

IDA Staff at a Glance

The Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) is a nonprofit corporation that operates three Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs). Two of these FFRDCs are accepting applications for Summer Associates. Staff at the IDA Systems and Analyses Center (SAC) provide objective analyses of national security issues, particularly those requiring scientific and technical expertise, and conduct related research on other national challenges. SAC, located in Alexandria, Virginia, comprises eight research divisions.



Staff at the IDA Science and Technology Policy Institute (STPI), located in Washington, DC, assist the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy and other executive branch agencies in formulating federal S&T policy by providing high-quality, objective analytical support to inform policymakers.

Who Should Apply?

We seek highly qualified students with strong academic backgrounds. Our preference for the program is graduate students, but we will consider undergraduates who are rising seniors. In either case, students must be returning to an academic institution in the fall to continue their educational pursuits. Applicants are required to submit a résumé, cover letter, and transcripts. Applicants who are selected will be subject to a security investigation and must meet eligibility requirements for access to classified information. **U.S. citizenship is required.**

Strong quantitative skills are SAC's top priority, regardless of the academic discipline. Strong critical thinking and writing skills are STPI's top priorities.

About the Program

The IDA Summer Associate Program provides students a unique opportunity to use their critical thinking and analytic skills to work on challenging real-world national security issues (at SAC) and science and technology policy issues (at STPI). Each year, IDA hires paid student associates to work for a minimum of 10 weeks between June and August. IDA pays travel expenses for one round trip for out-of-town students. Associates are responsible for living expenses during the summer.

SAC seeks a variety of disciplines, including computer science, information technology, mathematics, chemistry, physics, operations research, aero/astronautical engineering, mechanical or electrical engineering, materials science, statistics, economics, as well as social and behavioral sciences, human resources, security, international relations, policy studies, and finance.

STPI seeks a variety of disciplines, including behavioral sciences, biological sciences, computer science, economics, engineering, environmental sciences, learning sciences, mathematics, physical sciences, social sciences, and statistics.

Accepting Applications between September 1, 2023, and January 26, 2024.

For more information, visit idalink.org/summerassociates.

IDA is an equal opportunity employer.