

First Annual Science and Energy Research Challenge (SERCh) sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy

This prestigious and rigorous national poster competition is open to all undergraduate students who have conducted DOE-related science research, either as a student intern at a national laboratory or as a student researcher working on DOE-funded research at a university.

To apply, you need to submit an abstract and a poster about your research. All applications will be reviewed with the goal of selecting up to 100 students to receive a formal invitation to the competition event on November 8-10. All travel expenses will be paid for each invited student as well as for the student's faculty adviser.

Prizes of \$3,000, \$1,500, and \$1,000 will be awarded in each of six disciplinary categories (see below) with a Grand Prize of \$10,000 for the top poster/presentation.

Application due date: September 5, 2008

Notification of selection date: September 19, 2008

Poster competition date: November 8 – 10, 2008

Where: Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Web Site: <http://www.scied.science.doe.gov/serch/default.html>

The Web site provides the SERCh Application, eligibility requirements, awards, information for faculty advisors, exhibitors, agenda, resources, key dates, and event information.

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must be active/enrolled undergraduate students.
- Students must have participated in an original scientific research internship at any Department of Energy national laboratory or Department of Energy-sponsored research at a university during the 2007-08 academic year and 2008 summer.
- Be a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident
- Applicants will be judged on their research abstract and poster. At the SERCh event in November, students will also be judged on their presentation skills.
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There are six categories for abstracts, posters, and oral presentations. They are:

- Life Sciences
- Energy
- Computational Science
- Engineering
- Environmental Science
- Physical Sciences (including physics, chemistry, nanoscience)

In each of the six categories, the top three students will receive cash awards.

In addition to the main component of the poster competition, there will be tours, workshops, speakers, and networking.

Thank you,

Ruth Keller, Group Manager
Cheryl Terry, Program Manager
Cheryl Brown, Program Specialist