



GRADUATE STUDENT **SUMMER ASSOCIATE PROGRAM**



About the Program

The RAND Graduate Student Summer Associate Program introduces outstanding graduate students to the RAND Corporation, an institution that conducts research on a wide range of national security problems and domestic and international social policy issues. Summer associates typically work at RAND for a 12-week period. Students receive biweekly compensation and are given the opportunity to conduct research that can be completed during the three months they are at RAND.

About RAND

The RAND Corporation is a research organization that develops solutions to public policy challenges to help make communities throughout the world safer and more secure, healthier and more prosperous. RAND researchers with whom summer associates will interact have advanced degrees in behavioral and policy sciences; defense and political sciences; economics, sociology and statistics; and engineering and applied sciences—and more than half have multiple degrees in multiple concentrations. This diversity reinforces RAND's core values of quality and objectivity by promoting creativity, deepening understanding of the practical effects of policy, and ensuring multiple viewpoints and perspectives.

Structure of the Associate Program

RAND provides an array of research support services, including an information infrastructure that facilitates work across multiple locations; highly sophisticated computing software and hardware systems; an extensive data collection facility; schedule management systems for tracking projects; and professional advisory groups that contribute statistical, survey, and communications support to projects.

The program is designed to provide each summer associate with relevant research experience and mentorship from senior RAND researchers. Each summer associate is matched with a project and a mentor, based on educational background, skills and experiences, and available project needs. The mentor and summer associate work together to design an experience where the summer associate spends the summer contributing to the larger, ongoing research project. At the end of the summer, the student will present his or her project and findings to the greater RAND community.

While in residence at RAND for the 12 weeks, summer associates work with their project teams, attend seminars and functions that are open to all RAND staff, participate in workshops and lunches specific to summer associates, and network with other RAND researchers. At the end of the summer, students leave with a better understanding of RAND's research process, along with practical project work that will contribute to the summer associate's job experience.



Eligibility

The program is designed for full-time students who have completed at least two years of graduate work leading to a doctorate or professional degree (e.g., a law or medical degree or professional engineer certificate) and will not graduate prior to the summer of employment. On average, 45 students from a wide range of academic disciplines participate in the program each year. U.S. citizenship is not necessary except for positions that require a U.S. government security clearance. For employment in connection with certain projects where access to information is restricted by government regulations, U.S. citizenship or permanent resident status is required. Projects in national security and homeland defense research generally have these restrictions.

Most of RAND's professional hiring is at the Ph.D. level, so we orient our summer program toward individuals who are generally within a year or two of completing their doctorates. However, sometimes there are projects that match with the skills of graduate students in other stages of their education who also have significant work experience.

The following are not eligible: undergraduates; students graduating prior to the summer of employment; and postdoctoral fellows. In addition, the program typically does not consider master's degree students without significant work or research experience.

Applications

Our application period begins in mid-October. Students wishing to apply for the program should submit their application materials by early December. An application to our program consists of a current curriculum vitae, a cover letter, and a supplemental questionnaire that details your research interests and how these interests fit with RAND's core research agenda.

For additional details about our Summer Associate Program, visit www.rand.org/gsap. RAND only accepts applications online at www.rand.org/jobs.

If you have problems or do not receive a confirmation of your application, please email jobs@rand.org and indicate your computer platform and browser version.

Additional information

If you have additional questions about the program, please contact Summer_Director@rand.org

For information about RAND research, visit www.rand.org.



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