, IL 61801

Date: ____________________________

Student Applicant Name: ______________________________________________________

Applying for Grade: ________________

Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s) Names: _____________________________________________

Check #: ________________________

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: ______________________________

Amount: __________________________________

Received By: __________________________________

Date Forwarded to Business Office: ______________________________
Applicant Name: ____________________________________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Name: ______________________________________________________________________

Eligibility for fee waivers are based on federal income guidelines. Please complete the following information to apply for a waiver of the $30 application processing fee. Attach waiver to Uni Application for Admission.

Total Household Size: ___________________________ Monthly Income: $___________________________

TANF/Food Stamp # (if applicable): ____________________________________________________________

The United States Department of Agriculture has issued the following income guidelines for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>Monthly Income</th>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>Monthly Income</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$1,276</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$1,815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$1,726</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$2,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$2,177</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>$4,430</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$6,304</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For each additional family member, add $451 monthly

For each additional family member, add $642 monthly

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Income Eligibility Guidelines

Effective from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016