

ASE Program Requirements and Time Commitments

The following are activities in which all students are required to participate. Time estimates for these activities are minimum estimates spent by each ASE intern.

Program Requirement	Requirement Description	Time Commitment
Student Orientation	Students are given a professional skills training to get them ready for their ASE internship experience.	2 hours
Internship Experience	Students contribute to one or more projects at the mentor's organization throughout the course of the summer.	296 hours
Midsummer Conference	This conference includes: (a) career lectures and seminars led by scientists, engineers and other technical professionals; (b) hands-on workshops in various technical areas such as DNA electrophoresis, measuring air-pollution, and computer modeling; and (c) a workshop on making professional scientific presentations.	10 hours
ASE Symposium	Interns present their summer projects to each other and other guests. This conference includes: a) Each student gives a 15-minute oral presentation presided over by professional scientists or engineers; and b) each student prepares a scientific poster for a 1 hour scientific poster session. When students are not presenting their own projects, they are required to attend sessions where the experiences of other students are described. Students typically spend several hours preparing for the Symposium.	10 hours
Total Minimum Student Hours in ASE Program	This total only includes the internship hours and required ASE events. Student "after hours" preparation will vary, as with any educational experience. Substantial reading is typically assigned by the mentor. In addition to the mandatory activities described below, many program applicants attend one or two 2-hour workshops on essay writing and interviewing skills held in late winter as part of the application process.	318 hours
Other Internship Requirements		
Internship Evaluation with Teacher Monitor	ASE hires high school teachers during the summer that are liaisons between ASE staff and the students and mentors. Students must complete an evaluation of their experience with the teacher monitor twice during the summer.	
Internship Summary and Thank You Letters	Interns must write a 500 word internship summary at the end of their internship summarizing their project and what they learned during the summer. This summary is often used by the student to develop their Symposium presentation. The student also must write formal thank-you letters to people who made their internship possible. The students are given training on writing thank-you letters as many of the letters go to high-level professionals in the academic, business, and governmental sectors.	

Questions? Please contact ASE: 503-200-5860, ase@saturdayacademy.org

