

The Minnesota Technology Association



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the SciTech Internship Program?**

SciTech is a free, state-funded internship program that connects college STEM majors with small Minnesota companies for paid internship opportunities in industry.

### **Does SciTech place me in an internship?**

No, we are not a job placement agency. SciTech essentially functions as an exclusive online job board where you can find unique internships and apply for the ones that interest you.

### **Is there an application deadline?**

There is no deadline, but the sooner you apply, the better your chances are of finding a position. The job board is constantly changing, and you will get weekly emails letting you know what's new. Most internships happen in the summer, but employers are hiring year-round – sometimes several months in advance of when the internship begins.

### **Are International Students Eligible?**

Yes! International Students who set up CPT or OPT with their international student office may participate. You will be asked to upload a copy of your I-20 with your application, so make sure you have that ready.

### **What are my odds of being hired?**

Pretty good! Because SciTech provides employers with a wage reimbursement, they have a big incentive to hire students through our program. Most of these employers don't post their positions anywhere else, so you will be competing against a smaller pool of applicants. With every job posting, we provide the hiring manager's contact information, so you can reach out to the decision makers directly. To increase your odds even more, we also recommend making use of the job hunting/ interviewing tips we include in our weekly emails as well as the student resources on our website.

### **Can I find a full-time job through SciTech?**

You will only find paid internships posted on our site. However, one of the goals of the program is for your internship to turn into full-time work. It's not uncommon for students to return to a company for multiple internships, and many of our employers are looking to hire their interns as employees after graduation.

**Is there a minimum requirement for wages?**

The minimum hourly rate for the program is \$12.50 per hour, but the average wage is closer to \$18.00 per hour and may vary widely by industry. All internships through SciTech are paid opportunities.

**Do I have to work a certain number of hours?**

The employment arrangement is determined by what works best for the intern and the employer. Students may work part-time or full-time any time of year.

**I'm about to graduate, can I still use the program?**

If you can show that you are currently enrolled in courses (in addition to meeting the other eligibility requirements) when you apply and are approved, you'll be able to use SciTech for the duration of our program year (which runs September 1<sup>st</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup> of next year). If you were an undergrad and are planning to pursue graduate studies or higher, you can reactivate your account once you're enrolled in those courses and use the program again.