The National Astronomy Consortium (NAC) is an innovative, competitive program designed to provide research opportunities, and long-term mentoring support, to underrepresented students in STEM fields. The NAC is led by the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO), and is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). Partners include the National Society of Black Physicists (NSBP), Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic Serving Institutions, and strong research-focused organizations.

Highlights of the NAC Program:
• Cohort-model to develop support systems
• Summer, and extended, STEM research experience
• Summer stipend, and travel assistance
• Long-term research mentoring
• Peer mentoring and support
• Academic and professional development
• Weekly cohort meetings during summer
• Ongoing social/professional networking
• Participation in American Astronomical Society winter meeting
• Participation in annual NAC Workshop in Washington, DC
• Opportunities to present research to prominent members of professional societies, universities, and governmental agencies
• Travel support
• Membership in professional societies
• Assistance with GRE-Physics and grad school application fees

Timeline

DEC 15, 2020-FEB 3, 2021
NAC applications accepted
https://science.nrao.edu/opportunities/student-programs/summerstudents

FEB-MAY, 2021
Student interviews take place, offers made (March 1), and cohorts are formed.

JUNE-AUGUST, 2021
8-12 week summer research (varies by site)

OCTOBER, 2021
Annual NAC Meeting

FALL SEMESTER, 2021
Preparation for Winter AAS Meeting

JANUARY, 2022
AAS Meeting

go.nrao.edu/NAC

2019 NAC students and mentors at the NAC VII workshop
Washington, D.C. - September 13-15, 2019