



The Alliances for Learning and Vision for Underrepresented Americans (ALVA) is a nine-week summer program for incoming University of Washington freshmen* (Seattle campus, beginning Fall 2019). We have two programs that run simultaneously. 1) GenOM: geared toward students interested in genomics, life sciences research, and bioengineering. A minimum of 12 students will be selected for this program. 2) Engineering: geared toward students interested in Clean Energy, and Molecular Engineering and Materials research. We anticipate a minimum of 6 students will be selected for this program.

We strongly encourage applications from the following students:

- From underrepresented minority groups (i.e., African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Alaskan Natives, Native Hawaiians, Filipinos and Pacific Islanders)
- Economically disadvantaged
- The first in their family to attend college

During the first week, GenOM students participate in intensive lab training. Through interactive learning, students learn pipette skills, DNA sequencing, biological processes, and a variety of other lab techniques. After completing lab training, students are paired with a mentor in a research laboratory. Clean Energy and MEM-C students will begin working in their labs the first week. All students will participate in math, chemistry and research ethics courses that extend the full length of the program; a social justice course that meets on alternate weekends, community service, and professional development. The purpose of these courses is to prepare students for their future academic careers in the STEM fields. Every other weekend will be free for students to visit home should they choose to.

Please see our website for more detailed program information.

*Incoming freshmen **must plan to attend the University of Washington main campus in Seattle**, and have an application on file by December 1st. The University of Washington will be notifying applicants of their admissions status by March 31st. ***You will be applying for ALVA before you hear from the UW so that we can begin evaluating the applications early.*** This gives us time to find the best lab placements for those who are selected.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for ALVA 2019, complete this application, write a personal statement and resume, and submit official transcripts and two letters of recommendation. Detailed instructions are below. Please visit our website and read through the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and application instructions prior to starting the application process.

DEADLINE

All applications and official transcripts must be postmarked no later than **Monday, March 4, 2019**.
Recommendations must be postmarked or emailed no later than **Friday, March 8, 2019**.

Questions? Please contact Lisa Peterson; call (206) 685-2593,
e-mail lisapete@uw.edu, or visit <http://depts.washington.edu/genomics/>

PROGRAM GOALS

When students conduct research, they gain a rare and insightful experience. This opportunity gives students a head start in the university research setting and helps them build relationships with a cohort of students that are also interested in pursuing higher education. Some of the benefits for participating in the summer program include:

- Gaining first-hand, quality experiences in laboratories of established researchers
- Having an undergraduate mentor
- Learning about the academic research setting
- Connecting with other students who are interested in the same subjects
- Establishing relationships that will be beneficial for your college experience
- Networking with STEM faculty and staff
- Learning about the impact of these fields on science and society
- Receiving academic training in math and chemistry
- Successful transition into college

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To apply for ALVA 2019, send your application form, essay and resume in one complete packet. Please do not staple any parts of the application. Failure to follow application instructions may result in your application not being processed. Your application is not complete until we receive your two letters of recommendation and your official transcripts. You will receive a confirmation email once we have received and processed *all* of the following: your application form, essay, resume, two letters of recommendation, and official transcript(s).

If your transcripts and letters of recommendation arrive prior to Monday, March 4, 2019, you can expect a confirmation email from us within 5 to 7 business days. If your transcripts and/or letters of recommendation arrive to us after March 4, 2019, you will receive a confirmation email from us within 10 to 14 business days.

Finalists will be invited for a telephone interview in late March/early April. Applicants who are invited to a telephone interview will be asked to provide a photocopy of their ID. Applicants can expect final decisions to be made by May 7th.

Application checklist:

- ALVA 2019 Application (online or hardcopy)
- Official sealed high school transcript(s) – can be included in your packet with your paper application or mailed directly from the school
- Two (2) letters of recommendation (see form on last page of application):
 - One (1) from a *science teacher*
 - One (1) from a *personal reference* (not parents, family members, or peer friends)
- Essay (details on page 4)
- Resume

Please send applications to:

Lisa Peterson, UW GenOM Project Director
UW GenOM Project
Office of Research, Box 351202
Seattle, WA 98195

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Applications must be postmarked no later than:

March 4, 2019

No student will be denied the opportunity to apply to or participate in program activities based on race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, disability or status as a disabled veteran or Vietnam era veteran.

ALVA 2019 Application

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Which program are you applying for?

- GenOM ALVA (Genomics, Life sciences research, Bioengineering)
 Engineering ALVA (Clean energy, Molecular and Materials)

Are you interested in being considered for the other program, if not selected for the program of your choice?

- Yes, please consider me for the Engineering ALVA program
 Yes, please consider me for the GenOM ALVA program
 No, I am only interested in the Engineering ALVA program
 No, I am only interested in the GenOM ALVA program

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____
 Mailing Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Cell Phone Number (____) _____ - _____ E-Mail _____
 Parent/Guardian _____ Relationship _____
 Phone numbers h/w/c _____

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

Current School _____
 Anticipated Graduation date ____/____/____ GPA _____
 Intended field of study in college or area of interest: _____

Senior Class Schedule:

<i>Spring Semester</i>	<i>Third term (if applicable)</i>

(Please check Yes or No)

Have you applied to the Univ. of Washington Seattle campus?

Have you participated in the following:

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| ConneX | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| MESA | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Upward Bound | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BioQuest Academy | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Running Start | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Have you participated in any other science/engineering events or programs?

If yes, please specify _____

PERSONAL ESSAY

Please answer the following questions in essay form, typed, double spaced, maximum of two pages (maximum of 500 words or 6000 characters, includes spaces & punctuation)

- What are your long-term career and/or educational goals?
- What type of science or engineering are you most interested in and why?
- What research topics are you interested in and why?
- Please list any relevant skills (i.e., lab, computer, technical) that you have – whether you have learned them in a course, or in a lab or workplace (may include on your resume if you prefer).
- If you have already had a research experience, please briefly describe it.

RESUME

- Name and contact information
- Schools attended/attending
- Employment (if applicable)
- Academic programs outside of school (MESA, BioQuest Academy, Olympiads, ConneX, etc.)
- Extra-curricular activities, volunteering, community service
- Leadership, awards, and honors
- Hobbies

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT ALVA?

To better advertise, we would like to know how you heard about the program. Please check all that apply.

Email Teacher/counselor Website Mailer Friend Other: _____

AVAILABILITY INFORMATION

We require full participation; therefore, significant absences are discouraged and can be detrimental to the selection and placement of ALVA applicants.

List the dates you are available for ALVA 2019:

____/____/____ to ____/____/____

FORWARDING PERMISSION

Do you give us permission to forward this file, including your transcripts and letters of recommendation, to faculty who may be interested in you? Please initial.

_____ **Yes** _____ **No** _____ **Initials**

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Are you a: _____ U.S. Citizen or _____ Permanent Resident or _____ Prefer not to disclose

SIGNATURE

By signing below, I certify that to the best of my knowledge that the information provided as part of this application is complete and true.

Applicant Signature _____ Date: ____/____/____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: ____/____/____

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

This page will be separated from the rest of the application prior to information being sent to anyone else. The purpose of this information is to provide coding for longitudinal identification and demographic information for the granting agency (National Institutes of Health). Completion is voluntary. Failure to complete will not adversely affect your application to or participation in the program.

Social Security Number (*for US citizens*): _____

Permanent Resident/Alien ID Number: _____

Gender: _____

Ethnicity: _____

Number of People in household: _____

Highest Educational Level of Mother: _____

Highest Educational Level of Father: _____

Mother's Occupation: _____

Father's Occupation: _____

Mother's Annual Income: _____

Father's Annual Income: _____

Your Annual Income: _____



**GenOM, Clean Energy & MEM-C
ALVA Summer Research Program**

Recommendation Form

Summer 2019

To the applicant: Complete the top section of this form and then give it to the individual providing your recommendation.

Applicant's Name: _____

Applicant's Address: _____

Applicant's Phone Number: _____

Applicant's Email Address: _____

TO THE TEACHER, ADVISOR, OR OTHER PERSONAL REFEREE:

Please submit this form along with a formal letter of recommendation. It is essential that this form be submitted with your letter of recommendation so that the student's application materials can be matched. Completed letters of recommendation should be mailed to the following address:

**GenOM Project
c/o Lisa Peterson
University of Washington
Office of Research, Box 351202
Seattle, WA 98195**

Alternatively, recommendations can also be scanned and emailed to:

E-mail: lisapete@uw.edu

Subject line: **"ALVA 2019 Recommendation: [Applicant's Name]"**

Recommendations must be postmarked or emailed by Friday, March 8, 2019.

If you have questions, please contact Lisa Peterson either by email or telephone:
206-685-2593.

RECOMMENDER INFORMATION (Please Print)

Name: _____

Title/Position: _____ Department: _____

Name of Institution/School/Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Helpful topics to include in the recommendation:

Letters that provide specific examples and insight about the student rather than a listing of activities are generally the most useful. While we do not have specific requirements for letters of recommendation, here is a list of topics that are helpful to us in evaluating the applicant:

- Examples of how the applicant works with others or with you
- Anecdotes about how the applicant has overcome adversity or how they deal with differences in others
- Instances that demonstrate the applicant's interest in and motivation for science or engineering
- Examples or commentary regarding the applicant's problem solving skills, creativity, intellectual ability, work habits, initiative, integrity, and character
- Any concerns you might have about the applicant.



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