

Project SEED

A Paid, Hands-on, Internship Program for High School Students

Each summer, 400+ students across the United States and U.S. Territories are matched with mentors/research advisors at university, industrial, and government labs for 8-10 weeks. Over 11,000 students have participated in the program since 1968.

Student Eligibility Requirements

- Interested in chemistry/science
- Qualify as low-income based on program criteria (refer to website for more information)
- Successfully completed at least one course of high school chemistry
- Note that some sites may require students aged 16 or older

Why You Should Apply

- Get meaningful, hands-on, lab experience in a university, government, or industry setting
- Learn about potential chemistry-related careers and see first-hand how scientists do their work
- Use the experience to build your college personal statement and recommendation letters
- Apply for college scholarships that can award up to \$20,000 for 8 college semesters
- Earn at least \$3,200 for 8-10 weeks of work, ~40 hours per week

What to Expect

- Work on a scientific research project under supervision of a mentor
- Mentors will help students meet research objectives, give feedback, and foster growth
- Students must be able to commute to the lab site daily (no overnight/sleep-away accommodations)
- Opportunities to present research poster at local and national ACS meetings
- Opportunity to return for a second summer of research and receive \$3,800 stipend

Virtual programs available for students that aren't near a SEED site

College Scholarships

- Students must complete at least one summer of Project SEED and submit an application
- Students must intend to pursue a chemistry-related major and career to be eligible
- One year and multi-year scholarships worth up to \$20,000 over 4 years

How to Apply

- Create an online profile at www.acs.org/projectseed
- Complete the online application and follow up with any site-specific requirements (such as in person or phone interviews, etc.)
- If you have any questions, reach out to our office at projectseed@acs.org



**\$3,200
Stipend**



**Apply
this
Winter!**

Project SEED

How to Establish a New SEED Program or Join an Existing Site

Project SEED is a summer internship program for high school students from low-income households. This provides students with frequently fewer opportunities of access with a meaningful technical research experience, exposure to scientists, and exposure to potential careers in the sciences. This is an opportunity for you to bring in a student from your community and serve as a mentor and role model. Students spend 8-10 weeks in the lab working on a project with a mentor and additional lab members. Over the course of this fellowship, mentors and coordinators discuss career and educational choices in chemistry and may provide additional professional development opportunities. Start a site or participate in one to be rewarded with the gratifying experience of using your research to positively influence a young person.

Coordinator Duties

- Project SEED coordinators are the primary operators of a Project SEED program and point of contact for the national Project SEED office
- Coordinators can also act in a dual role and mentor students at their site
- Below are examples of coordinator duties:

Before the summer program

- Responsible for identifying mentors
- Recruiting students
- Raising matching funds
- Submitting project proposals for approval

During the summer program

- Ensuring students fulfill their duties and organizing activities such as orientation, luncheons, or field trips
- Disperse stipend checks to students

Becoming a Coordinator

- Visit our website (www.acs.org/projectseed) to learn more about our program
- Reach out to potential mentors and identify suitable projects
- Create an account on ACS Reach (www.seed.acs.org) to submit project proposals
- Reach out to our office with any questions or to introduce yourself at projectseed@acs.org

Mentor Duties

- Provide a meaningful technical project designed for a high school student
- Manage day-to-day research and work directly with the student during the summer
- May rely on graduate students, undergraduate students, or other lab staff to help ensure that the SEED students are adequately supervised in the lab
- Below are examples of mentor duties:

Before the summer program

- Submit project proposals to SEED coordinators
- Help with student recruitment

After the summer program

- May be asked to write letters of recommendation for scholarship and college applications

During the summer program

- Guide student research
- Cultivate mentor-mentee relationships
- Assist students in completing their final report and can support students in creating a research poster

Joining an Existing Site as a Mentor

- Locate SEED sites in your area using our locator tool online at www.acs.org/projectseed
- Contact coordinators and express interest in their program
- Reach out to our office with any questions at projectseed@acs.org

