



Intel Science Talent Search Inspiring Tomorrow's Innovators

The Intel Science Talent Search, a program of Society for Science & the Public (SSP), is an annual competition that identifies the nation's most promising scientists of the future and celebrates the best and brightest young minds as they compete for one of the most esteemed honors bestowed on high school seniors in the United States. As America's oldest and most prestigious pre-college science competition, the Intel Science Talent Search encourages students to tackle challenging scientific questions and develop the skills to solve the problems of tomorrow.

Every year, over 1,600 high school seniors enter the Intel Science Talent Search with original research projects from a range of mathematical, engineering, environmental and scientific disciplines. This field of entrants is narrowed to 300 semifinalists, and then to 40 finalists, who travel to Washington, D.C. in March to compete for more than \$500,000 in awards and scholarships. In addition a total of \$300,000 is awarded among the schools of the 300 semifinalists to support their science and math resources.

The finalists' innovative ideas often present potential solutions to issues that have stumped scientists for years. In 2009, project topics include examining key factors for neuronal survival in Parkinson's disease; a human-seeking robot; research on Alzheimer's disease; the link between teen's perceptions of parent alcohol abuse to teen alcohol use; climate change; and new cancer therapies.

A Storied History

Over the past 67 years, Science Talent Search participants have gone on to win some of the world's most esteemed academic honors, including seven Nobel Laureates, two Fields Medalists, three recipients of the National Medal of Science and ten MacArthur Foundation Fellows.

In the last 11 years, Intel has increased the total annual awards and scholarships from \$207,000 to \$1.25 million. This year's semifinalists were selected from 1,608 entrants spanning 36 states, the District of Columbia and accredited overseas schools in India and South Korea. Male and female entrants were represented equally and their research projects cover all disciplines of science including biochemistry, chemistry, physics, mathematics, engineering, behavioral science and medicine and health.

Society for Science & the Public (SSP), a nonprofit organization dedicated to public engagement in scientific research and education, owns and has administered the STS since its inception in 1942.

In October 2008 the Intel Foundation committed \$120 million to SSP over the next ten years to continue its sponsorship of the Intel Science Talent Search and the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. In January 2009, Intel and SSP launched two new programs:

- A nationwide search to find past alumni of the Science Talent Search to link past alumni with current participant and provide news resources and an inspiring community of peers for future young scientists. Details are available at www.societyforscience.org/membership/signup.cfm
- A Fellows Program, which will provide funds and training to select U.S. science and math teachers, with the goal of encouraging more under-resourced students to produce high-quality, independent scientific research. To learn more about the SSP Fellows Program, please visit <http://www.societyforscience.org/outreach/>

The Road to Washington

Every year in November, top high school seniors from across the United States submit research projects to the Intel Science Talent Search. These projects are judged on their originality and creative thinking as well as a broader measure of the students' achievement and leadership, both inside and outside the classroom. Every January, 300 students are chosen as semifinalists, each of whom receives a \$1,000 scholarship from the Intel Foundation, as well as \$1,000 for their school. Forty of these 300 semifinalists are then chosen as finalists.

In March, finalists spend a week in Washington, D.C., where they undergo a rigorous judging process, meet with national leaders – often the United States President or Vice President – interact with leading scientists and display their research at the renowned National Academy of Sciences. Winners are announced at a black-tie gala at the end of the week, celebrating the accomplishments of these 40 extraordinary young men and women.

The top prize is a \$100,000 four-year scholarship. The second-place finalist receives a \$75,000 scholarship, and the third-prize winner gets a \$50,000 scholarship. Fourth- through sixth-place finalists each receive a \$25,000 scholarship; seventh- through tenth-prize winners each receive a \$20,000 scholarship. In addition to the top 10 awards, each of the finalists participating in the Intel Science Talent Search will receive a \$5,000 scholarship and a new laptop powered by the Intel® Core™2 Duo processor.

To learn more about the Intel Science Talent Search, please visit <http://www.intel.com/education/sts/>.

Intel's Commitment to Math and Science Education

Intel believes all students, everywhere, deserve to have the skills necessary to become the next generation of innovators. Intel's commitment to education extends far beyond Intel Science Talent Search. Over the past decade alone, Intel[®] has invested over \$1 billion and Intel employees have donated over 2.5 million hours to help teachers educate, students learn and universities innovate – particularly in the areas of math, science, and technology.

To learn more about Intel's commitment to education, please visit www.intel.com/education and www.inspiredbyeducation.com

About the Society for Science & the Public

Society for Science & the Public (SSP) is one of the nation's oldest non-profit organizations dedicated to public engagement in science and science education. Established in 1921, SSP is a leading advocate for the understanding and appreciation of science and the vital role it plays in human advancement. Through its acclaimed education competitions and its award-winning magazine, *Science News*, Society for Science & the Public is committed to inform, educate, and inspire.

To learn more about SSP, please visit www.societyforscience.org.