Summer Research Program

First-Generation and Underrepresented Students
Majoring in Science, Technology, Engineering or Math
for Fall 2020 First-Year College Students

Are you a senior in high school or a nontraditional student preparing to go to college?

Are you a first-generation college student? The First2 Network defines you as a first-generation student if neither of your custodial parents graduated with a 4-year degree, even if your siblings went to college or your parents have some college.

OR - Are you underrepresented student? In many STEM fields more women, more people of color, and more diversity is needed!

AND - Are you planning to major in science, technology, engineering, or math?

Then you are in the right place!

We are seeking rising freshmen who will be enrolled in a West Virginia college in the fall of 2020, to join a program designed to support rural, first generation students and underrepresented students majoring in STEM fields.

Do research this summer and get a leg up on your STEM career.

Do research this summer and get ready to rock your first year of college in your math, science, and computer science classes.

Increase confidence

After participating in First2 Network summer internships, students feel more confident in their ability to do well in STEM courses!

Interns Speak:

“I was interested in science, but I was afraid that I would be behind everyone else. Once I started research though, I learned that this experience was made for people like me, and there was no reason for me to be afraid.”

“It helped me experience college life before I started classes and gave me a support system for when I did start.”
2020 First2 Summer Research Sites

Engage in a 2-week, all-expense paid research internship at one of the many First2 Network research sites. This experience will give you a head-start as a STEM major and could lead to future internships. Selected students will receive a $600 educational stipend as well as travel support upon successful completion of the program.

High Rocks, Hillsboro, WV, is an award-winning youth leadership organization and will be hosting 8 female participants to work in dendrochronology in collaboration with researchers from West Virginia University. July 10 – July 25.

Fairmont State University, Fairmont, WV, will work with Chemours to provide 15 students a unique experience in both academic and industrial laboratories. Students will gain experience in analytical chemistry, solar cells, and microbial communities. July 19 – August 1.

Green Bank Observatory, Green Bank, WV, will host 20 students working in teams to analyze archived Radio Frequency Interference data to curate a categorized and searchable database that includes common RFI features. July 19 – August 1.

Marshall University, Huntington, WV, will host 10 students to conduct research activities in chemistry, biology, computer science, and forensics. Each of the students will meet research faculty in different disciplines and explanations of the support services Marshall provides for undergraduate students. July 19 – August 1.

University of Charleston, Charleston, WV, will host 10 students to learn how to conduct tests on soil samples as part of a national program with the University of Wisconsin and Yale. The participants will be examining the unique Appalachian forest soils for novel antibiotic producing microbes. July 6 – July 19

West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, Lewisburg, WV, will host 8 students who have an interest in pursuing a career in the life sciences. In particular students will gain experience in areas such as bacterial protein toxicity, biomechanics, chemotherapy agents, and femur morphology. July 19 – August 1.

West Virginia State University, Charleston, WV will engage 10 students in the research activities of faculty members which include neural networks, organic synthesis, integrated pest management, novel cancer treatments, and gene expression. July 19 – August 1.

West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, will host 12 students with research opportunities in developmental biology addressing questions related to human and environmental health and geographical mapping of the socio-economic needs of Appalachia. Students intending to major in any STEM discipline will benefit from either research project. July 19 – August 1.

West Virginia University Institute of Technology, Beckley, WV, will host 10 students who have an interest in computer science or computer/electrical engineering. These students will work in developing programs or apps in virtual or augmented reality, inventory management, and computer assisted optimization of solar cells. July 19 – August 1.

Now Accepting Applications:
For Fall 2020 Freshmen as well older undergraduates interested in serving as paid mentors!
For more information and to apply visit us at: https://first2network.org/students/apprisingfresh

Priority Deadline: March 14
Acceptance Begins: April 1
Rolling admissions continue after priority deadline depending on program space.