

Scholarship and Internship Policy

The Colorado Science and Engineering Fair (CSEF) is a premiere event designed to promote and highlight science, engineering, and technology research of students in grades 6 through 12. This event brings together over 300 of Colorado's top young scientists from around the state who have previously competed at one of thirteen regional science fairs.

The awarding of scholarships and internships at CSEF is an opportunity for scientific and engineering societies; agencies of the federal government; colleges and universities; and businesses to highlight and promote their organization. All sponsoring organizations and their awards must adhere to the principles and philosophy of the Colorado State Science Fair, Inc. (CSSF) as expressed in its mission statement:

The Colorado State Science Fair, Inc. honors excellence in science, engineering and technology; providing opportunities for students from all regions of the state to create and present their research in environments that nurture interests in science and technology; promoting professional skills, high ethical standards, diversity, and continuing intellectual development.

CSEF would like to encourage sponsors of scholarships and internships to consider quality, not quantity, when establishing these awards. These awards may include full or partial tuition scholarships, summer internships, travel to research facilities, book or equipment grants, and guaranteed admission. The equivalent cash value of these awards is unlimited.

Organizations desiring to establish scholarships or internships should contact the Chair of the Scholarship/Internship Committee. All organizations desiring to award scholarships/internships at the CSEF must develop a written proposal that will be presented to the CSEF Board of Directors for review and action. Bullet points to guide proposal preparation are found below.

Sponsors of these awards are strongly encouraged to provide their own judges and arrange for a representative to be present at the Awards Ceremony to present their awards. If the actual award cannot be presented to the awardee(s) at the Awards Ceremony, they should present a letter with pertinent information on the organization's letterhead at the ceremony.

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The following items should be considered when developing the proposal.

General Considerations:

- target audience [grade level(s), type(s) of project(s), etc.]
- special restrictions - citizenship, grade level, plans to attend an institution of higher education, student availability and interest, etc.
- number of scholarships/internships
- funding level/items covered (tuition, room and board, number of years, transportation, etc.)
- selection criteria (from place award winners or open to all student participants, sponsor specific criteria)- consider scientific merit, sponsor criteria, etc.
- who selects winners (CSEF or sponsor)
- award presenter (CSEF or sponsor)
- plaque/certificate to acknowledge presentation of the award
- disbursement of the award

Scholarship Specific Considerations:

- renewability (criteria - GPA, hour requirements, etc.) establishment term of award

Internship Specific Considerations:

- creation of a job description/statement of work - include information on work site location, background information of the project, responsibilities, and time period of the internship
- supervision
- compensation/reimbursement/pay
- safety and liability
- housing and transportation
- student reporting at end of the internship (seminar, written report, presentation at a professional meeting, etc.)