



Development with a difference

The ASTRA Program

Ignited's Accelerating Science and Technology Research and Academics (ASTRA) Program is designed to provide middle and high school teachers and students with authentic research experiences from universities and research labs

The Main Elements

Teachers of all grade levels with backgrounds in science, math, computer science, and engineering, have gotten hands-on experiences from the ASTRA Program through the years. And thousands of students have been inspired by these teachers.

The program includes:

- An 8-week paid experience for teachers, working directly with university investigators and lab personnel to learn about their research ([in-person](#) projects or [virtual](#) projects)
- Teacher workshops that showcase a variety of research and academic topics, methodologies, and classroom ideas
- Coaching assistance to help teachers develop lesson plans and activities they'll bring back to their students

As you join the program, we'll work with you and your teams to target the types of teachers and research you're interested in supporting. We'll also help you develop strong, ongoing relationships between teachers and your company subject-matter experts, research groups, and technology teams.

Program Benefits

ASTRA benefits companies, teachers, and students in three main ways:

- Brings a more diverse set of students into specific research and academic fields
- Creates more support for science and technology programs in schools and universities
- Boosts employee morale through ongoing relationships with teachers and their students

The strong foundation we've established with Stanford and the University of California, Berkeley will also help us evolve the program in new ways as more companies, research labs, and universities begin to participate.

Getting Started

To get started, we'll schedule a short call to understand your requirements, including the universities and labs you'd like to work with, the research disciplines we should focus on, and the specific teams inside your company to engage.

To set up a 30-minute call, contact Emily Dilger at edilger@ignitededucation.org