



# HACU NATIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM & NSF SUMMER SCHOLARS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

## Program Details

The [NSF Summer Scholars Internship Program \(SSIP\)](#) is a dynamic way for students to acquire new knowledge in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields and learn more about science policy and the federal government while gaining exposure to career and graduate school options. SSIP partners with the [HACU National Internship Program \(HNIP\)](#) to provide students with professional opportunities working at a dynamic government agency. The mission of the NSF SSIP is to develop undergraduate and graduate student potential through exposure to science administration and policy, research funding programs, and research and education issues.

The ten-week program provides undergraduate students and graduate students the opportunity to work in the scientific administration of a disciplinary field that aligns with the students' academic interests. Mentors develop a summer plan for the interns, with objectives and deliverables. Interns participate in various enrichment activities to assist with professional development, strengthen networking skills, and foster the cohort experience. Although the experience is currently virtual, students may have the opportunity to attend professional conferences or receive additional professional training. Interns are encouraged to pursue careers in STEM fields.

## About the National Science Foundation

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is an independent federal agency created by Congress in 1950 "to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense..." NSF is vital because we support basic research and people to create knowledge that transforms the future. This type of support:

- Is a primary driver of the U.S. economy.
- Enhances the nation's security.
- Advances knowledge to sustain global leadership.

With an annual budget of \$8.5 billion (FY 2021), we are the funding source for approximately 25 percent of all federally supported basic research conducted by America's colleges and universities. In many fields such as mathematics, computer science and the social sciences, NSF is the major source of federal backing.

NSF's goals -- discovery, learning, research infrastructure and stewardship -- provide an integrated strategy to advance the frontiers of knowledge, cultivate a world-class, broadly inclusive science and engineering workforce and expand the scientific literacy of all citizens, build the nation's research capability through investments in advanced instrumentation and facilities, and support excellence in science and engineering research and education through a capable and responsive organization. We like to say that NSF is "where discoveries begin."

For more information on NSF SSIP, please contact Gayle Pugh Lev at [gpugh@nsf.gov](mailto:gpugh@nsf.gov).



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