Summer Training, Awareness, and Readiness for Semiconductors (STARS)

**Program Description:** Purdue University has developed Summer Training, Awareness, and Readiness for Semiconductors (STARS), an intensive eight-week program that will be offered annually from summer 2023 to help students develop deep-tech skills such as IC design, fabrication, packaging, and semiconductor device and materials characterization. The STARS program will have two tracks: chip design and semiconductor manufacturing; students in each track will participate in hands-on experiential learning activities in the [Scifres Nanotechnology](https://www.purdue.edu/discoverypark/birck/facilities/scifres.php) Cleanroom at Purdue.

**Target Students:** STARS is designed to be the academic equivalent of a summer internship for 75 Purdue rising sophomores in several engineering and science disciplines, and a few participants from Ivy Tech Community College and Morgan State University, Purdue’s premier HBCU partner. After completion of STARS, students will be encouraged to pursue other relevant courses and learning opportunities at Purdue towards earning a semiconductor concentration or certificate. Preference will be given to students who participate in the [Changing the World with Chips - Introduction to Semiconductors](https://engineering.purdue.edu/semiconductors/student-opportunities)course offered starting with spring 2023.

**Cost of the Program**: The full cost of the program per participant is $15,000, to cover student stipend and program management costs such as materials, design kits, access to the clean room, and instructors. To be on par with other internship programs in industry, each participant will receive a $10,000 stipend. The program will run 8 am to 5 pm from May 15 to July 7, 2023.

**Industry Request for Support:** Enrollment for STARS opened on November 14 and we already have over 40 diverse applicants. We currently have support for 49 students from Intel, Cisco, Synopsys, L3Harris, SK Hynix, SkyWater, Texas Instruments, Western Digital, and TSMC. We seek industry support at $15K per student to reach our goal of training 75 students in summer 2023. We are also looking for support for summer 2024 and beyond.

**Industry Benefits:** STARS is a one-of-a-kind program that will attract students early towards a semiconductor career. Purdue will provide quality, intensive training for students who might not yet have sufficient skills or knowledge to find an internship in the semiconductor industry and might otherwise steer to other industries with lower barriers to entry. Companies who sponsor STARS will have input in the activities planned and privileged access to the student cohort. $15K per student is a good investment for a summer intern, with no overhead or liability and minimum time investment from the company. Students who complete STARS will be eligible for Co-Op opportunities as early as fall 2023 and internships as early as summer 2024. Completing STARS will enable these students to be immediately productive contributors in these subsequent industry internships and Co-Ops.

**Next Steps**: We welcome your feedback and participation in this pioneering program to excite students about semiconductor technology. If you’d like to sponsor STARS, please contact Cristina Farmus, Chief of Staff to the EVP [cfarmus@purdue.edu](mailto:cfarmus@purdue.edu), 765-430-6067. Purdue will provide invoices if needed. We are confident that the Purdue programs will be foundational to **address our national need for more semiconductor professionals** in the coming decades. To follow our progress on STARS, visit our [Student Opportunities](https://engineering.purdue.edu/semiconductors/student-opportunities) page.

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