

# STUDENT OUTREACH PROGRAMS & SCHOLARSHIPS



Naval Surface Warfare Center Philadelphia Division

<https://www.navsea.navy.mil/Home/Warfare-Centers/NSWC-Philadelphia/>



## Student Programs & Scholarships

Student Programs & scholarships are identified by education level and program type.



High School & Under



Undergraduate or Graduate



Scholarships and Fellowships



Paid Internship  
(Federal Civilian Employment)



Tuition & Books



Capstone, Research, and Projects

## Student Employment Program (SEP)

The Student Employment Program offers students the opportunity to work as federal civilian employees while working to support the Navy. Many universities offer credits for students enrolled in their cooperative education program.

### Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Student Employment Program (SSEP)

**Specific Eligibility:** Must be enrolled or have acceptance for enrollment in a program of undergraduate or graduate instruction leading to a bachelor's or advanced degree in a STEM course of study. This includes students enrolled in a 2-year university parallel or equivalent program designed specifically for transfer to a 4-year institution. Students must be enrolled at least half-time as defined by the institution.

### Professional, Administrative, Assistant, Clerical and Technician Student Employment Program (PAACTSEP)

**Specific Eligibility:** Must be enrolled or have acceptance for enrollment in a program of secondary or post-secondary instruction leading to a bachelor's degree, advanced degree, or certificate equivalent to at least one academic year of full-time study.

#### Eligibility:

- Minimum cumulative and semester GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale
- If applying for Tuition Assistance Program, minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale is required
- Successful completion of at least 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours of post-high school education
- Must complete 640 hours of work in the SEP prior to graduation to be eligible for conversion to conditional employment or be eligible for work requirement waiver.
- For applicants seeking an associate's degree, academic coursework must be transferable to a four-year college or university, and the applicant must intend to transfer to a four-year college or university to pursue a bachelor's degree.
- Must be a citizen of the United States at the time of application.
- Ability to obtain and maintain a security clearance.

**Application:** Year-round through direct University announcements or NSWCPD advertisement for inbox open to the public.

## SMART

The Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship-for-Service Program, funded by the Department of Defense (DoD), is a combined educational and workforce development opportunity for STEM students. With a full scholarship, students pursuing STEM degrees will be able to focus on complex research to further the DoD's mission and create a lasting impact. Summer internships are performed at DoD facilities alongside scientists and engineers; these experiences prepare scholars for full-time employment and get them accustomed to working with the DoD. SMART is a one-for-one commitment; for every year of degree funding, the scholar commits to working for a year with the DoD as a civilian employee.

**Eligibility:**

- Minimum cumulative and semester GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- Undergraduate applicants must be currently enrolled in a regionally accredited U.S. college or university.
- Graduate applicants must be enrolled in a regionally accredited U.S. college or university or awaiting notification of admission.
- Pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in a qualifying STEM discipline.
- Must accept post-graduate employment with DoD.
- Must be a citizen of the United States at the time of application.
- Ability to obtain and maintain a security clearance.

**Application:** August – early December**Link:** <https://www.smartscholarship.org/smart>**DoD College Acquisition Internship Program (DCAIP)**

DCAIP is a paid, 10- to 12- week summer internship that provides students with real-world exposure to Department of Defense acquisition workforce career opportunities. Student interns gain experience in career fields available within the Acquisition workforce such as: Engineering, Contracting, Logistics, Business - Financial Management, Business - Cost Estimating, Information Technology, Test & Evaluation, Industrial Contract Property Management, Purchasing, Science and Technology, Production, Quality and Manufacturing, Facilities Engineering, and Program Management. Students selected will work full-time (40 hours/week) between May/June and August of each year.

**Eligibility:**

- Minimum cumulative and semester GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- Be enrolled full-time as a sophomore or junior in an undergraduate program at an accredited university and have completed a minimum of 24 credit hours toward a specific degree program.
- Be available for the 10- to 12-week summer program in May/June through August.
- Must be a citizen of the United States at the time of application.
- Ability to obtain and maintain a security clearance.

**Application:** October**Link:** <https://www.dau.edu/hci/acq-career-internship>**DoD Cyber Service Academy (CSA)**

The DoD CSA (formerly the DoD Cyber Scholarship Program) is both a scholarship program for the DoD, and a capacity building tool for the nation. The program is a result of commitment from DoD and Congress to support higher education to prepare the DoD workforce to deal with threats against the Department's critical information system and networks. As a recruitment tool, the DoD CSA sponsors students who currently are not DoD or government employees who are enrolled in or applying to universities designated as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity. Following graduation, students are eligible for full-time employment with various components and agencies across the DoD. Students are required to work for the DoD a minimum of one year for each year of scholarship support they receive.

**Eligibility:**

- Undergraduate Students must have a 3.2 GPA. Graduate Students must have a 3.5 GPA. Students must maintain the minimum GPAs while in the program.
- Be enrolled (or accepted for enrollment) in one of the identified CAE colleges or universities or enrolled (or accepted for enrollment) at an institution selected by a CAE as a collaborative partner for these purposes.

- Must have completed, or will have completed, at a minimum, the first two years of an undergraduate degree program and be eligible to (a) begin either the third or fourth year of an undergraduate degree program; (b) begin the first or second year of a Master's degree program; or (c) pursue doctoral studies.
- Must be pursuing a course of study and/or have a declared major in one of the scientific, technical, or managerial disciplines related to cybersecurity or with a concentration in cyber security.
- Must accept post-graduate employment with DoD.
- Must be a citizen of the United States at the time of application.
- Ability to obtain and maintain a security clearance.

**Application:** November - February

**Link:** <https://www.cyber.mil/dod-workforce-innovation-directorate/csa/>



The Naval Research Enterprise Internship Program (NREIP) provides an opportunity for college students to participate in research at a Navy laboratory during the summer. NREIP provides competitive research internships to undergraduate students and graduate students each year. Participating students spend ten weeks during the summer conducting research at participating Navy laboratories.

**Eligibility:**

- Applicants must be rising sophomores or equivalent; must be on track to complete freshman year by the start of the internship.
- Students attending two-year colleges, who meet the major and credit requirements (majors should be relevant to the lab's research interests; 31-credit minimum) may be eligible at the laboratory's discretion.
- Students graduating the Spring semester before the summer internship are eligible to apply. Students expected to graduate college during the Winter semester and not enrolling in graduate school before the summer internship, are not eligible.

**Application:** August 1st – November 1st

**Link:** <https://navalsteminterns.us/nreip>



The Naval Acquisition Development Program (NADP) is a two to three year leadership and development program designed to enhance the professional knowledge and capabilities of personnel recruited into the Acquisition Workforce (AWF) for the Department of the Navy (DON). The NADP is managed by the Naval Acquisition Career Center (NACC) in a joint effort with naval commands to replenish and sustain the acquisition workforce by providing entry level positions across the country, to include Hawaii and Guam. These civilian career opportunities start at the GS-7 or GS-9 level depending upon education and job series requirements with promotion potential to the GS-12 level.

**Eligibility:**

- Minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- Meet qualification requirements as set forth by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) for the Occupational Job Series and grade. In most cases, a Bachelor's Degree.
- Must be a citizen of the United States at the time of application.
- Ability to obtain and maintain a security clearance.

**Application:** Year-round

**Link:** <https://www.secnav.navy.mil/rda/workforce/pages/nadp.aspx>

## National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship Program (NDSEG)

The DoD National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate (NDSEG) Fellowship Program is a competitive fellowship that is awarded to U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, and U.S. dual citizens who intend to pursue a Doctoral degree aligned to the DoD services Broad Agency Announcements (BAAs) in research and development at a U.S. institution of their choice.

### Eligibility:

- Must have completed your undergraduate studies prior to the commencement of the fellowship year. For example, if applying for 2026 fellowship year, you must have completed your undergraduate studies as of 2025.
- Be applying to, accepted to, or currently enrolled at an accredited graduate-level institution within the United States. If enrolled, you must be or near the beginning (within first 2 years) of your Graduate study in Science or Engineering.
- Have at \*least\* THREE remaining years in your graduate degree program at the time of application.
- Be pursuing research in alignment with one or more specific topics identified in the Department of Defense's Broad Agency Announcements (BAAs).
- Must be a citizen of the United States at the time of application.
- Attending an accredited U.S. institution of higher education
- Fellow may not accept simultaneous remuneration from another fellowship

**Application:** August 15 – November 15

**Link:** <https://ndseg.sysplus.com/>

## Naval Engineering Education Consortium (NEEC)

The Naval Engineering Education Consortium (NEEC) program employs project-based research at colleges and universities that targets the Navy's technology needs and cultivates a world-class Naval Engineering workforce via student participation. Formal NEEC partnerships are established via grants that define Naval-related projects with student participation. The grant process initiated by a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) provides a way for our technical workforce to connect with expertise and students (as potential employees) at the academic institution. The NEEC BAA is posted in the fall on [grants.gov](https://grants.gov).

**Link:** <https://www.navsea.navy.mil/Home/Warfare-Centers/Partnerships/NEEC/>

## Science and Engineering Apprenticeship Program (SEAP)

The Science and Engineering Apprenticeship Program (SEAP) provides an opportunity for high school students to participate in research at a Navy laboratory. Participating students spend eight weeks during the summer doing research at participating Navy laboratories.

### Eligibility:

- High school students who have completed at least Grade 9 (including graduating seniors) are eligible to apply.
- Candidates must be at least 16 of age to work in most laboratories.
- Must be currently enrolled in high school (but may be taking college level classes for college credit)
- Must be a citizen of the United States at the time of application.

**Application:** August 1st – November 1st

**Link:** <https://navalsteminterns.us/seap>

## FIRST Robotics (PK-12)

<https://www.firstinspires.org/>

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is a global nonprofit organization that prepares young people for the future through a suite of inclusive, team-based robotics programs for ages 4-18 (PreK-12).

NSWCPD aides in the facilitation of grant requests for the FIRST robotics programs for access to materials and travel to qualifying national competition(s) as well as direct mentor support for teams and judging support for local competitions

- FIRST Lego League (PK-8 grade) <https://www.firstlegoleague.org/>
- FIRST Tech Challenge (7-12 grade) <https://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/ftc>
- FIRST Robotics Competition (9-12 grade) <https://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/frc>

## Naval Robotics Programs (4-12, University)

NSWCPD runs the GPSSC program and provides resources for competing (SeaPerch and SeaGlide) teams including kits and training. NSWCPD also provides mentorship for RoboBoat, RoboSub, PEP, and MATE teams.

Greater Philadelphia SeaPerch and SeaGlide Challenge <http://www.phillynavalstem.com/>

- SeaPerch (grades 4-12) <https://seaperch.org/>
- SeaGlide (grades 7-12) <https://seaglide.org/>

RoboBoat <https://roboboat.org/>

RoboBoat is an international student competition. Teams from around the world design autonomous, robotic boats (or ASVs) to navigate through a challenge course.

RoboSub <https://robosub.org/about/>

RoboSub is an international student competition. Student teams from around the world design and build robotic submarines, otherwise known as Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUV). The behaviors demonstrated by these experimental AUVs mimics those of real-world systems, currently deployed around the world for underwater exploration, seafloor mapping, and sonar localization, amongst many others.

American Society of Naval Engineers – Promoting Electric Propulsion (PEP)

<https://www.navalengineers.org/Education/Promoting-Electric-Propulsion-PEP>

The Naval Engineering community needs a more diverse, energetic workforce ready to tackle modern problems. PEP empowers students with knowledge and real-world experience. This senior project is consistently one of the most sought-after options in ME departments. This program brings new perspectives to naval engineering and prepares them to be successful upon graduation.

Mate ROV Competition <https://materovcompetition.org/>

MATE's mission is to inspire and challenge students to learn and creatively apply STEM skills to solving real-world problems in a way that strengthens their critical thinking, collaboration, entrepreneurship, and innovation; and prepares them for the Blue Economy workforce.

## Temple University Greater Philadelphia STEM Center & STEM-UP

Greater Philadelphia STEM Center Summer Camp (6-12) <http://stem.cst.temple.edu/>

- Project-focused daily activities exploring robotics, coding, electronic circuits, engineering design principles, and underwater robotics challenges.
- Tours of our Light Aircraft Dynamics Flight Control Simulator and other related programs may be available at Temple University Main Campus or Temple University Ambler Campus. (all ages).

STEM-UP Leadership Experience (9-12) <http://stem.cst.temple.edu/>

- 6-week STEM program open to students in grades 9-12

- College-level courses that include laboratory (biology, chemistry, physics, data/computer science, mathematics, and science fair/research projects.

## University City Science Center FirstHand Program

NSWCPD collaborates with the Naval Information Warfare Center, Pacific (NIWC-PAC) to conduct an 8 week high school cybersecurity sprint at the University City Science Center's FirstHand program, designed to expose students to STEM careers, learn valuable skills, and earn internship opportunities. Students can also earn a stipend by participating. This program is a great fit for any student who is interested in Computer Science and Information Technology (IT).

**Cybersecurity Sprint (9-12)** <https://sciencecenter.org/programs/firsthand>

**Application:** Fall & Spring

## Veterans to Naval Careers (VNC)

Formerly known as Veterans to Energy Careers (VTEC). Veterans to Naval Careers (VNC) recruits and develops the future Veteran workforce leading the scientific research and technology development for the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps through partnerships with academia, industry, and government. VNC is for full-time student veteran or transitioning service members (within 6 months of separation) interested in career leading the scientific research and technology development for the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps.

### Eligibility:

- Must be a citizen of the United States.
- Must be a Department of Defense veteran.
- Must be a full-time student.
- Minimum 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Ability to pass a drug test.

**Application:** Spring

**Link:** <https://veteranstonavalcareers.org/>

## Additional Resources

- Single drop-in classroom sessions available on the following topics: wave mechanics (grades 1-12), soft robotics (grades 3-12), aerodynamics (grades 1-12), rocket science (grades 1-12), cybersecurity (grades 9-12), power and energy systems (grades 9-12), thermal management and heat transfer (grades 9-12), computer vision (9-12), additive manufacturing (grades 3-12), and other technical topics per request. Content can be tailored to the length desired. University level content may also be available upon request. Reach out to [NSWCPD\\_STEM@navy.mil](mailto:NSWCPD_STEM@navy.mil) for more information.
- Capstones, co-ops, and other summer hire opportunities may be available: Please contact us directly at [NSWCPD\\_STEM@navy.mil](mailto:NSWCPD_STEM@navy.mil) for more info.

## Science Fairs

- George Washington Carver Science Fair (grades 4-12) <https://www.carversciencefair.org/>
- Junior Sciences and Humanities Symposium (grades 9-12) <http://stem.cst.temple.edu/jshs.html>
- Delaware Valley Science Fair (grades 7-12) <https://www.dvsf.org/>
- NSWCPD can provide science fair judging support for other local area science fairs. Reach out to [NSWCPD\\_STEM@navy.mil](mailto:NSWCPD_STEM@navy.mil) to learn more!

## Science Festivals & Career Day Events

- NSWCPD participates in numerous career day events and science/STEM festival events annually.
- Engineers and scientists working on shipboard machinery systems are available to talk about their careers one-on-one or in a career panel / moderator format, conduct hands-on STEM demonstrations or lessons on technical topics related to their careers, and more in a classroom or festival setting. Reach out to [NSWCPD\\_STEM@navy.mil](mailto:NSWCPD_STEM@navy.mil) for more details. Career Technical Education, Management, Finance, and Contracts presentations are also available upon request.

## Curriculum Content, Lessons, & Other Resources

- Seaworthy STEM in a Box (K-12) <https://www.navsea.navy.mil/Home/Warfare-Centers/NSWC-Carderock/STEM-Outreach/Seaworthy-STEM-In-a-Box/>
- DoD STEM Resources <https://www.dodstem.us/participate/resources/>
- Naval STEM Resources <https://navalstem.us/>