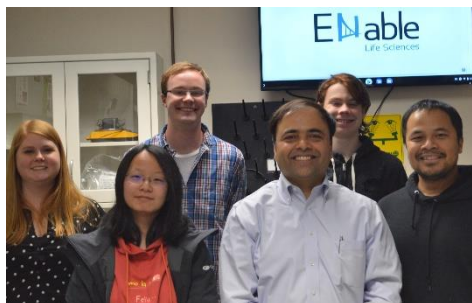


Internship Challenge



The capital of scientific revolution.



“The hope for any company taking those first few steps was to get more hands and more brains in the lab and have access to a talent pool, which is made possible by the MLSC. You not only have the ability to get positions funded in a very well structured program, but as a company, we are provided access to a database of students who are willing, able, and eager to take part in internships. This is a powerful resource to tap into.”

Rachit Ohri Ph.D.
Founder and CEO
Enable Life Sciences

Program Overview

The Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (MLSC) *Internship Challenge* creates hundreds of new internship opportunities each year for college students interested in pursuing careers in the life sciences industry. The program connects employers with students through an online platform and provides funding to enable small companies to hire paid interns. Offered year-round, this workforce development program enhances the talent pipeline for Massachusetts companies engaged in life sciences.

Program Objectives

- Provide students with direct exposure to the Massachusetts life sciences ecosystem and entrepreneurs
- Retain life sciences talent in Massachusetts
- Build a robust pipeline of life science workers to meet the future needs of the state’s life science industry
- Enable small businesses to offer paid internships and mentor students
- Support the growth of smaller life sciences companies by providing/subsidizing human capital

How the Program Works

- Internships can be part or full time and can take place any time during the Program Year, from May 1st through April 30th.
- Students submit an online application, which includes their resume and cover letter. The application period for each new Program Year opens in January. There is no application deadline.
- Companies interested in hosting interns register online, review applications and hire candidates with the qualifications that are most suited to their needs.
- MLSC reimburses eligible companies for intern wages of up to \$17 per hour, for a total reimbursement of up to \$8,160 per intern (based on 12 weeks of full-time work).

For more information, please visit masslifesciences.com/programs/internship-challenge or email internship@masslifesciences.com

Internship Challenge

Case Study

Gardner-based company, New England Peptide's full-time headcount has grown steadily, currently around 60 employees, with significant growth in the past few years. The MLSC's Internship Challenge continues to be key to that growth. The company is the largest user of the program in the decade since the Internship Challenge launched, having provided more than 30 internship opportunities.



"My internship helped me understand what I wanted to do, learn about the culture of the company, and how I could contribute all at once."

Alyce Buchenan
Synthesis Manager (former intern)
New England Peptide

Eligibility Requirements

Interns must be college students or recent graduates that are Massachusetts residents or attend a Massachusetts academic institution. 4-year college/university students must be completing at least their freshman year prior to the start of the internship. All 2-year/community college/certificate students, Master's degree students, and recent graduates that completed their degree/certificate within the past year are eligible.

Host companies must be located in Massachusetts and engaged in life sciences. Companies must have 100 or fewer employees in MA (up to 250 worldwide) to be eligible for the subsidy. Larger companies are also encouraged to participate, but cannot be reimbursed for intern wages. Companies are expected to provide a hands-on learning experience and at least one mentor that directly oversees the internship.

Impact

As the MLSC's longest-running program, the Internship Challenge has become the largest state-sponsored internship program in the U.S. and served as a model for similar programs across the country. Since the program's inception in 2009, more than 4,600 internships with over 800 companies were supported for students representing 240 different academic institutions.