

# 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.seed.acs.org)) to submit project proposals
- Reach out to our office with any questions or to introduce yourself at [projectseed@acs.org](mailto: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](http://www.acs.org/projectseed)
- Contact coordinators and express interest in their program
- Reach out to our office with any questions at [projectseed@acs.org](mailto:projectseed@acs.org)



**400+**  
Volunteer  
Scientists  
in 2019



**Visit Our  
Website  
To Learn  
More!**