Contribute your ideas and talents in an international research community

Join us as a VSRP Intern

→ Apply Today
→ Discover KAUST
→ Our Core Labs and Facilities
→ Explore Saudi Arabia
Join us as a VSRP Intern

Match your ideas with cutting edge research projects.

At KAUST we value collaboration over competition. Our faculty, students, postdocs and researchers come together to explore novel ideas in water, energy, environment and food to bring solutions to society.

VSRP is an exciting opportunity for highly qualified international students in their baccalaureate or post-baccalaureate studies to be engaged in research with faculty mentors in selected areas of research.

Each internship typically lasts from three to six months.
VSRP Intern Quick Facts

64% 36%

130 VSRP Interns Accepted Yearly
VSRP Interns come from over 60 Countries
Top Countries: Italy, United States of America, Germany, France, United Kingdom

Our VSRP Interns’ Home Universities
Sample list

KAUST VSRP
Visiting Student Research Program

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The Visiting Student Research Program (VSRP) was the perfect opportunity to work in state-of-the-art laboratories and being trained to use experimental equipment that I had not come across during my time as an undergraduate and a postgraduate. The amenities offered by the VRS program allowed me to get a unique and top-class research experience in my field with lots of benefits for an intern.

– Aoife O’Donnell
M.Sc., Environmental Sustainability (2018)  
University College Dublin  
VSRP Intern, January – May 2018
Who is Eligible?
- 3rd or 4th year Bachelor's or Masters Students
- GPA 3.5/4 or 14/20 (ECTS B)
- Strong verbal and written English Skills
  Recommended levels, minimum TOEFL score of 79 on the IBT (Internet Based Test) or 6.0 on the IELTS (International English Language Testing System).

Three to Six Month Internships
Applications accepted year-round

Application Requirements
- Official Transcript(s) in English from current and previous institutions
- Statement of purpose
- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Letter of Recommendation
- Valid Passport

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Apply Today
vsrp.kaust.edu.sa
Actively participate in curiosity-driven and applied research
- Potentially co-publish with faculty mentor
- Collaborate in a diverse laboratory environment
- Access to KAUST core laboratories and major facilities

Benefits
- $1000USD monthly allowance
- Free housing
- Full airfare and visa fees covered
- Health insurance
- Social and Cultural Activities
- Community Resources
During my VSRP internship, I learned about the many disciplines offered at KAUST and the exciting research topics, focused on benefiting society. I discovered a research area that I am passionate about, and the unique environment here allows students to explore exciting opportunities with industry in parallel with their studies. There is such amazing support for entrepreneurs and innovators, which makes KAUST really stand out! 

— Clara S. Stanschewski
KAUST Ph.D. candidate, Plant Science
M.Sc, Climate Change: Science and Impacts (2017),
University College Dublin
VSRP Intern, February – July 2018
Discover KAUST

Established in 2009, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology is a graduate research university located on the shores of the Red Sea in Saudi Arabia.

KAUST is dedicated to advancing innovation through science, technology and engineering via our interdisciplinary research and education model.

Our students, faculty, scientists and engineers conduct curiosity-driven and goal-oriented research in the strategic areas of food, water, energy and the environment.

We bring together the best minds and ideas from around the world, with more than 100 nationalities working, living and innovating on our campus.
VSRP interns may participate in the program through one of the University’s three academic divisions: Biological and Environmental Science and Engineering; Computer, Electrical and Mathematical Science and Engineering; or Physical Science and Engineering.
As a VRSP student, I think that the best outreach you can get at KAUST is to meet people from all over the world. In this cosmopolitan hub, interns are surrounded by expert scientists and helpful students, thus enlarging the scope of both their knowledge and interests in science. Social and cultural enrichment is a value shared by all members of KAUST community in a benevolent atmosphere.”

— Myriam Belmekki  
M.S., Chemistry (2019), INP-ENSIACET  
VSRP Intern, May – September 2018
Our Academic Community

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Visiting Student Research Program

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Total campus size
39 Million +
Square meters

178
Faculty

1316
Students

449
Post Docs

371
Research Scientists and Staff

118
Nationalities

1997
Alumni

7:1
Faculty Ratio

36%
Students are Women

77%
Students are Ph.D.

67%
Students are international
What is KAUST, you ask? A scientific utopia, built on the experience of some of the world’s most reputed scientists and engineers. It is a research institution of renowned excellence committed to the education of the next generation of worldwide leading scientists. This is KAUST.

– Alejandro Fernandez Munoz
B.S. Physics (2019), Complutense University of Madrid
2018 Photonics Summer Workshop Participant
KAUST UniverCITY

KAUST is more than a premier university. We are a city that offers an exceptional quality of life.

- 47 Parks
- Movie Theater
- Retail and Grocery Services
- Restaurants
- Medical Facilities
- Three recreational facilities for exercise and sports
- Water recreation — snorkeling, scuba diving, windsurfing, wakeboarding
- 50,000m² 9-Hole floodlit golf course
- Public Transportation

KAUST VSRP

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The VSRP program at KAUST has been a great opportunity to experience cutting edge research in a country that not many people get the opportunity to see. Nearly every person you meet is from a different country, and because everyone here is new, they’re all open to making friends. During the week, I’m in a brand-new laboratory, and on the weekends I get the chance to travel around Saudi Arabia and explore a new culture.”

— Dale Gottlieb
B.S., Material Engineering (2019)
University of Toronto
VSRP Intern May – September 2018
Our Core Labs and Facilities

The Core Labs are a prominent feature of the interdisciplinary research ecosystem at KAUST. The Core Labs provide state-of-the-art facilities, training and services to the KAUST research community, collaborators and industrial partners. These centrally organized, shared-user facilities provide direct access to specialized research equipment, operated by expert staff with advanced degrees in science and engineering. The Core Labs consists of ten laboratories that are strategically located throughout the academic campus enabling users to transition between labs in a matter of minutes.

corelabs.kaust.edu.sa
Explore Saudi Arabia

Whether it’s diving in the Red Sea on weekends or exploring the diversity of Saudi Arabia, our VSRP interns gain a firsthand experience in local culture and people.