



NEW EXPERIENCES

« PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATORS, STUDENTS AND SMALL BUSINESSES



Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology

Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology (OCAST) is the state's technology-based economic development agency and is Oklahoma's only agency whose sole focus is technology – its development, transfer and commercialization.

Through OCAST, Oklahomans are developing the products, technology and treatments of tomorrow.

OCAST improves Oklahoma's economy by providing support to researchers throughout the state.

OCAST fosters innovation in existing and developing businesses by:

- Supporting basic and applied research.
- Facilitating technology transfer between research laboratories, universities and farms.
- Providing seed capital for new, innovative firms and their products.
- Fostering enhanced competitiveness in the national and international markets for small- and medium-sized manufacturing firms in Oklahoma by stimulating productivity and modernizing firms.

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R&D INTERN PARTNERSHIPS



Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology



R&D INTERN PARTNERSHIPS

The R&D Intern Partnerships (RDIP) program is a winning solution for Oklahoma's undergraduate students, faculty who teach undergraduate students and Oklahoma's technology-based businesses.

These partnerships support college undergraduate student internships in Oklahoma by encouraging students to prepare for careers in science and technology. In addition to traditional student internships, OCAST also funds internships for faculty members who regularly teach undergraduate students. This provides the opportunity for educators to enhance their background through internships at Oklahoma high-tech companies.

Internships provide undergraduate students and faculty members hands-on experience with R&D in a workplace environment. The program builds bridges between industry and academia to achieve mutually beneficial research goals.



Benefits for student:

- Gains real-life experience that may expedite permanent employment post-graduation
- Connects students to mentors
- Provides substantive income while working in their major field of study
- Many students who participate in the program progress into graduate-level degrees

Benefits for faculty interns:

- Goes past theory into hands-on professional development and career enhancement
- Allows faculty to take real-life experiences back into the classroom

Benefits for industry:

- Builds collaborative relationships with academic institutions to share research resources
- Subsidizes labor and supply costs for problem-solving research and development
- Allows employers to screen for future employees

The R&D Intern Partnerships program is an important step in keeping Oklahoma's best and brightest in the state and connecting them to high-paying, technically challenging jobs.

OCAST funding for R&D Intern Partnerships provides \$10,000 to \$30,000 per year for one- to two-year projects. The sponsoring technology-based business supplies the required match.

The program is limited to students who anticipate receiving an undergraduate degree from an Oklahoma college or university.

To learn more about OCAST and R&D Intern Partnerships, visit www.ocast.state.ok.us.