



ARTISTS, SCHOLARS, SCIENTISTS, AND ENTREPRENEURS OF TOMORROW (ASSET) PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Artists, Scholars, Scientists, and Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow (ASSET) program recruits a student cohort of roughly 10 members with a wide range of academic and career aspirations. Students pursue intensive individual projects and together they identify and discuss connections across disciplinary boundaries, emphasizing a deepening understanding of how to create constructive dialogue across those boundaries.

While many students in the program will be those who intend to pursue graduate education at some point, some participants may intend to pursue a professional degree or immediately embark upon a career after graduation.

The ASSET Program includes two distinct experiences:

1. ASSET Seminar—the seminar encourages students to reflect on their career aspirations, learn about graduate study, and prepare for the summer research project. The seminar is non-credit but a required part of the ASSET program. ASSET Seminar begins in the winter term with one or two meeting sessions, followed by one or two in the spring term, with the majority of the seminars (3-5) happening in June of the ASSET summer experience.

2. Summer Work—students are expected to work 35/hours week for 10 weeks of research or creative work. ASSET scholars receive a generous stipend and the funding can be used to defray the costs associated with the summer project, including research materials and their own living expenses.

It also includes some end-of project requirements:

1. End product: Students are required to submit some sort of "end product" at the end of the summer. This may be a research paper, a survey analysis following data collection, a creative piece of writing, a literature review, etc. The product may be "in progress," but something content-related must be submitted to the Vovis Center and your faculty mentor before Fall Term 2024 begins.

2. Presentation of Work: ASSET scholars are required to submit a brief **report** summarizing the project, methods, results, etc and what the student gained from being part of the ASSET program. A brief **video** outlining the same is also required, as well as participation in the HORIZONS Student Celebration the following spring.

Scholars/projects are selected based on the following criteria:

1. Quality of the application in terms of the written project proposal and personal statement.
2. Feasibility of the project in terms of its potential to be completed within a 10-week summer timeline.
3. Preparedness to pursue independent research/scholarship/creative work in terms of academic potential and experience.
4. Motivation and rationale for pursuing desired career path (ie how well the student explains why they wish to pursue their desired career path).
5. Overall fit with the purpose and intent of the ASSET fellowship program.

Questions? Contact Lisa Harris at lkarris@knox.edu.