Our Mission

To ensure the iron and steel industry of tomorrow will have a sufficient number of qualified professionals.
The AIST Foundation awards more than US$750,000 annually to develop the steel industry’s next generation.
Overview

The workforce of the North American steel industry is retiring at an alarming rate. To sustain a pipeline of qualified engineers and scientists to fill this void, the AIST Foundation is working with the industry to attract young, technology-oriented professionals to its ranks.
With strong industry support and philanthropy, the Foundation funds initiatives to promote the steel industry as a viable and rewarding career choice for young engineers. These initiatives include scholarships, internships, training programs, events and contests for students; and faculty grants, awards and programs for professors.

“This internship allowed me to take what I had learned in school and apply it to real-world situations. It deepened my interest in the steel industry and gave me invaluable experience.”

William Roberson, Steel Dynamics Inc. – Flat Roll Group Columbus Division
What Is the AIST Foundation?

The AIST Foundation is a Pennsylvania-based 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation organized for charitable, education and scientific purposes. The Foundation works closely with the Association for Iron & Steel Technology (AIST).

What Does the Foundation Do?

Foundation programs attract technology-oriented professionals to the steel industry by educating the public about the high-tech, diverse and rewarding nature of careers in steel manufacturing.
How Is the Foundation Funded?

All Foundation programs rely on corporate and individual gifts, association support, and financial revenue from its endowment. All donations are tax-deductible where permitted by law.

Who Manages the Foundation?

The activities, properties and affairs are managed by a Board of Trustees consisting of 14 AIST members appointed by the AIST Board of Directors. See page 19 for the current list of Trustees.

“Thanks to SDI and AIST, I have been able to experience the development and production steps of the steelmaking process firsthand, and be a part of a company that is definitely worth working for.”

Ethan Klafehn, Steel Dynamics Inc. – Structural and Rail Division
Engaging the Students

The AIST Foundation works to improve the perception of the steel industry by making students, professors and the general public aware that today’s steel industry is technologically advanced, environmentally aware and safety conscious.
By supporting the education of our next generation, we are building a long-term workforce that is well-trained, skilled and dedicated to the needs of tomorrow’s steel industry.
Opportunity’s Knocking
Visit AIST.org/internships to apply.

Steel Intern Scholarships
Paid summer internship followed by a US$6,000 one-year scholarship.

All AIST Foundation scholarships and internships are open to engineering and engineering technology majors in the following engineering disciplines: metallurgy, materials science, chemical, electrical, mechanical, industrial, environmental, computer science, data science and safety.
One-Year Awards
Up to 30 one-year US$6,000 scholarships, including a paid internship.

Premier Intern Scholarship
The top-scoring applicant will be awarded the Premier Scholarship, a one-year US$12,000 scholarship, including a paid internship.

Don B. Daily Safety Steel Intern Scholarship
Up to two one-year US$6,000 scholarships, including a paid internship.
Student Programs

Steel to Students Training Program
The Steel to Students Training Program provides financial assistance for postsecondary vocational/technical school students, undergraduate and graduate-level students, and professors to attend AIST’s Technology Training events and AIST Member Chapter annual meetings. The program provides students with increased opportunities to learn firsthand from steel industry leaders.

Student Events
Each year at major industry events such as AISTech and MS&T (Materials Science & Technology), the AIST Foundation sponsors programming to provide students a window into career opportunities in the steel industry.

Materials Camp (MS&T) K–12
These camps teach high school students about materials through experiments and hands-on demonstrations.

Student Contests
The Undergraduate Student Project Presentation and Graduate Student Poster contests offer university students the opportunity to present their research to conference attendees. The Real Steel Video Contest engages high school and university students in researching and promoting the industry.

Plant Tours
A student plant tour is offered at a location near AISTech and MS&T. In addition, the AIST Foundation provides up to US$300 in transportation reimbursement to groups interested in touring a nearby steel plant.
Member Chapter Scholarships

AIST’s 21 Member Chapters administer more than US$125,000 in annual scholarships for qualified individuals within their regions. There are over 40 scholarships available. Visit AIST.org/MemberChapters for a list of available scholarships in your region.

Endowment Scholarships

Students attending the following schools may apply at their institution directly for the AIST scholarships listed below.

AIST Farrington Memorial Scholarship Fund
Awarded by the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

AIST Madsen Scholarship Fund
Awarded by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

AIST Morrow Scholarship Fund
Awarded by the University of Pennsylvania.

Lewis E. and Elizabeth W. Young Scholarship (AIME)
Applies to students in the Western Pennsylvania, Virginia or West Virginia areas.
Engaging the Teachers

The AIST Foundation’s faculty grants and programs are designed to promote industry awareness and increase the number of engineering faculty with a vested interest in the iron and steel industry, as well as expand the number of engineering students interested in pursuing a career in the iron and steel industry.
The programs include grants for individual professors and team activities on both broad industry topics and specific concerns, direct collaboration with steel industry companies, and discounts to boost university involvement at AIST events.
Faculty Grants and Programs

Kent D. Peaslee Junior Faculty Award
Open to all technical engineering disciplines, this award will assist junior faculty in building their research and professional service activities toward obtaining tenure. The award will provide up to US$100,000 over three years.

Steel Curriculum Development Grant
The objective is to utilize undergraduate and graduate students to assist in enhancing industry curriculum, with an underlying objective to increase industry awareness within the academic community. Selected university professors are awarded up to US$25,000 over three years.

AIST Foundation Steel Professor
The moniker is open to professors who have received and have successfully completed three years of the Kent D. Peaslee Junior Faculty Award. The purpose of this award is to maintain a formal link to our past recipients and their universities, and to encourage their continued engagement with the steel industry.
AIST Digital Transformation Technologies Grant

This grant was established in 2019 to challenge North American university teams (graduate and undergraduate students and professors) from engineering departments (materials science, robotics, electrical, computer applications, mechanical, data science) to submit proposals for grant funding in the theme area of a digital technology challenge (machine learning, big data, simulation, augmented reality, cloud computing, additive manufacturing, system integration, autonomous robotics, Industrial Internet of Things, cybersecurity) within the steel manufacturing industry. Maximum grant award is US$20,000 for one year.

Don B. Daily Safety Grant

The objective is to promote a safe workplace for the steel manufacturing industry, to increase the number of students who study health and safety awareness relative to the manufacturing environment, and to recruit more students for employment in the steel industry. One university will be awarded US$10,000 annually.

University-Industry Relations Roundtable (UIRR)

The purpose of the UIRR is to foster communication between the Foundation’s university network and the steel industry. The committee’s objective is to increase the number of professors teaching a steel-related curriculum, and to increase the number of students interested in a career in the steel industry.

Academic Faculty Engagement Program

The AIST Foundation provides discounts on AISTech — The Iron & Steel Technology Conference and Exposition academic registration and university pavilions in the exhibit hall to increase academic faculty participation.
We Need Your Help!

The AIST Foundation continues to advance new and exciting programs to enable the steel industry to meet the challenges of the future. Through strong industry support, the AIST Foundation awards in excess of US$750,000 each year in support of its mission to ensure the iron and steel industry of tomorrow will have a sufficient number of qualified professionals.

Please consider making a donation today by visiting AISTFoundation.org or contacting us at +1.724.814.3000, ext. 1.

US$100,000 Pledge Club

Added benefits are provided for company pledges of US$100,000 or more payable over four years or less.
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Executive Officer,
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“These were great opportunities to learn how to apply what I learned in school to the production floor. I was constantly out on the floor with teammates learning every aspect of the melt process from metallurgy to maintenance. The hands-on learning as well as the mentorship from my teammates were critical to my development.”

Amanda L. Guyre,
Nucor Steel Gallatin