SciTech Overview and Request

SciTech connects college students pursuing STEM degrees with valuable hands-on learning opportunities in small Minnesota companies. Funding provided by the legislature supplies a 50% wage match, up to \$3,000 per internship, that helps companies boost their productivity and develop their tech talent pipeline.

Since the program's launch in 2012, **3,293 interns have been placed in 672 small companies across Minnesota**. In 2024, **one third of interns hired were BIPOC, and 25% of internships took place in Greater Minnesota**. The state funding has already demonstrated a strong return on investment, as every dollar the state provides in wage reimbursements, private companies contribute \$3.22 in wages paid.

Given the ongoing success of the SciTech program and the vast need to increase the STEM workforce in Minnesota, continued support for SciTech is needed. This is why MnTech is again requesting \$1 million per year for SciTech for the 2026-2027 biennium to build Minnesota's STEM workforce, placing 250 college STEM students in internships annually.

Program Impact

2024 Placement Highlights

- 255 interns placed
- 123 hiring companies in 58 MN cities
- Average company size is 43 employees
- 1,518 students applied for internships
- 64% of interns hired were women or BIPOC
- 96% of students completed their internship
- \$20.93 average hourly intern wage
- 33 interns hired part/full-time

Impact Since Inception (2012)

- 3,293 interns placed
- 672 employers in 150 MN cities
- **85**% of interns stayed in STEM careers after two years after college
- 84% of interns stayed in MN two years after college
- For every \$1 state provides in wage reimbursements, private employers contribute
 \$3.22 in wages paid to interns



SciTech is a bridge between talent and opportunity