

LADDER INTERNSHIPS

Startup internships for ambitious high school students



Why do an internship in high school?



Explore a Career

Work with the world's best founders and find out what a career looks like. Learn what a real work environment is like.



Build a real-world project

Create something that matters in the world. Whether it's a market report, an app, or a strategy.



Gain an advantage in college admissions

Showcase a unique experience that few high school students have. Show tangible outcomes (such as a product) that reflect your interests.



Build a professional network, now

Work with the very best – from Harvard Business School, to Y Combinator, to ex-McKinsey founders.

Work with the very best companies

Where our companies and your mentors come from

Funded by



Studied at














Worked at





What fields can you
work in?

-  Tech/Deep Tech
-  Finance
-  Media/Journalism
-  Engineering
-  Machine Learning/AI
-  Consulting
-  Mental Health
-  Fashion
-  Health Tech
-  Environmental Science
-  Non-profits

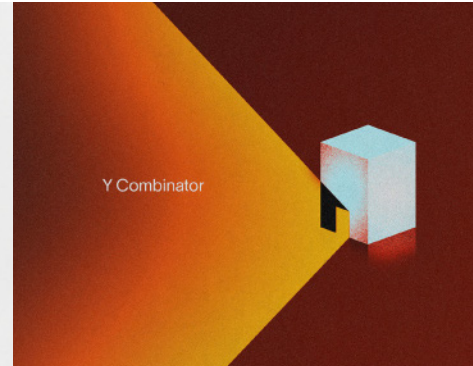
Example projects that students could create



(01)
Competitor analysis for health tech company focused on scaling nursing homes



(02)
White paper for San Francisco-based nonprofit focused on mental health



(03)
Machine learning model to predict customer churn for e-commerce website backed by Y-Combinator



(04)
Marketing campaign for series-A backed media company

Example Host Companies and Managers!



BILLION DOLLAR STARTUP IDEAS

Industry: Tech, Media

LED BY **MICHAEL BERVELL**,
Founder & CEO,
HBS MBA & Microsoft alum

Billion Dollar Startup Ideas is one of the world's largest generator and aggregator of unicorn-level start-up ideas, with a reach of over 850,000 people.



JUNEBRAIN

Industry: Healthcare, Tech

LED BY **DR. SAMANTHA SCOTT**,
Founder & CEO,
Stanford, USC & NIH alum

JuneBrain is focused on improving remote monitoring in ophthalmology/neurology and serving a \$300K customer pipeline with a patented wearable eye-scanning device and SaaS platform.



FINTECH LAUNCH (STEALTH MODE)

Industry: Finance, Tech

LED BY **KEVIN JUNKER**,
Founder & CEO,
Cambridge Uni, Google & Mckinsey alum

Fintech Launch is focused on bridging the gap between financial products for individuals in markets including the United States, Europe, and Southeast Asia.

Example Host Companies and Managers!



IPMD

Industry: Healthcare, Tech

LED BY MIN LEE,
Founder, CEO & President,
UC Berkeley alum

IPMD is on a mission to revolutionize patient experiences using AI solutions, and has been a part of many prestigious start-up programs including those by GCP, Nvidia, AWS, and IBM.



SOFTENMIND

Industry: Mental Health, Tech

LED BY HANH HA,
Co-founder & CEO,
Univ. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee alum

Funded by global VC, Antler, SoftenMind aims to bring affordable and professional mental health services to Vietnamese people through using proprietary digital and AI tools.



FAIR OPPORTUNITY PROJECT

Industry: Tech, Non-profit

LED BY LUKE HEINE,
Founder & CEO,
Harvard & YC alum, Microsoft

Recognized in Forbes, NYT, and the Harvard Education Review, Fair Opportunity Project sends free college application advice to 63,000 public educators and provides free 1:1 mentorship to hundreds of students.

Program Timeline



WEEK 1

Meet the company coach and define the project



WEEK 3

Finalize the 1st draft of the project, meet with the company coach



WEEK 5

Meet with the company mentor, define the 2nd deliverable



WEEK 7

Finalize the project



WEEK 2

Work on the project with the company coach



WEEK 4

Present the 1st deliverable to the company



WEEK 6

Work with the company coach on the 2nd deliverable



WEEK 8

Present the final project to the company

Program Overview

8 weeks, 1 company, the internship of a lifetime.

What you will get out of this internship:



A real-world project



Work experience at a
top start-up



A letter of
completion by the
company



(Optional) A letter of
recommendation
from the host
company mentor

Startup Internships Cost & Time Commitment

# of sessions with host company	8
# of sessions with company leadership	4+
# of hours per week expected of the student	5-10
Program oversight from Ladder program manager	✓
Goal output	Professional level work project presentation
COST & DURATION	\$1990 8 weeks

Full, need-based financial aid is available for students! We don't want cost to be a blocker for you.

Programs Offered



Research Internship

# of 1-1 sessions with research mentor	15
# of 1-1 sessions with writing coach	4
# of 1-1 sessions with publication specialist	4
# of hours per week expected of the student	10-15
# of weeks	12-16 for research 4-16 for publication
Program oversight from program manager	✓
Goal Output	Undergraduate level research paper
COST & DURATION *US Dollar	\$5400

The tuition for a combination of the start-up and research internship is \$6400.

What types of students are we looking for?

- Hardworking
- Ambitious
- Excited by your field
- Not required: experience in the selected field of work



Our alumni go on to the world's top universities

We have deep experience with students getting into great universities. See some of the admission results from our sister research program, Lumiere



6

PRINCETON
acceptances



6

PENN
acceptances



4

STANFORD
acceptances



4

CAMBRIDGE
acceptances



23

UC BERKELEY
acceptances

A survey to more than 150 alumni that applied to universities in 2021-22 showed that 9.8% of Lumiere Alumni who applied to an Ivy League university or Stanford got in - that is **115%** higher than the general rate of acceptance at these universities!

This is how students who applied to university this year positioned their Lumiere project in their college application process:

85% mentioned it in the
“Activities” section of
their application

52% wrote about it in
either a main or
supplemental essay

40% of them included either
a recommendation
letter or an evaluation
form from their mentor

The Application & Placement Process

How students apply



Fill up an
application form



Get shortlisted



Receive a placement
decision



Start the program

We match students with companies based on their indicated interest.

Hear from some of our interns!

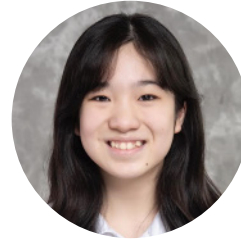


Hannah Bang

High School Senior | Virginia, USA
Interned with Certinell Telehealth

Project: Coded email/ SMS processing systems connected to medical devices, enabling broader testing

“Through my host company’s mentoring and being allowed to work independently, I gained work experience that I normally wouldn’t be able to receive until after college!”



Lan Nguyễn

High School Senior | Hanoi, Vietnam
Interned with Vietcetera

Project: Created AI/ML models based on the company’s databases to boost subscriber base

“The Ladder Internship Program catalyzed both my intellectual and personal growth. If you are looking for a challenging and rewarding internship that matches your interests and skills, don’t hesitate to apply!”

Hear from some of our interns!



Christopher Tilley

High School Junior | Michigan, USA
Interned with Certinell Telehealth

Project: Worked on strategy documents for a new patient monitoring system

“This program allowed me to get to know myself, my workflow, and how to work with and around other people. Ladder is a great experience!”



Sriya Bandyopadhyay

High School Senior | Dubai, UAE
Interned with Divercity.io

Project: Created a Go-to-Market strategy for a personal finance app

“Ladder was essential in creating the foundation of the relationship between me and the host company. Each task was tailored to fit my interests and strengths while also pushing me to learn new things.”



Khalid Hajj

High School Junior | Dubai, UAE
Interned with Billion Dollar Startup Ideas


Project: Built a business plan for a subscription-based AI start-up idea

“This internship was my first real working experience, and I took away a lot of value from it. I also valued my direct interaction with the founder of my host company, who I found to be inspiring.”

Application Deadline & Program Dates

FALL COHORT 2023

 **Application Deadline**
September 10, 2023


 **Cohort Timing**
September 24, 2023


WINTER COHORT 2023

 **Application Deadline**
November 26, 2023

 **Cohort Timing**
December 11, 2023

SPRING COHORT 2024

 **Application Deadline**
February 18, 2024


 **Cohort Timing**
March 10, 2024

SUMMER COHORT 2024

 **Application Deadline**
Early Admission: February 18, 2024
Priority Admission: March 17, 2024
Regular Admission 1: April 14, 2024
Regular Admission 2: May 12, 2024

 **Cohort Timing** June 3, 2024

SUMMER II COHORT 2024

 **Application Deadline**
June 26, 2024

 **Cohort Timing** July 15, 2024



LADDER INTERNSHIPS

Contact Us

 +92 315 449 8051

 +92 310 0042 641

 hello@academicquests.com

 95 Upper Mall Road, Lahore,
54000, Pakistan

 4 Long Fellow Place, 705,
Boston, Massachusetts, 02114

www.academicquests.com