



High-School Students Internship Programme

Mission

This programme is meant to give young people the opportunity to work hands-on in an international research laboratory. It is intended to instil curiosity and motivate high-school students to take on a career in science, engineering, or another subject related to fundamental research.

Programme Description

The target audience is high-school students aged 16+. Currently, this is a pilot programme with five to six invited countries per year.

CERN gives high-school students the possibility to experience work at an international research laboratory through work shadowing, own projects, and own insights, and provides a frame programme to highlight the laboratory of CERN and Genève Internationale.

Up to 24 high-school students each from one country are welcomed in a two-week internship, lodged at the CERN Hotel. Groups need to be accompanied by two adults from their country.

Selection

The selection of the participants is done by their home country through a fair and transparent process overseen by CERN.

Typical Programme

Sunday (week 0)

- arrival and welcome

Monday (week 1)

- introduction to CERN, meeting with the supervisors, welcome activities, safety courses, formalities

Tuesday-Friday (week 1)

- start at the workplace
- daytime: work at the designated workplace
- evening: social programme or free time

Weekend (week 1)

- social programme or free time

Monday-Wednesday (week 2)

- daytime: work at the designated workplace
- evening: social programme or free time

Thursday (week 2)

- preparing of the final presentations

Friday (week 2)

- check-out formalities
- presentations of their work and achievements

Saturday (week 2)

- departure

The programme is complemented with visits and lectures, keeping the spirit of job shadowing as the main objective.

Programme Organisation

The programme is financed by CERN for up to five programmes per year.

The financing includes the travel of the participants (incl. the accompanying adults) up to 500 CHF/person, their stay in the CERN Hotel, as well as lunch cards for the CERN Restaurants, passes for public transportation and social events.

Key Personnel

The programme is coordinated by IR-ECO-TSP.

Each country needs to provide

- one national contact in the country in order to run the selection process and deal with national regulations and the travel arrangements of the group,
- one national contact at CERN, recruiting the supervisors for the high-school students and assist with the frame programme, and
- two accompanying adults, who take the trip together with the high-school students, stay with them in the CERN Hotel, support the students with their projects and run the social programme.

Communication Strategy

The programme was announced to the CERN Council in 2016 and communicated to CERN members-of-personnel.

CERN communicates on each programme through the established channels.

In the respective countries, communication should be led by the Council Delegates, the member of the Teacher and Student Forum, as well as the national contacts.

Monitoring

Doctoral and post-doctoral researchers of IR-ECO-TSP provide scientific monitoring of the programme in the framework of Physics Education Research.

The programme in general is monitored through the Teacher and Student Forum.