**QED-C – NSF Internship program**

**v. 2021-05-26**

The QED-C – NSF Internship program aims to connect students with internship opportunities at member companies. The program plans to leverage the NSF INTERN program (see current Dear Colleague Letter about the [program](https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2021/nsf21013/nsf21013.jsp)), which provides up to $55,000 for a student that is affiliated with an NSF-funded project to spend up to 6 months on a company internship.

Partners in the program include:

1. PIs – Only students affiliated with an active NSF project are eligible. PIs will have to submit a proposal to NSF requesting the supplemental funds.
2. Students who are interested in and qualified for a company internship.
3. QED-C corporate members who are interested in hosting a student intern.

**Proposed implementation plan**

The following steps can be taken in parallel but should start with #1 to be sure there are internship hosts available.

1. **Contact member companies.**
   1. Email primary POCs at member companies to create a list of companies interested in hosting an intern.
   2. Schedule a meeting to discuss w/ those who are interested how to make the program work.
      1. How can we get current information about internship opportunities, including the required skills?
      2. Is there an annual cycle that we should use to make matches for Summer, Fall and/or Spring internships?
      3. Will they commit to taking one or more interns?
2. **Contact PIs.**
   1. Identify NSF projects and PIs working on quantum-related research. These PIs are eligible to apply for the supplemental funds for a student to do an industry internship.
      1. See separate spreadsheet of 848 active NSF awards with “quantum” in the title (719 unique PIs)
   2. Email PIs with a description of the program and asking them:
      1. If they know of students who are eligible and interested in a corporate internship;
      2. If they are willing to request supplemental funds; and
      3. To put us in contact with students who are interested.
3. **Contact students.**
   1. Follow up with students who are identified by PIs to confirm interest and get their information into the student database (with a flag for “Eligible for NSF-funded internship”).
   2. Reach out to other student groups, e.g.
      1. APS student group (ask Dan Pisano)
      2. Stanford University student group
      3. PQI student group
      4. Other?
4. **Work with NSF (ENG contact: Prakash Balan)**
   1. Can QED-C facilitate/streamline the process? E.g., provide a template proposal with proposal-specific sections for PIs to use.