# STATE HYGIENIC LABORATORY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

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# Student Mentorship Program

# Nurturing the Next Generation of Scientists

FOR IOWA'S JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS





### **Students**

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE IN A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED LABORATORY? If you are a junior high or high school student with a passion for science, check out the State Hygienic Laboratory's Student Mentorship Program. Through our Student Mentorship Program, our staff helps students develop science projects by providing testing and technical assistance.





## Who We Are

Every state has a lab that performs tests for diseases such as mumps, influenza, rabies, hepatitis and many others. The State Hygienic Laboratory is that state laboratory for lowa.

In addition to clinical testing for diseases, we also perform environmental testing. We test samples collected from streams and lakes for the presence of harmful contaminants, such as pesticides. We collect samples of air to measure particulates that can make breathing difficult. Our scientists look for the presence of numerous metals, including lead, arsenic and mercury.

The Hygienic Laboratory's Newborn Screening section tests infants for conditions that can cause developmental delays or death if left untreated. We provide this screening as part of the lowa Newborn Screening Program.

## What is a Student Mentorship?

The Student Mentorship Program includes lab testing and scientific expertise to help students take an idea for research as a science project. Students and teachers work together to create an idea for a project. They submit the idea along with the completed application.

# What Kinds of Projects are Chosen?

The State Hygienic Laboratory wants your ideas for a creative science project with a lab testing component. Some of the projects include

- Checking the roots of plants for pesticides
- Testing toothbrushes for bacteria
- · Measuring second-hand smoke and air quality

#### **REQUIREMENTS:**

- · Students must be in junior high or high school.
- Teachers serve as the student mentor and interface between the lab and student.
- Projects must have scientific merit as determined by teachers and the lab.
- Completed applications are due December 1.

## Submitting Your Application

Include a summary of the following from you and your teacher.

- Project Description
- Project Objectives
- · Testing Desired
- Background Information
- · Literature or other references used for project
- · Other pertinent information



Completed applications are due no later than December 1. Forms are available on the Education/Training page of our website:

shl.uiowa.edu/edtrain/opp/Applicationform.pdf



If you have any questions, please email

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