

Mentorship Information Sheet

The Biomedical Sciences Program at Bel Air High School is reaching out to industry experts and professionals with the hope that you would be willing to support our program by serving as a mentor to one of our senior students to aid him or her in the completion of a capstone Independent Project. The Biomedical Sciences Program is a four year career completer in which motivated students participate during high school. The Independent Project is a year-long project that students design by themselves in which they combine what they have learned through four years of coursework with a real-world learning experience in order produce an innovative end product that demonstrates the knowledge they have ascertained. Please refer to this sheet for information about the Independent Project and your potential role as a mentor.

What type of real-world learning experience should the students encounter?

Students are free to designate and propose any type of learning experience that meets the requirements of the project. In the past, students have done some of the following:

- Completed an internship in a biomedical field
- Shadowed a biomedical professional
- Observed surgeries or other biomedical procedures
- Gathered and analyzed data and information through interviews or surveys
- Created and carried out a unique experimental design

What type of end products do the students create?

Similar to the previous question, students are free to design and propose any type of product that meets the requirements of the project. In the past, students have done some of the following:

- Designed and drafted an innovative floor plan and blueprint for facilities experienced
- Innovated surgical procedures or biomedical devices
- Created original informational literature to distribute to the public
- Developed and implemented a school or community-based educational event
- Produced and executed a public awareness campaign
- Analyzed and presented data gathered from an experiment

What can a mentor do for a student?

A mentor should serve as a professional resource for students throughout the completion of their projects. The actual tasks and time commitment of a mentor can be determined collaboratively by the student, the mentor and, if necessary, the teacher. The level of time commitment is very flexible and students can cater their projects to the amount of time that a mentor is available. In the past, mentors have done some of the following:

- Provided and worked with students for internship experiences
- Set up or served as focus for observational or shadowing experience
- Assisted students in designing surveys or other data gathering techniques
- Aided students in creating and carrying out an experimental design
- Contributed any types of resources or contacts to students
- Completed interviews for students
- Communicated with and guided students to design projects or make decisions that positively affect the outcome of their experience

What type of timeline does the project follow?

Estimated Dates	General Task	Mentor Involvement
June – Aug.	Students research areas of interest and potential topic ideas. Students brainstorm project ideas and create initial ideas.	Student Only
Aug. – Sept.	Students isolate an idea, perform thorough research, and make contact with potential mentors. Students create a written proposal of their Independent Projects.	Students with input from mentors
Sept. – Oct.	Students meet with teacher to conference about their proposals. Any necessary changes are implemented into proposals and final teacher approval is given.	Student Only
Oct. – May	Students complete Independent Projects. Student learning experience is completed and innovative end product is created. Specific schedule is determined by student/mentor collaboration	Students with input from mentors
May	Students create written reports, portfolios, scientific posters, and presentations to exhibit their entire projects	Student Only

Where can you learn more?

We encourage you to visit the following resources to learn more about our program and this experience:

Bel Air High School Biomedical Sciences Website www.bahsbiomed.com

Our Mentors Page www.bahsbiomed.com/mentors

Project Lead The Way www.PLTW.org

Why should you participate?

The intention of this program is to provide a qualified workforce to our area by preparing students to meet industry standards as well as be critical thinkers that understand the importance of working collaboratively. Your support is crucial to providing a successful experience to our students.

Please contact us with questions about the program or to volunteer as a mentor at (410) 638-4600.

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