

# **Fun, Volunteer Opportunity for Science Students**

Science Buddies seeks high school students to serve as e-mentors for science fair participants

Science Buddies is a non-profit organization that provides online resources for science education. One of our programs, Ask an Expert, is an online forum where students can ask questions about science fair projects they are working on and get answers from our volunteer "Experts." We call our volunteers Experts but you don't have to be a true expert; you just need to have a knack for science and a desire to help other students. There are two ways to volunteer. In the regular **Ask an Expert Forum,** Experts handle questions posted on a traditional online bulletin board. It takes about 1/2 hour per week. In most cases, you'll answer a student's question, accept his or her thanks, and move on to another student. The other option is to work in a semi-private forum. This is called the **Classroom Scientists Program.** A small team of adult and high school Experts works with a group of preselected student Investigators. You will advise the same group of students from the start of their science projects until they finish. You'll answer questions, review their work and provide feedback on their projects. It takes about one hour per week.

# Add Distinction to Your College Application

Top universities are using leadership and volunteer service as key factors to distinguish among applicants and Science Buddies provides you with both! The Science Buddies program offers college-bound high school students a convenient, fun, and meaningful opportunity for performing **community service**. The program also offers you the option of having a long-term **leadership** role that can span several years.

# **Qualify for College Scholarships and Awards**

Every year, Science Buddies recognizes top high school Experts with prizes and awards. This year, our top 10 Experts will receive Outstanding Expert Awards and \$300 college scholarships.

## **Interact with Talented Science and Engineering Professionals**

Our team of volunteers includes top high school science students as well as many talented science and engineering professionals. You will be working with these science professionals to assist other students, but these adult Experts are also available to answer questions about your own research project, colleges, and career paths in the field of science and engineering. (Please see reverse for details about our adult Experts.)

# It's Fun and Easy to Participate

A little bit of your time can make a huge difference in helping a younger student improve his science literacy and his interest in science. Since we know high school students are busy, Science Buddies emphasizes convenience. All communication takes place in online forums, and you select the program that best fits your schedule.

#### **Minimum Requirements:**

**Easy Internet access:** All communication with the students will be done via an online forum, so you must have regular access to e-mail and the Web.

**Commitment:** Experts will spend on average between ½ hour to 1 hour per week, from November through March, working with students on their science fair projects.

**Strong science background:** To be a great Expert, students must have previous science fair experience, sound knowledge of scientific principles, and strong grades in their science and math courses (A's or B's).

# Please help us improve science literacy by making this small commitment! Apply now at <u>www.sciencebuddies.org</u>

For questions email us at: scibuddy@sciencebuddies.org



### Here's What Past Volunteers Have Said About Science Buddies

"[Science Buddies] gives you the chance to share what you have learned with someone who hasn't learned it yet. It feels as if you are helping this person along in their education."

— Melyssa, 17

"I learned the valid points of working with a team to help finish a project and I really enjoyed working with my buddy."

— Hillary, 16

"I learned a lot from my Advisor and I had a great experience learning how to teach and help out younger kids. It was also fun to take part in a science fair project again since I haven't done one since 7th grade."

— Dan, 16

## Who Volunteers for Science Buddies?

Our adult volunteers come from diverse ethnic and professional backgrounds. They are a source of great inspiration for the students we serve. Our team of volunteers has included:

- Professors, research scientists, and graduate students from top universities such as MIT, Princeton, Stanford, UC Berkeley, and UCSF
- A scientist who holds a PhD in Aeronautics and Astronautics from Stanford and was on the team that developed the **Pegasus rocket**
- A theoretical and computational physicist at **Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory** whose recent work deals with the design and use of **HIGH POWER LASERS**
- An expert in **tropical ecology** and conservation who studies among other things the effects of **oil spills** on tropical birds
- A retired engineer who worked on the *Apollo Moon Program* and programmed simulators for the F16 fighter plane
- Someone on the team that designed pressure sensors for NASA's Mars Probe
- A researcher who was involved with the discovery of the earliest HIV Protease Inhibitor drugs (AI DS drugs)
- Forensics experts who work for state (rime labs
- Scientists and engineers from AMD, Bio-Rad Labs, Intel, Seagate, Symantec, Lawrence Livermore Laboratory and many more high-tech companies and labs...

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