State Hygienic Laboratory
at the University of Iowa

FOR IOWA'S JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE STUDENTS

www.shl.uiowa.edu

Student Mentorship Program
Nurturing the Next Generation of Scientists

State Hygienic Laboratory
at The University of Iowa
UI Research Park
2490 Crosspark Road
Coralville, IA 52241
319-335-4500 or 800-421-IOWA
shl.uiowa.edu

Ankeny Laboratory
2220 S. Ankeny Blvd.
Ankeny, IA 50023-9093
515-725-1600

Lakeside Laboratory
1838 Highway 86
Milford, IA 51351-7267
712-337-3669
lakesidelab.org

www.shl.uiowa.edu
Students

If you are a junior high or high school student with a passion for science, check out the State Hygienic Laboratory’s Student Mentorship Program. The Hygienic Lab is the state of Iowa’s environmental and public health laboratory. Through our Student Mentorship Program, our staff helps students develop science projects by providing technical assistance and support.

Who We Are

Every state in the nation has a laboratory that performs tests for diseases such as mumps, influenza, rabies, hepatitis and many others. The State Hygienic Laboratory at The University of Iowa is that state laboratory for Iowa. Unlike many other state labs, the Hygienic Lab goes much further in the services we provide to all residents of the Hawkeye state.

In addition to clinical testing for diseases, we also perform environmental testing. We look at samples collected from streams and lakes across the state for the presence of harmful contaminants, including pesticides. We collect samples of air to measure the level of particulates that can make breathing difficult, especially at certain times of the year and for certain health-compromised citizens. Our scientists look for the presence of numerous metals, including lead in a person’s blood and in a variety of materials, including toys.

From just a few drops of blood, the Hygienic Laboratory’s Newborn Screening Program tests infants for conditions that can cause developmental delays or death if left untreated. We provide this lifesaving service as the designated lab for the Iowa Neonatal Metabolic Screening Program.

What is a Student Grant?

The State Hygienic Laboratory’s Student Mentorship Program includes both analytical support and scientific expertise to help students take an idea for research and follow it through to implementation as a science project. Students and teachers work together to create an idea for a grant project. They submit the idea along with the completed registration form that is part of this brochure. (Forms are also available on our website: www.shl.uiowa.edu).

What Kinds of Projects are Chosen?

The State Hygienic Laboratory at The University of Iowa wants your ideas for a creative science project with a laboratory component. Some of the past projects that were part of our Mentorship Program include:

• Checking the roots of plants for pesticides
• Testing for bacteria on doorknobs and faucets
• Testing toothbrushes for the presence of bacteria
• Second-hand smoke and air quality

REQUIREMENTS:

• Students must be in junior high or high school.
• A teacher must serve as the student mentor and as the interface between the Hygienic Lab and student.
• Projects must have scientific merit as determined by teacher and the Hygienic Lab.
• A completed application is required. The form is part of this brochure and is also available on our website (www.shl.uiowa.edu).
• Lab review of final project documentation

What is Your Project?

Please include a summary that includes the following information from you and your school mentor:

• Project Description
• Project Objectives
• Testing Desired
• Background Information
• Literature or Other References Used for Project
• Other Pertinent Information

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE EMAIL
beth-hochstedler@uiowa.edu
or
richard-bonar@uiowa.edu

Completed applications should be submitted no later than December 18, 2015. You can complete the online application here:

http://www.shl.uiowa.edu/edtrain/opp/applicationform.pdf