

Amgen Biotech Experience (ABE) San Diego Site

Since 2005, the Amgen Foundation has supported regional 7-12 teacher training and supplies for outreach to grades 7-12. More information can be found in the Amgen Biotech Experience site <https://www.amgenbiotechexperience.com/> This funding, combined with other Life Sciences/ Biotech Initiative funding sources, maintain this outreach program. This program consists of a “lending library, or Biotech Loaner Kit Program, wherein trained teachers check out biotech equipment and free supplies to go run science labs that reproduce 3 Nobel prize winning discoveries. The lending library’s distributions sites operate from partnerships between three regional colleges: SD Miramar College, MiraCosta College, and Grossmont College. Each year, approximately 20,000 students grades 9-12 at 70 regional high schools participate.

Additionally, 17 high schools in 15 school districts articulate a biotech or Medical Interventions course. Through credit-by-exam, over 650 students annually become credit eligible for a four unit Introduction to Biotechnology class transferable to both California Community College (CCC) and 4-year Universities as General Education elective or foundation for a CCC certificate or degree.

Recently in April 2018, the first ever global ABE Program Meeting was held in Dublin, Ireland. Over 60 attendees consisting of High School Teachers, Site Directors, Site Coordinators, Lab Technicians, Industry Specialists, and other administrators from eleven countries attended. It was an unprecedented event, as everyone shared best practices, ideas, feedback, and encouragement.

Pictured Here: San Diego ABE Site Co-Director Kimberly Teston and San Diego Workforce Partnership Director of Programs Karmin Noar with high school students from St. Kilian School, Dublin.

