

December 9, 2019

Dear Instructor, Student Advisor, or Professor,

We would like to invite your undergraduate students to apply to the **2020 Plant Genome Research Program Summer Internship (NSF REU) at the Boyce Thompson Institute and Cornell University**. Please share this opportunity broadly with your students and biology departments.

*The enclosed poster can be displayed and used as a tool in announcing this opportunity to your students.*

*The digital version can be requested by emailing: [internships@btiscience.org](mailto:internships@btiscience.org)*

For the past 19 years, the National Science Foundation has supported this outstanding student-development program that focuses on training and inspiring the next generation of scientists. With over 30 participating research laboratories, we are able to design summer research projects that match student interests while challenging them to reach new levels of scientific understanding and personal development.

Internships are open to motivated and curious students, who have good foundations in biology. Some advanced coursework in chemistry, genetics, plant biology, math and computational biology is helpful, but *not* necessary. Interns will receive hands-on laboratory training, participate in weekly seminars and gain exposure to a range of topics in plant biology, bioinformatics, genomics, molecular biology, biochemistry. Interns will also participate in science communications training and an in-depth bioinformatics course. Preference will be given to students who demonstrate a genuine interest in plant science and desire to do research. Our commitment to broadening participation in science is strong. On average, 55% of our interns are from non-PhD granting colleges, 40% are first generation students and over 50% of our interns identify as an underrepresented minority. We hope you will assist us in identifying exceptional students for our program.

**The program application deadline is Friday, February 7, 2020.** Selected undergraduate students will be fully supported and receive housing on Cornell's campus, a meal allowance, travel subsidy, and a generous stipend for 10 weeks. Local high school interns receive a seven-week stipend.

**Additional information and the online application portal can be found here:**

**[www.BTiscience.org/internships](http://www.BTiscience.org/internships)**

**Please feel free to share this link with interested students and/or your networks.**

If you have any questions about the summer internship program or assistance submitting a letter of recommendation, do not hesitate to get in touch.

Warm Regards,



Delanie Sickler  
Education & Outreach Manager  
Email: [internships@btiscience.org](mailto:internships@btiscience.org)