The Alliances for Learning and Vision for Underrepresented Americans (ALVA) is a partnership between industry and the University of Washington. ALVA students are given the opportunity to participate in an engineering internship position, introducing them to engineering professions the summer after they graduate from high school.

The MSEP ALVA program targets students interested in the technical applications of engineering, computer science, physical sciences, or mathematics. MSEP ALVA students have most recently interned with The Boeing Company (Renton, WA), the University of Washington (Seattle, WA), Intel (Dupont, WA), or NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory (Pasadena, CA).

During ALVA, students work at their internship site, plus attend a college level, engineering-based mathematical problem-solving course. At the conclusion of the intern program, students give formal presentations on their ALVA intern experience and are more prepared for college-level academics. ALVA improves critical-thinking, analytical and communication skills, which can assist in gaining admission to the competitive majors within engineering. Throughout the ALVA experience, students connect with industry professionals, University of Washington faculty/staff, and peers from diverse backgrounds, which all comes together to form a supportive network to keep students in college and increases retention in engineering and related fields.

To apply for an MSEP ALVA position, send the following items in one complete packet to the address listed on page two of these instructions:

- **MSEP ALVA Application**, typed or legibly handwritten in black or blue ink with proper signatures.
- **Official Transcripts**: High School and College (if applicable).
- **Test Scores**: PSAT, SAT, ACT, AP, etc. and TOEFL or other English proficiency exam if native language is not English (official or unofficial) if available.
- **Resume**, that includes: Name and contact information; Employment experience, including dates; Schools attending/attended; Special academic programs or training institutes attended; Computer skills & known programs; Leadership, awards and honors; Extra-curricular activities including community service and sports; and Hobbies
- **Two letters of recommendation**, which address your academic ability and potential to complete a four-year degree in engineering or related discipline, teamwork and leadership skills, commitment, reliability and ability to work independently. Recommendation letters are to be in sealed envelopes with signatures across the seal. One letter must be from a math/science teacher or academic mentor on official school letterhead.
- **ALVA Essay**, 1-2 pages that addresses the following:
  1) What are your long-term career and/or educational goals?
  2) What types of engineering or related science are you most interested in and why?
  3) What kind of engineering internship experience are you looking for?
  4) What kind of workplace do you think would be the best fit for you?

If you already have had internship experience, please briefly describe it. In addition, please list any relevant research skills that you have – whether you have learned them in a course, laboratory or workplace.

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1 MSEP ALVA Host sites change from year to year. Business- and Genomics-based ALVA programs are also available at the University of Washington, for an application and more information on these ALVA programs contact:
- Genomics: The GenOM (Genomics Outreach for Minorities) Project, 206.685.2593
- Business: UW Michael G. Foster School of Business’ Undergraduate Diversity Services, 206.221.5128

**MARCH 1 PRIORITY DEADLINE, MARCH 15 DEADLINE**
ALVA Application Instructions

ALVA positions are offered to applicants who show the most potential to benefit from and contribute to the program. In addition, prior to final placement all ALVA interns must satisfy the following requirements:

1. Receive an offer of admission to the University of Washington,
2. Submit their University of Washington New Student Enrollment and Orientation Fee for Autumn,
3. Plan to major in fields related to engineering, computer science, physical sciences, or mathematics,
4. Satisfy employment requirements of the specific ALVA host site to which they are assigned,
5. Agree to the terms and conditions of being an ALVA intern as outlined in ALVA intern position offers, and
6. Attend the Spring ALVA Orientation (exact date TBD) at the University of Washington prior to beginning the summer intern position.

You are encouraged to apply for ALVA even if you have not yet applied or committed to attend the University of Washington.

Completed applications POSTMARKED BY THE MARCH 1 PRIORITY DEADLINE will have the first and fullest consideration for available ALVA positions. Applications received after this date will be considered only if positions are still available. Our intent is to complete all ALVA intern placements prior to May 1. Mail all application materials to:

MSEP ALVA
UW College of Engineering
301 Loew Hall, Box 352180
Seattle, WA 98195-2180

Before submitting your MSEP ALVA Application, keep copies of all application materials for your records and submit the originals.

If you have any questions regarding MSEP ALVA, or the application process contact:

Engineering Advising & Diversity Center
Minority Scholars Engineering Program
Phone: 206-543-1770
Fax: 206-616-8554
eadc@u.washington.edu