



UMASS STUDENT FEEDBACK

"I would say that my SAO-UMass/LIP internship was definitely beneficial. The skills I learned at the Harvard & Smithsonian Center were the most important skills I gained period - from any class or internship." -- Nicholas Baeza Hochmuth

"The SAO-UMass/LIP program gave me an internship opportunity, which then turned into a full-time position at the Harvard & Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics as a Physical Scientist. I never imagined that the SAO-UMass/LIP program would be one of the single most important stepping stones towards my professional career development, but if it had not been for the program, then I would not be where I am today."
-- Frances Skinner

"I was grateful to have the opportunity in SAO-UMass/LIP to share and maintain a project that is in use by researchers from all over the world; an opportunity that I have only dreamed about as a computer scientist." -- Lorenzo Barrett

TOP TEN REASONS TO PURSUE A PURSUE AN INTERNSHIP

1. Develop a research project from start to finish with leading STEM researchers
2. Present your results in a poster session at a national conference
3. Receive a competitive stipend of \$6,000 for the summer
4. Benefit from weekly programming classes
5. Take tours of cutting edge research facilities as part of weekly course
6. Get professional advice from your own STEM mentor
7. Find support from a Peer Mentor through weekly meetings about your project
8. Enhance your resume as a fellowship recipient of the Harvard & Smithsonian Center
9. Meet other interns from around the country at ice cream and pizza socials
10. Participate in an outreach project for students

LEARN MORE

www.cfa.harvard.edu/opportunities/lisamp/

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CENTER FOR
ASTROPHYSICS
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HARVARD & SMITHSONIAN



SMITHSONIAN ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY
and UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

LATINO INITIATIVE PROGRAM

Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory-University of Massachusetts/Latino Initiative Program (SAO-UMass/LIP) is a 10-week summer internship program designed for STEM majors affiliated with the Urban Massachusetts Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Program at the University of Massachusetts (UMLSAMP) and Worcester State University. The Program provides undergraduate majors with the opportunity to pursue their own research project with leading researchers on the Harvard University Campus at the Center for Astrophysics | Harvard & Smithsonian (CfA). The CfA joins the research resources of the Harvard College Observatory (HCO) and the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory (SAO), both located in the same headquarters in Massachusetts.

SAO-UMass/LIP offers undergraduate students in UMLSAMP a unique opportunity to develop research, programming, and presentation skills in one of top research centers in the world through a rigorous, individualized, summer internship.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW OF THE SAO-UMASS RESEARCH EXPERIENCE



ELIGIBILITY

Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory-University of Massachusetts Latino Initiative Program (SAO-UMass/LIP) is open to current undergraduate science majors in the Urban Massachusetts Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Program (UMLSAMP). Preference is given to students in their sophomore and junior years as students may be invited to continue on a project at the conclusion of their internship. Additionally, internship assignments require preliminary coursework or skill requirements common to undergraduate students in their second or third year of study.

HOW TO APPLY

To initiate the application, you must contact Ms. Christine Crowley at SAO to find out if you are eligible to become a member of UMLSAMP. The application requires a resume and transcript (copy). These items can be uploaded to the application by the deadline of Wednesday, **March 15, 2023**. Additionally, the reference material should include the name and contact information of two individuals. At least one of these individuals should be a faculty member and a second reference may be a workplace supervisor, academic, or co-op advisor. The Director of SAO-UMass/LIP, Ms. Christine Crowley, will contact you to set up an interview with her and a Co-Director of SAO-UMass/LIP. All applicants will receive notification of their candidacy for a summer internship at the Center for Astrophysics | Harvard & Smithsonian (CfA) through email in March 2023.

LENGTH OF APPOINTMENT

SAO-UMass/LIP is a 3-month summer internship program that starts on June 5, 2023 and ends in August 11, 2023. Students will be invited to present at the American Astrophysical Society (AAS) Conference at the New Orleans Morial Convention Center, Louisiana in January 2024; however, they may also present at the Annual Americans in Science (SACNAS) Conference in late October in Portland, Oregon. Students are expected to spend 35 hours a week at the Center for Astrophysics during the summer.

COMPENSATION

Students will receive a stipend of \$6,000 for the period June 5, 2023 through August 11, 2023. Funding for your stipend—as well as your conference and travel fees—will be funded through the National Museum of the American Latino. Please direct any questions about these expenses to Ms. Christine Crowley, Director of SAO-UMass/LIP.

REQUIREMENTS

Students should plan to spend 35 hours during the week on their internship in the summer. Additionally, they are required to turn in a weekly one-page report outlining their research accomplishments and professional development activities.

In the summer months, students are required to participate in an outreach project to speak with urban students about selecting science as a major in college.

COMMUNITY

The Center for Astrophysics | Harvard & Smithsonian (CfA) is located in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Although located near the Harvard campus, it is nestled within a suburban community that is 15 minute walk from Harvard Square. Although there are over 300 scientific researchers at the Center, visiting students often describe it as “easily the friendliest, most active place they have ever worked”. They also enjoy the “diversity of people and disciplines” as over 30 countries are represented in the Fellowship Programs.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

ADVISOR

Advisors in the Program are carefully selected by the directors to meet the needs and interests of talented STEM majors from UMass and Worcester State University looking to build upon their academic accomplishments from real-world research experiences.

PEER MENTOR

A returning student from the UMass serves as a peer mentor to help the students navigate the Center and their research project to ensure a productive and enjoyable experience for each student.

STEM MENTOR

Talented up-and-coming scientific researchers volunteer to serve as informal career and academic advisors to students. They meet weekly with each student over coffee or lunch.

PROGRAMMING COURSE

Students become proficient in the programming language of Python through a weekly course comprised of local scientific instructors.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSE

Students learn how to advance their writing, presentation, research, and networking skills through a weekly course led by a series of professionals in various fields.

WEEKLY LUNCH WITH PEERS

Students have the opportunity to come together weekly for an informal lunch with their peers as well as the greater intern community.

SEMINARS

Seminars are hosted daily throughout the year and students are encouraged to attend particularly when it relates to their particular professional interests.