

Center for Neurotechnology (CNT)
2025 Young Scholars Program-REACH for High School Students
Program Dates: July 14-18, 2025

Is Neural Engineering the Right Fit for Me?

Question: I want to be a (choose one) neurologist...neurosurgeon...neuroscientist...doctor. This program sounds like a perfect match for me! Is it?

Answer: Perhaps, but not necessarily. The YSP-REACH is focused on neural engineering such as medical devices and brain-to-computer interface. Be sure you understand what neural engineering is all about before you decide to apply for the program. Browse the CNT website, especially the Research tab and our blogs at: <https://centerforneurotech.uw.edu/>

Questions about YSP-REACH Eligibility

Question: I don't live near the UW Seattle campus (i.e., I am from out-of-town or out-of-state). Can I still participate?

Answer: More information can be found on the YSP-REACH webpage at: (<https://centerforneurotech.uw.edu/education/k-12/young-scholars-program-reach/>). For clarification, the 2025 YSP-REACH is **not a residential program**. Therefore, we do not provide housing, transportation, or meals. If you live outside of the Seattle area and are able to arrange your own housing for the summer, then you can participate. Your parents will need to understand that we do not provide supervision outside of program hours.

Question: I am an international student. Can I participate?

Answer: Yes, students from all countries are welcome to participate.

Questions about YSP-REACH Selection and Acceptance

Question: Who will evaluate my application?

Answer: A selection committee comprised of education and diversity staff at the CNT.

Question: What are the selection criteria?

Answer: Our selection committee reviews each application holistically, trying to get a good sense of the applicant through the story that the essays, transcripts, and references provide. We try to determine if an applicant will be a good fit for YSP-REACH and all it provides and how well the program authentically matches an applicant's college and career plans. That said, the program is very competitive. We will take into account coursework, grades, extracurricular activities, and college/career goals when we look at applications, but we are especially interested in your answers to the essay questions and your reference letter.

Question: When will I hear if I have been selected for the YSP-REACH?

Answer: We expect to make admission decisions in late March or early April (but can't guarantee it). You will be notified by email if you are accepted or are not accepted into the program.

Question: If I am not selected this year, can I apply again next year?

Answer: Yes, if we continue to offer the program and if you still meet the eligibility requirements listed on our website (<http://www.centerforneurotech.org/content/young-scholars-program>), then you can apply again.

Question: I applied last year and wasn't accepted. Can you tell me why not?

Answer: We cannot give specific feedback about why an individual was not accepted into the program.

Question: How many students will be accepted into the program?

Answer: We have space for about 22 students for the in-person program. Students not selected for the in-person will be offered a space in the virtual program. Note that we have received many more applications for the in-person program that we can accommodate. Therefore, not all students who apply to the in-person will be able to participate in-person.

Questions about YSP-REACH Logistics

Question: What are the dates of the YSP-REACH program?

Answer: The YSP-REACH Program is a one-week program that will meet daily, July 14-18, 2025.

Question: What time will the YSP-REACH program be held?

Answer: The in-person YSP-REACH will run from 10 am to 3 pm (with a one hour lunch break). The virtual YSP-REACH program will run from 10:00 am to 11:30 am.

Question: How much does it cost to attend the YSP-REACH program?

Answer: The in-person program costs \$500/student; the online program costs \$100/student. Scholarships to cover the costs for some students will be available. Payment information will be provided to students after they have been selected to participate in the program.

Question: Will I get college credit?

Answer: No, you will not receive any academic credit for participating in YSP-REACH.

Question: What kind of housing is provided?

Answer: None. This is a commuter program; it is not a residential program. Students are expected to provide their own housing and they are responsible for their own transportation to and from the University of Washington each day.

Question: Is food included?

Answer: No, students are responsible for their own meals.

Question: Can I take classes or work another job during the YSP-REACH session?

Answer: The in-person YSP-REACH program is a full time commitment for the 5-day session, 10 am - 3:00 pm (Seattle Time). The virtual YSP-REACH program will meet each day for 5 days between 10:00-11:30 am (Seattle Time).

Question: How will I get to campus?

Answer: It is up to you to arrange your own transportation to and from the UW's Seattle campus. The campus is served by many Metro bus routes and light rail system and is bike-friendly. Parking on-campus is quite expensive (up to \$19/day), so we encourage you to use mass transit.

Question: Where will the YSP-REACH program take place?

Answer: The in-person YSP-REACH program will be held on the Seattle Campus of the University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195. The virtual YSP-REACH program will be held online using Zoom.

Question: What happens if there is a return to restrictions due to COVID-19 health and safety issues and the in-person program is cancelled?

Answer: The YSP-REACH program will follow all University of Washington COVID-19 health and safety guidelines (<https://www.washington.edu/coronavirus/>). If the in-person YSP-REACH program is cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions, all registration fees will be reimbursed.

Question: I've read through this entire document and still have questions. Who should I contact?

Answer: If you have a general question or issue, please contact Dr. Eric Chudler at chudler@uw.edu