Apply

The SEED Scholars program provides an integrated, co-curricular support system for students who are committed to increasing representation of historically underrepresented individuals in science and technology and are motivated to become change-makers in the STEM world.

If you’re a high-achieving student interested in getting your Ph.D. and becoming a leader in the STEM industry, we encourage you to apply.

Visit [https://seedscholars.berkeley.edu](https://seedscholars.berkeley.edu) for more information about how to submit an application. For additional questions, please contact us:

Ira Young, Ed.D.  
Director, SEED Scholars Program  
seedscholars@berkeley.edu  
(510) 642-5777

Macario Figueroa, MA  
Program Coordinator, SEED Scholars Program  
macariofigueroa@berkeley.edu

“The SEED Scholars program goes hand-in-hand with our commitment to a more diverse and inclusive culture across our campus. It will enable Berkeley’s continued success as an engine of social mobility and a source for the next generation of top talent to such industries as Silicon Valley.”

— Carol Christ  
Chancellor, UC Berkeley

“As a scientist, I want to draw incredible, untapped talent into STEM. As a woman in science, I feel it’s important that we work toward greater representation. This is why I look forward to partnership with the deans and departments across campus on this exciting program to support the future STEM leaders.”

— Frances Hellman  
Dean of Mathematical & Physical Sciences, UC Berkeley
Cultivating leaders in STEM

From cyclotrons to gene editing, from artificial intelligence to cancer immunotherapies, UC Berkeley has long been a leader in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) research and discovery. Likewise, as the home of the Free Speech Movement and a hub for social justice, it is the place to be the change you want to see in the world. The STEM Excellence through Equity & Diversity (SEED) Scholars Program is an honors program focused on supporting and inspiring historically underrepresented students interested in all areas of STEM. Through comprehensive, holistic programming, SEED prepares outstanding undergraduates to become change-makers, scholars, and leaders in STEM. The program further increases the representation of underrepresented in academia and other STEM professions, while engaging undergraduates in cutting edge, innovative research.

Intensive summer experience
The program begins with Summer Rising, a six-week intensive summer experience prior to the first year. From the outset, you’ll meet and work with faculty directly, who will serve as mentors throughout your experience at Berkeley. You’ll take rigorous foundational courses in math, professional communication, and other STEM subjects. You’ll also have the chance to build relationships with your peers as you study together and participate in team building exercises, community service projects, and field trips to national labs, museums, and industrial facilities. The program covers the cost of tuition, room and board, and a variety of professional development opportunities during Summer Rising.

Immersion in research
Through the SEED Scholars program, you’ll have access to cutting-edge research laboratories during your first year of study. Our goal is to provide you with a deep understanding of the world of research and inquiry very early in your academic career in order to lay the groundwork for success in graduate programs and beyond. You’ll not only tackle the challenges of rigorous day-to-day lab work but also find the joy of new discoveries. Each scholar will complete a research thesis and participate in scientific conferences, internships, and other professional activities.

Learning together
The SEED Scholars use their diverse experiences and creativity to collaborate and work towards a shared goal of success in STEM fields. Scholars will live and study together in a supportive learning community. During your first year of study, you’ll live on campus and have the opportunity for priority enrollment in courses.

Personalized academic coaching
SEED Scholars will receive personalized mentorship from faculty, staff, Ph.D. students, and more senior undergraduate scholars. They’ll help you navigate your experience at Berkeley and seek out research opportunities — and many abound at the No. 1 public research university in the world.