Project SEED 2020:
A Virtual Summer Camp Experience
Today’s Town Hall

We will answer audience questions at the end of the presentation. You can enter questions into the chat box at any time. Note that we will take a few moments during the presentation to answer the most likely questions.

Today’s Chat

• What does a normal Project SEED Summer look like?
• How will the Project SEED Virtual Summer Camp compare?
• Quick Pause for Likely Questions
  • Camp structure
  • Potential schedule, activities, and assignments
• Next steps
• Q&A

A copy of this presentation and a link to the recording will be made available tomorrow.
What does a *typical* Project SEED Summer Look Like?

- Each summer, 400+ students across the US and Puerto Rico participate in Project SEED
- Students work side-by-side with scientists on research projects for 8-10 weeks for about 8 hours each weekday
- Students are paid stipends for their work
- Students that successfully complete the program and interested in pursuing chemistry-related majors in college can apply for one-time and renewable college scholarships

Research in a university, government, industry or non-profit lab.

Presenting and reporting at poster sessions, science fairs/competitions, ACS local section events or national meetings

Social and professional development activities, such as lab or college campus tours, career panels, socials, etc.

Photos provided by coordinators, Don Warner (Snake River ACS Local Section) and Elmer Sanders (Indianapolis ACS Local Section)
How will Summer 2020 be different?

To ensure the safety of our students and volunteers, all research programs for Project SEED cancelled for 2020.

In place of in-person research projects, ACS will host a virtual summer camp experience instead.
Virtual Summer Camp Plan

The camp will expand some of the non-research benefits into a 4-week experience.

The camp will focus on three objective areas:

- **Research basics and preparedness**
  - Take an online lab safety course
  - Learn about ethics in research

- **Professional etiquette and college readiness**
  - Improve resume and personal statement writing skills
  - Learn professional communication strategies and tips

- **Exposure to research areas and chemistry-related careers**
  - Learn how small projects connect to the larger research objective
  - Engage in a career panel and hear from chemists about their everyday work
Virtual Summer Camp Plan

• The camp will take place July 6 – July 31

• Students will have interactive structured activities and independent assignments

• All structured activities will take place Monday – Friday, generally scheduled between 9am and 5pm (plan to spend 2-4 hours per day on camp activities)

• Students should expect to spend 10-20 hours per week between activities and assignments

• Students will receive a stipend of $1,000
Camp Structure

- Student will be grouped with 9 other SEED students, or **Cabins**
Camp Structure

• Students will be grouped with 9 other SEED students, or **Cabins**

• Each cabin will be led by a pair of **Cabin Leaders** (Cabin Leaders will be college and graduate students).
Camp Structure

- Students will be grouped with 9 other SEED students, or **Cabins**
- Each cabin will be led by a pair of **Cabin Leaders** (Cabin Leaders will be college and graduate students).
- Between 2 and 3 cabins will be grouped together into **Campsites** and led by **Camp Managers** (professionals working as professors, scientists, high school teachers, etc.).
**Camp Roles**

### Campsite Manager
- Manages all cabin leaders
- Hosts a once weekly campsite campfire
- Handles any escalated issues or challenges
- Adds any unique campsite activities

### Cabin Leader
- Meets with students regularly
- Grades and edits assignments; provides feedback
- Answers questions
- Handles any quick technical issues

### SEED Student
- Complete and submit assignments
- Participate in cabin campfires
- Participate in campsite campfires
- Participate in online interactive activities
## Example of National Camp Itinerary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tues</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thurs</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 2: Careers and research in chemistry</td>
<td>Campsite Campfire Cabin Campfire Panel – chemistry careers</td>
<td>Research Hike Webinar – Research skills</td>
<td>Cabin Campfire</td>
<td>Research Hike</td>
<td>Cabin Campfire</td>
<td>Research summary in format of choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3: Safety and lab training</td>
<td>Campsite Campfire Cabin Campfire</td>
<td>Research Hike Webinar – Research skills</td>
<td>Cabin Campfire</td>
<td>Research Hike</td>
<td>Cabin Campfire</td>
<td>Virtual safety training Safety Challenge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4: Wrap-up and Virtual Conference</td>
<td>Campsite Campfire Cabin Campfire</td>
<td>Campsite Presentations</td>
<td>Cabin Campfire Conference – Day 1</td>
<td>Conference – Day 2</td>
<td>Cabin Campfire Wrap-up Assignment and survey completion</td>
<td>Final drafts of statement, resume, and research summary due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Target 10-15 hours of structured activity per week
Students would have an additional 5-10 hours per week to complete assignments
Example of National Camp Itinerary

**Monday**
- **Intro** - 60 minutes
  Kickoff event for all participants
- **Campsite Fire** - 30 minutes
  Introductions with campsite manager
- **Cabin Meeting** - 30 minutes
  Introductions with cabin leaders
- **Assignment**
  Locate online tools and bookmark relevant pages

**Tuesday**
- **Webinar 1** - 60 minutes
  Professional Etiquette
- **Assignment 1**
  Introduce yourself to your cabin leaders and campsite manager via email using tips from webinar

**Wednesday**
- **Webinar 2** - 60 minutes
  Professional Etiquette
- **Cabin Meeting** - 60 Minutes
  Discuss prior webinars, recap personal statement assignment, and Q&A session
- **Assignment 2**
  College Personal Statement
  Draft due on 7/10

**Thursday**
- **Webinar 3** - 60 minutes
  Financial Aid and Scholarships
- **Assignment 3**
  Exit ticket/quiz on webinar

**Friday**
- **Webinar 4** - 60 minutes
  Resume Building
- **Cabin Meeting** - 60 Minutes
  Check-ins, discuss assignments, and Q&A session
- **Assignment 4**
  Student resume

Target 10-15 hours of structured activity per week
Students would have an additional 5-10 hours per week to complete assignments
Potential Webinar and Session Topics

Below is a list of possible sessions and topics for webinars and panels. It is not exhaustive, but represents the types of topics that align with the program objectives.

• Resume writing
• Personal statement/essays for college or scholarship applications
• How to learn chemistry at the undergraduate level
• Tips and tricks to manage the college and scholarship application process
• Professional communication strategies
• Ethics of research
• Research “hikes” – research topic of the day with the connection between how an experiment links to the research objectives and purpose
• How to read and understand technical papers
What you’ll need to participate

• **Parent/guardian permission to participate (unless you are over age 18)**
  – Yes, you had to confirm that your parent or guardian permitted approval in the first application, but now that we are changing the program model, you will need to confirm that your parent is still on board.

• **An operable email address**
  – Make sure that you check your email daily. Updates will be coming quickly since we are changing plans so quickly.

• **Consistent access to the following**
  – A laptop, Chromebook, or desktop computer
  – Consistent and reliable internet access
  – You will be using your laptop to access Zoom meetings, access multiple web pages and online training modules, create word or presentation documents (can be done using Microsoft, Apple, or Google Suite)

• **Be sure to accurately indicate what you have access to in the follow-up application!**
Financial Eligibility

• Eligibility Requirements
  – Family annual adjusted gross income must be 200% or less of the Federal Poverty Guidelines based on family size
  – You can find these details on the “Apply” section of the website
  – Under 200% is eligible, between 200 and 300% may be considered

• Uploading your tax summary (Form 1040)
  – Go to bit.ly/seedfinancialform to upload document
  – 2018 or 2019 filing years can be used
  – The tax summary should include the student listed as dependent and the Adjusted Gross Income (this is usually line 7 or 8b)
  – Please redact (scratch out) the social security numbers

• Parent/Guardian Does Not Have 1040?
  – Have them reach out to our office via email (projectseed@acs.org)
Next Steps – Completing the Application

- **STEP 1**: Complete the online application
  - You must complete and submit the online application to receive the links for the next two steps
- **STEP 2**: Submit financial documents to confirm eligibility
  - You will receive an email with a secured link to upload financial documents
- **STEP 3**: Complete the follow-up application
  - Three short-answer essay questions to help with student selection
- Selected students will be contacted via email in early to mid June.
Likely Questions

• If I could not choose an existing Project SEED site, can I still participate? Yes, go back and enter in a Washington DC address (you can use 1155 16th St NW Washington, DC 20036). Then select the Virtual American Chemical Society site. Email Projectseed@acs.org if you cannot change your address.

• What if I don’t have a device that I can use to participate? Or what if I don’t have internet access at home? The second application will ask what type of devices and internet accessibility you have. ACS will do our part to ensure that accessibility is not a hindrance to your participation if you are selected.

• How will I receive my stipend? All students will be paid with a pre-loaded Visa card. The second application will confirm the best, and most reliable address for you to receive mail.

• If I already applied online, will I automatically be considered for the virtual summer camp? No. The first application was created with the original program model in mind. You MUST opt in to the virtual summer camp by completing the second application in order to be considered.

• Can Summer II students participate? Will there be any difference in the program for Summer II compared to Summer I students? Yes, Summer II students can participate. The program will be no different for Summer II than Summer I since the content is not related to research. There may, however, be content that a student getting ready for college may be more interested in attending. There will be plenty of optional sessions for you to choose from.

• If I have other activities going on during the summer, can I still participate? It depends. You will have to ensure that you are available for your cabin’s three campfires per week and the campsite campfire each week. Most other content is much more flexible (you can either view it live, or watch the recording afterwards). Please mention any potential conflicts you may have in the second application.