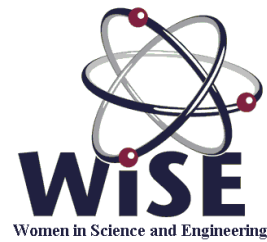




Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
**Society of Women  
Engineers**



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## **WiSE (Women in Science and Engineering)**

### **Mission Statement**

Through the Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE) program, the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) hopes to encourage young women to explore science and engineering as potential career paths. By matching participants with MIT mentors based on similar interests, WiSE offers high school girls opportunities to deepen their understanding of a specific field of study, and gain awareness of the increasing role and importance of women in science, engineering, and technology. WiSE will establish a network of high school educators, and MIT students and faculty to introduce participants to the scientific community. The cornerstones of WiSE are guidance, vision, and empowerment, with the ultimate goal of inspiring participants to realize their potential in a future career path.

### **Program Description**

WiSE is a year-long, outreach program that provides 30 high school girls with opportunities and resources to explore science and engineering. Each year, the program is open to female students that possess the desire to learn about these fields and is meant to serve those in the Greater Boston area. WiSE will start with a kick-off conference during which the participants will meet and get paired with their MIT student mentors. These mentors will serve as gateways to enriching each participant's academic interests. Mentors are encouraged to communicate with participants between WiSE sessions to provide support in career exploration. WiSE sessions consist of lectures and panels held by MIT students and professors, visits to MIT laboratories, and discussions with peers sharing similar interests and passions. They encompass a multitude of focuses, ranging from cutting-edge research to the college admissions process. In the spring, WiSE hosts a speech contest to develop confidence and presentation skills while crystallizing participants' interest in science, engineering, and technology. The heart of WiSE lies in preparing young women for making smart decisions about and taking action toward their studies and career goals.

## Goals for High School Participants

1. To develop a wider array of knowledge in science, engineering, and technology, and relevant opportunities in these fields of study
2. To discover the diversity among program participants by forming friendships with girls from different communities and backgrounds from the Greater Boston area
3. To build and maintain a close relationship with a college mentor in developing their specific interests in science, engineering, and technology
4. To gain confidence and self-esteem in their ability to pursue their academic interests and envision their career goals

## Goals for MIT Mentors

1. To promote women's empowerment by encouraging interests in science, engineering, and technology among young high school girls
2. To enable interactions among girls from local and regional communities as well as among MIT students and faculty
3. To exercise leadership skills in advising and mentoring program participants by sharing their knowledge and passion for their specific field of study