



Biomedical Engineering Summer Internship Program

National Institutes of Health

What is BESIP?

The NIBIB sponsored **Biomedical Engineering Summer Internship (BESIP)** is for undergraduate biomedical engineering students who have completed their junior year of college. The 10 week program, under the guidance of Dr. Robert Lutz, BESIP Program Director, is scheduled from June 6, 2016 to August 12, 2016. The internship allows rising senior bioengineering students to participate in cutting edge biomedical research projects under the mentorship of world-class scientists in NIH laboratories in Bethesda, MD.

Selected by a nationwide competition, the interns will have the opportunity to indicate preferences from a list of available NIH projects that involve areas of engineering or physical science expertise. The students will participate in group meetings, attend planned lectures and laboratory visits, and be encouraged to submit posters to the NIH Poster Day where summer interns from all disciplines present their projects.

Who can apply?

Below are requirements for the Biomedical Engineering Summer Internship Program:

- Applicant must have completed at least three years (6 semesters or 9 quarters) of undergraduate study in a Biomedical Engineering or Bioengineering degree program by the start of the 2016 summer.
- Applicant must plan to be returning to undergraduate school for at least one term following the summer BESIP program.
- Applicant must be a United States citizen or permanent resident attending college in the U.S.
- Because of housing arrangements, the structure of the program, the orientation procedures and the planned group activities, the student must be present on the Bethesda campus to participate in the entire ten-week program between June 6 and August 12, 2016.

How to apply?

The BESIP application site can be found at <http://www2.training.nih.gov/apps/publicForms/besip/forms/besipApp.aspx>. The site will go live on or about December 1, 2015. The on-line application form will require the following four items, which will be used in selecting the interns:

1. A resume which should contain:
 - Addresses and phone numbers for both school and permanent residence
 - An e-mail address
 - A statement affirming the US citizen or permanent resident status of the applicant
 - Information about the student's education, recent work experience, and activities and awards
2. An unofficial transcript or listing of courses and grades. (copy and paste into the online application) NOTE: an official transcript may be requested of the selected interns before they start the internship program.
3. A written essay briefly discussing items such as:
 - Career goals
 - Technical and research interests
 - Reasons for applying for the BESIP internship
 - A statement describing the potential benefits that will come about as a result of the student's participation in the Summer Program

The aforementioned information listed in item 3 above constitutes the "Cover Letter" mentioned in Section 6 of the online application form. The Essay and the Cover Letter are one in the same.

4. Two letters of recommendation: These letters should come from individuals who are familiar with the student's academic or work performance, such as faculty or supervisor, and who can comment on their suitability for this program. Requests for these letters of recommendation will be sent automatically from the online web application system via e-mail to the two recommenders listed in the application. The recommenders will be given instructions for submitting the letters of recommendation to the online system.

The intern selection process will be performed by a panel of NIH scientists using a scoring system based on the information submitted in the four items of the application listed above.



2009 BESIP intern, Michelle Mellenthin, works to optimize fluorescence labeling reactions for microchip electrophoresis

BESIP deadlines

The BESIP deadlines are different from the SIP program, which are stated on the SIP web. It is the applicants' responsibility to be sure that all application materials, including letters of recommendation, are submitted on time for BESIP.

- The deadline for submitting the online application is February 09, 2016.
- The deadline for Reference Letters is February 12, 2016.
- Notification of selected interns will be on or about February 26, 2016.
- Intern must accept or decline by March 12, 2016.



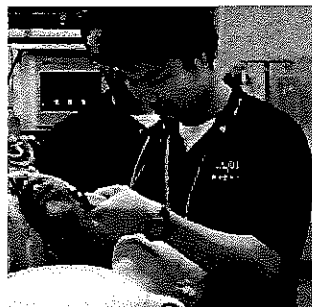
Former BESIP intern, Paul Guillod, studies the development of a 3D cell culture model of glial scar formation with the goal of finding new methods to repair spinal cord injury.

Stipend and Benefits

BESIP is a required residential program. All interns will be housed as a group in pre-arranged condos in the Bethesda area. The BESIP summer stipend includes a base stipend plus a supplement to cover the high cost of living in the Bethesda area, which adds up to approximately \$6600 for 10 weeks. The 16 selected interns are typically housed in four, two-bedroom, two-bath condominiums in the Bethesda area, with each condo having four interns. It is mandatory that the interns live in the designated housing for the full 10 weeks. The intern must pay any travel expenses to and from NIH from the summer stipend.

Other NIH Summer Programs

Applicants who are not selected for the BESIP program will automatically have their BESIP applications released for viewing by the general NIH staff so that the applicant may become eligible for hiring into the regular summer internship program. Any inquiries about admission to SIP must be made to the Office of Education and Training, Debbie Cohen, cohend@mail.nih.gov and not to BESIP.



Former BESIP intern, Steven Lee, learned intubation techniques at the National Naval Medical Center during his 2007 internship.

BESIP website

For more information about the BESIP program and to read about past BESIP projects and interns, please visit the BESIP website at <https://www.nibib.nih.gov/training-careers/undergraduate-graduate/biomedical-engineering-summer-internship-program-besip>

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