

WEP Participant Questionnaire

Start of Block: Default Question Block

We are seeking feedback from people who participated in one or more STEM-oriented work experience programs (e.g., internships, apprenticeships, fellowships) that are affiliated with the Department of War (DoW) within the past 12 months. By STEM, we mean any field that involves some type of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics. Examples: biology, chemistry, computer science, electrical engineering, social science, physics, and more.

The goal is to gain a better understanding of the wide range of backgrounds and experiences that participants brought to these programs, what participants gained, and how programs may be improved for future cohorts.

If you are open to helping us meet this goal, please complete the following questionnaire. It is best viewed in a browser, though it may also be taken on a mobile device. We anticipate the questionnaire will take approximately 10-20 minutes. Please note that all questions are optional, so you may skip any question you do not wish to answer.

Thank you, in advance, for your time!

End of Block: Default Question Block

Start of Block: Professional and Ed Background

The first set of questions helps us get a better sense of where you are in your educational and professional development.

Where are you in your education? *If you are done with school, please select "N/A."*

	High School/GED	Associate's	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctorate	N/A
Last completed	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Currently pursuing	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Highest planned	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Is the current (or most recent) school that you attended public or private?

- ☐ Public
- ☐ Private
- ☐ I don't know

What type of programs does the current (or most recent) school that you attend (or attended) offer? *Select all that apply.*

- ☐ Shorter than 2-year programs
- ☐ 2-year programs
- ☐ 4-year programs
- ☐ Master's programs
- ☐ Doctoral programs

Is the current (or most recent) school that you attended a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) or Tribal College and University ?

☐ Yes

☐ No

What is (or was) your academic major or concentration? *Select all that apply.*

- ☐ Computer and information sciences
- ☐ Engineering and engineering technology
- ☐ Biological, physical science, and science technology
- ☐ Mathematics
- ☐ Agriculture and natural resources
- ☐ General studies and other
- ☐ Social sciences
- ☐ Psychology
- ☐ Humanities
- ☐ History
- ☐ Personal and consumer services
- ☐ Manufacturing, construction, repair, and transportation
- ☐ Military technology and protective services
- ☐ Health care fields
- ☐ Business
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Architecture

☐ Communications

☐ Public administration and human services

☐ Design and applied arts

☐ Law and legal studies

☐ Library sciences

☐ Theology and religious vocations

☐ Other (please specify) _____

Do any of your future education plans focus on STEM?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ No future education plans

What is the highest level of completed education among any of your parents or primary guardians?

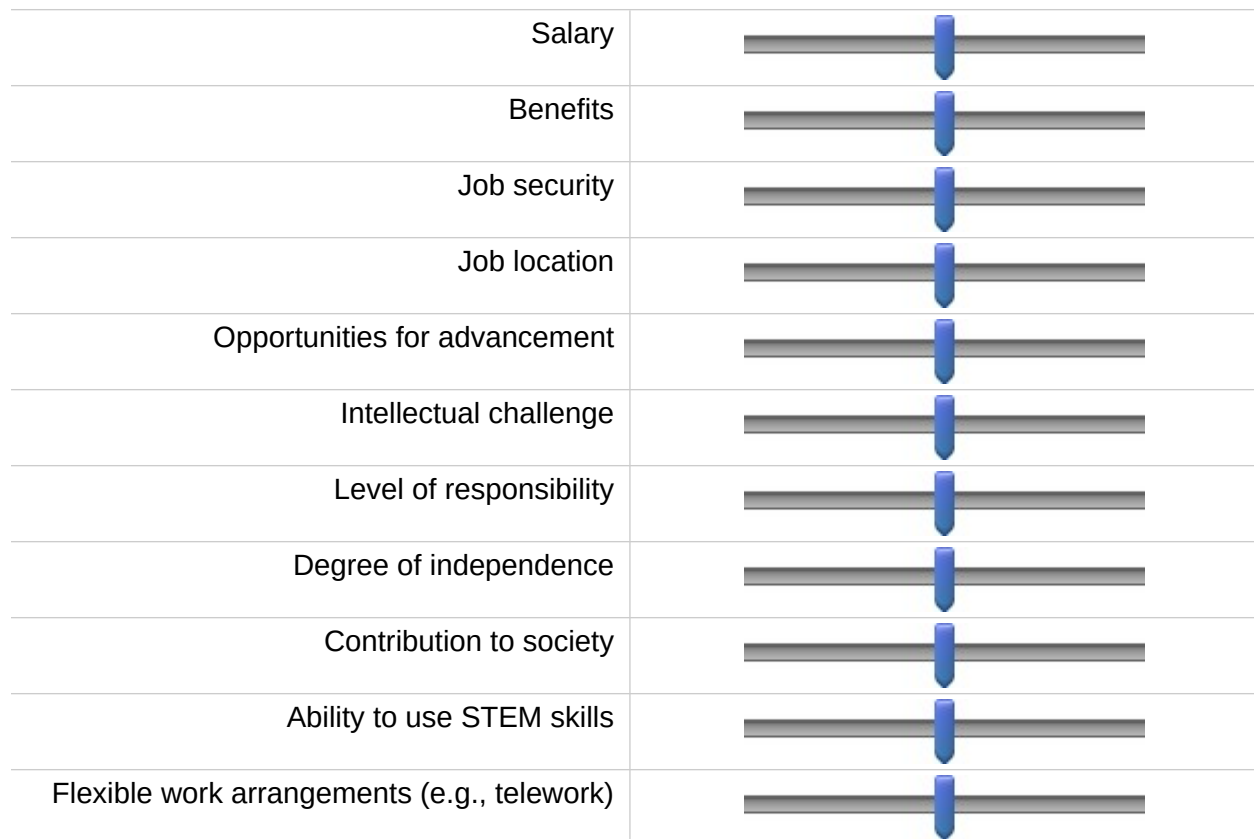
- ☐ Middle school
 - ☐ High school / GED
 - ☐ Associate's Degree
 - ☐ Bachelor's Degree
 - ☐ Master's Degree
 - ☐ Doctorate
-

What type of job would you want to turn into a career? In other words, what is your "ideal job"?
If you do not know, please put, "Unsure."

When considering possible "ideal jobs," how important are each of the following?

Not at all important Extremely important

0 5 10



Many jobs in the U.S. government (including in the Department of War) may also be found outside of the government in the commercial sector (e.g., academia, private industry, contracting, non-profits, etc.) Thinking about your possible "ideal job," which sector is stronger or more competitive in each of the following factors?

US Gov. They are Commercial I don't know
 equal

-10 0 10

Salary	
Benefits	
Job security	
Job location	
Opportunities for advancement	
Intellectual challenge	
Level of responsibility	
Degree of independence	
Contribution to society	
Ability to use STEM skills	
Flexible work arrangements (e.g., telework)	

End of Block: Professional and Ed Background

Start of Block: Previous DoW STEM Program Participation

The following questions are about your previous experience(s) in a STEM-oriented work experience program affiliated with the DoW. To keep things simple, we will refer to this as the "program." If you are still in the program, please answer based on your time so far.

Have you previously taken part in other DoW sponsored STEM programs (e.g., K-12 STEM programs, competitions, internships, etc.)?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not Sure

If yes, describe the type of programs that you have previously taken part in. For example: National Junior Science and Humanities Symposium, eCybermission, or other camps and activities that were sponsored by DoW components or agencies.

End of Block: Previous DoW STEM Program Participation

Start of Block: Current Program Feedback

The following questions are about your most recent experience(s) in a STEM-oriented work experience program affiliated with the DoW. To keep things simple, we will refer to this as the "program." If you are still in the program, please answer based on your time so far.

What is the name of the most recent program that you attended?

How or where did you hear about the program before applying? *Select all that apply.*

- ☐ Someone I know
 - ☐ An event (e.g., job fair, science expo)
 - ☐ Traditional ad (e.g., radio announcement, print ad, mailer)
 - ☐ Thought piece on the program (e.g., news article, blog post, publication, podcast)
 - ☐ Email announcement
 - ☐ Pay-per-click ad (in a browser or app)
 - ☐ Job post (e.g., school job bulletin, Indeed, Monster, USA Jobs)
 - ☐ Social media (e.g., LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook)
-

Where was the program's onsite location relative to where you were living when you applied?

- ☐ Same city or a nearby city that you can easily commute to
 - ☐ Further away
-

How did you participate?

- ☐ Onsite
 - ☐ Remotely
 - ☐ Hybrid (some onsite, some remote)
-

How long was the program? Or, if it is ongoing, how long have you been in the program so far?

- ☐ Less than 1 month
- ☐ 1-3 months
- ☐ 4-12 months
- ☐ 1 year+

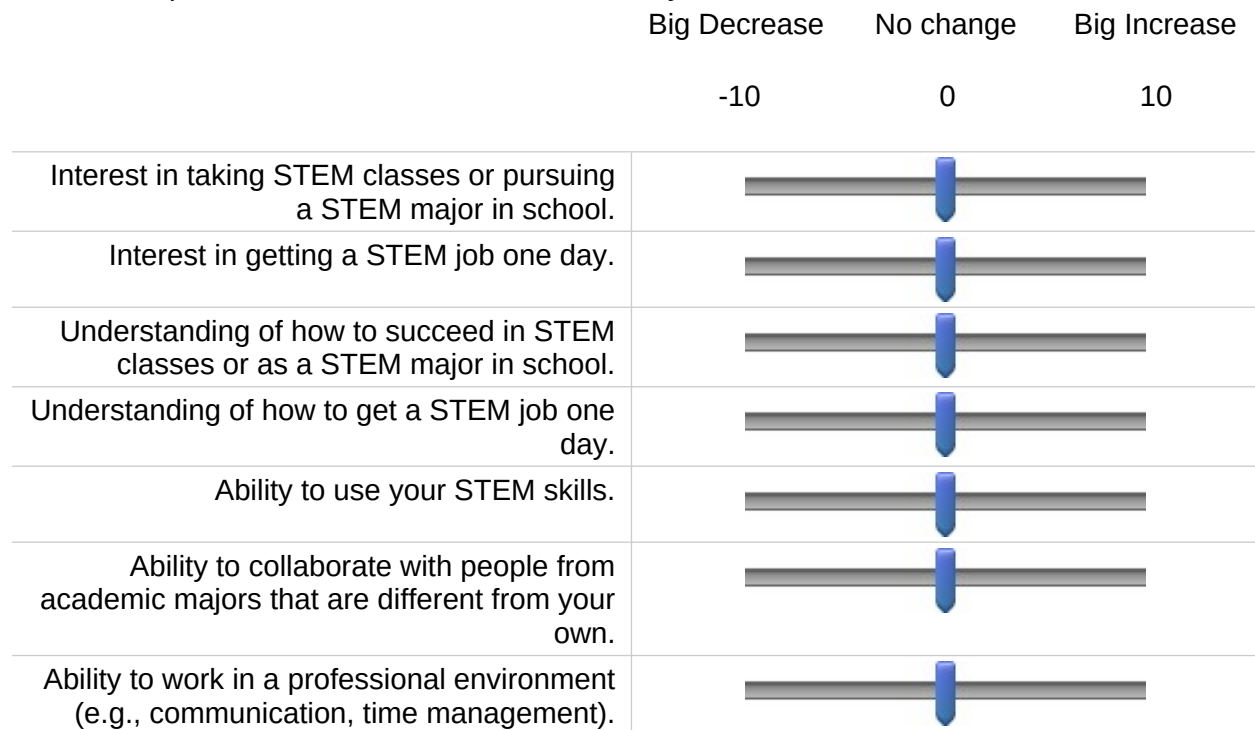


How many formal and/or informal mentors did you work with during the program? *If none, please write "0."*

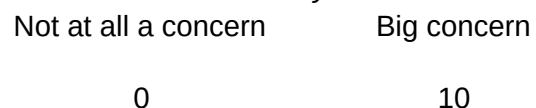
Thinking about the mentor you worked most closely with (formally or informally), about how often did you meet either virtually or in person?

- ☐ Every day
- ☐ 2-4 times a week
- ☐ Once a week
- ☐ 1-3 times a month
- ☐ Less than once a month
- ☐ Did not have a mentor

How, if at all, did your experience in the program impact any of the following? *Please drag the slider to the place on the scale that best describes your answer.*



When deciding whether to apply for the program, how much did any of the following concern you? *Please drag the slider to the place on the scale that best describes your answer.*



Knowing whether the program would benefit your long-term goals	
Being accepted into the program	
Being able to afford associated costs (e.g., travel, rent, professional clothes, equipment)	
Distance between the program and your home	
Having good enough STEM skills in the right topic areas	
Getting along well with others in the program	
Other (please specify)	

Did the program offer any benefits or accommodations (e.g., housing support, stipend, hybrid learning environment, guaranteed job placement) that were important for you to be able to participate? If so, can you please list up to 5? *If there were none, please write "No."*

O 1 _____

O 2 _____

O 3 _____

O 4 _____

O 5 _____

Overall, what was the most helpful or meaningful thing that you gained from being in the program? This could be something specific (e.g., a new job, contact information for a potential future employer), abstract (e.g., knowledge, confidence, perspective) and/or anything in between.

Overall, what was the least helpful or meaningful aspect of the program for you?

Do you have any ideas on how to improve the program going forward? If so, what?

After the program, what did you do? *Select all that apply.*

- ☐ School
- ☐ Work
- ☐ Seek Work
- ☐ Another work experience program (U.S. Government)
- ☐ Another work experience program (civilian)
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____
-

Approximately how many STEM professionals do you currently know that you would feel comfortable contacting for help learning about STEM-oriented degrees or jobs, including how to get them? Of these, how many are new contacts that you made through the program?

of STEM professionals you know

of new contacts made through the program

Currently, how strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? *Please drag the slider to the place on the scale that best represents your answer.*

Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

-10 0 10

I connect with people in STEM on a personal level.	
I connect with people in STEM on a professional level.	
Thinking about my future, STEM is the right fit for me.	

End of Block: Current Program Feedback

Start of Block: Demographics

Lastly, we have a few demographic questions to help us get a better sense of the wide range of people who have participated in DoW work experience programs.

In which state were you living when you applied for the program? *Please write the full name (e.g., Rhode Island), rather than the abbreviation (e.g., RI).*

What type of place was it?

☐ Rural

☐ Suburban

☐ Urban

Do any of the following apply to you? *Select all that apply.*

- ☐ First person in your family to go to college
 - ☐ Qualified for free/reduced lunch in high school
 - ☐ Qualified for federal aid in college (e.g., Pell Grant)
 - ☐ Served in the U.S. military
 - ☐ Have a parent/guardian, sibling, or child who served in the U.S. military
 - ☐ Have a parent/guardian, sibling, or child who worked for the DoW as a civilian or contractor
-



In what year were you born?

End of Block: Demographics
