



The miracles of science™

DuPont in Education

1802-2002

A Primer

The DuPont Company is widely recognized for its innovative technologies, discoveries, and science-based products. But did you know that DuPont is also a leader in science, engineering, and technology education?

Throughout its 200-year history, the du Pont family and the DuPont Corporation have promoted the value of education, supported broad access to education, and led education reform efforts in Delaware and nationwide. Students at all levels of learning; public

school teachers and university faculty; and industrial scientists and engineers are among those who have benefited from the Company's support for education and scientific research.



Brandywine Manufacturers' Sunday School

It's a long way from E.I. du Pont's first powder mills on the banks of the Brandywine River to the integrated global science Company that DuPont is today. Yet as this Primer documents, investment

in science education has remained a DuPont hallmark since the Company's earliest years.



The First Century: du Pont Family

Leadership in Education, 1802-1918

At the request of Thomas Jefferson, in 1800 Pierre du Pont wrote *National Education in the United States of America*. This treatise presented a comprehensive program for the creation of a public school system and a national university to be located in the nation's capitol. It proposed scholarships for poor, but capable students, and adequate compensation for schoolmasters.

In 1817, Pierre's son, E.I. du Pont, established the Brandywine Manufacturers' Sunday School, a non-sectarian primary school for teaching the three-R's to workers and their children. His daughters, Victorine, Sophie, and Eleuthera—who were graduates of Mademoiselle Rivardi's Dame School—taught at the School, helping to educate nearly 2000 children and teenagers.



Eleuthère Irénée du Pont, founder of E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Co.

E.I. du Pont's great-grandson Pierre S. du Pont established the Service Citizens of Delaware in 1918 to improve the social wellness of Delaware's immigrant and working class populations. Service Citizens seeded reform of the public school system by working with the State Board of Education to institute a centrally controlled, statewide system for public education.

In 1919, Pierre joined the State Board of Education of Delaware, and in the same year, he formed the Delaware School Auxiliary Association to improve school facilities and build new schools.

From 1919 to 1927, Delaware built more than 120 schools, with Pierre donating more than \$5 million, largely for the construction of schools for African-American children.



Post World War I: DuPont Company Investment in Higher Education

1918-1942

To strengthen the quality of chemical engineering and chemical research conducted at the university level, and to improve the preparation of university graduates, in 1918 DuPont instituted the Fellowships & Scholarships Program.

In 1942, DuPont included women in the Fellowships Program.

By 1949, some 850 U.S. chemists had received DuPont Fellowships, many of whom later became successful DuPont scientists and engineers.



Chemist at the DuPont Experimental Station,
circa 1920.

In 1930, DuPont formalized its Consultants Program to link it with universities conducting fundamental research. Two consultants, Roger Adams and “Speed” Marvel, prepared 176 doctoral candidates during their years with the Program.

In 1935, DuPont established the Postdoctoral Program in Organic Chemistry. This significantly contributed to the development of fundamental knowledge in organic chemistry and to American expertise in organic chemistry at the university level.



World War Two and Its Aftermath: Expanding DuPont Investment in Education

1942-2002

*A*fter World War II, DuPont expanded the Fellowships & Scholarships Program to include physics and mechanical and electrical engineering.

To increase the “stockpile of basic knowledge” that had been depleted by the demands of the war years, DuPont instituted a Grants-in-Aid Program in 1949. Grants-in-Aid funded basic research—without regard to commercial implications— at universities demonstrating the highest level of quality in chemical research and other science and engineering fields of interest to the Company.

In 1953, DuPont instituted Grants for Advancing Teaching (to improve the quality of teaching in undergraduate science courses in liberal arts colleges); Postgraduate Teaching Assistant Awards (to retain the best graduate students as teaching fellows in the college classroom); and the Summer Research Grants (to fund time for young faculty to conduct research).

Through the 1950s and 1960s, DuPont funded a fifth year of study for college science majors seeking to become secondary school teachers.

During the 1960s, DuPont initiated education funding specifically for the support of minority college students, including students at historically black colleges and universities. By 1974, the Company targeted 20% of its total education funding for minority programs.



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In 1972, DuPont partnered with the National Science Foundation to pilot the “Delaware Model,” a systems-oriented program for improving pre-college science and a prototype for today’s systemic reform of science education nationwide.

Today, DuPont continues its support of education through a variety of programs, many with roots tracing back to the Company’s earliest years.



DuPont Office of Education

For K-12 education, the DuPont Office of Education supports quality science programs in communities where DuPont operates. It sponsors The DuPont Challenge[®] Science Essay Competition annually and actively partners with national programs including the Science Olympiad and the National Agriscience Teacher Ambassadors Academy to interest young people in science, agriculture, and engineering careers.

**DuPont Office of Education
Center for Collaborative Research & Education
DuPont Experimental Station-E357
P.O. Box 80357
Wilmington, DE 19880-0357**