



INTERNSHIP CHALLENGE

Program at a Glance

The Internship Challenge is a workforce development program focused on enhancing the talent pipeline for Massachusetts companies engaged in the life sciences. The Massachusetts Life Sciences Center facilitates the placement of students and recent graduates who are considering career opportunities in the life sciences in paid internships across the state throughout the year. Consistent with the Center's role as a catalyst in growing the talent needed by the life sciences industry, the Internship Challenge is designed to provide students and companies with the tools to connect. The Center *reimburses eligible companies (i.e. small businesses with 100 or fewer employees) for intern stipends.*

Objectives of the Internship Challenge include expanding the pool of prospective employees who have practical experience, enhancing opportunities for small businesses to recruit promising students, enabling more students to explore career opportunities and be offered employment, and providing to students interested in working in the life sciences a peer network through educational and informational networking events.



Photo courtesy of Bay State Banner/Sandra Larson

How the Program Works

Students looking for an internship in the life sciences complete an online application, which includes their resume and a cover letter. Representatives from companies looking to host interns, after registering with the Center, review these applications and select candidates with the qualifications that are most suited to their needs. The Center can reimburse eligible companies for intern stipends with a pay rate of up to \$15 per hour, for a total reimbursement of up to \$7,200 per intern.

Eligibility Requirements

Students must be Massachusetts residents or attend a Massachusetts 2- or 4-year academic institution, and have completed at least their sophomore year of college prior to starting the internship. Students that graduated within the past year as well as students pursuing a Master's Degree are also eligible.

Host companies must be located in Massachusetts, part of the life sciences community, and have 100 or fewer employees to be eligible for the internship subsidy. Larger companies are also encouraged to participate in the program, but will not be reimbursed for intern stipends. Companies are expected to provide a meaningful internship opportunity and a mentor for each intern.

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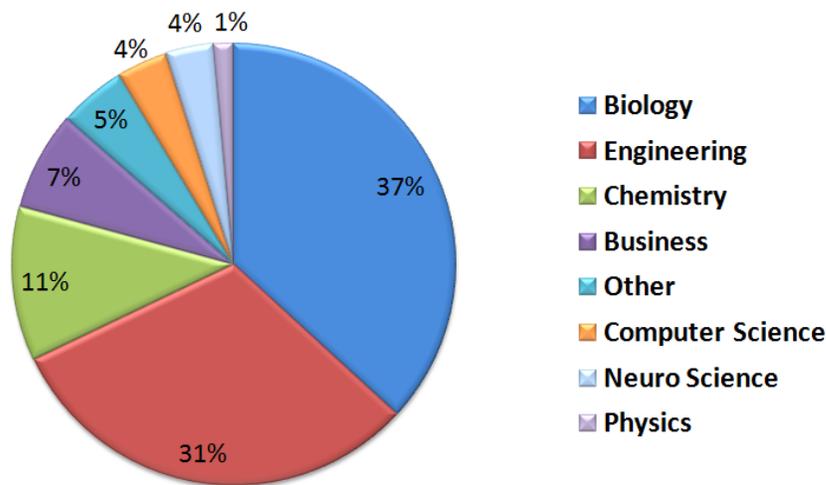
By the Numbers

Since 2009, the Center has funded 562 internships at 207 different Massachusetts companies and research institutions

** 106 interns reported that they had been offered employment directly following their internship **

	Summer 2009	Summer 2010	Summer 2011- Spring 2012
Intern Data			
Student applications	508	899	1,333
Interns Placed	104	170	287
# Colleges/Universities (% interns from public institutions)	29 (22%)	47 (32%)	77 (39%)
MA residents	89%	92%	93%

Intern Majors



Intern Sponsor/Company Data

Registered Organizations	77	140	205
Intern Sponsors	59	94	154

Geographic and Sub-sector Distributions

