Opportunity Title: Research Student Internships - Spring 2027
Opportunity Reference Code: ORNL-RSI-Spring-2027

Organization Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL)

Reference Code ORNL-RSI-Spring-2027

Application Deadline 10/28/2026 11:59:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

Description The Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Research Student Internships (RSI) Program encourages research careers in STEM fields by connecting current students and recent graduates to world-class researchers and staff offering educational, mission-aligned training experiences and access to premier facilities. As the largest U.S. Department of Energy science and energy laboratory, ORNL researchers and staff are engaged in 'Solving Big Problems', increasing America's security and prosperity by addressing its energy, environmental, and nuclear challenges in eight key science areas: Biology & Environment, Energy Science, Fusion & Fission, Isotopes, Physical Sciences, National Security, Neutron Science, and Supercomputing.

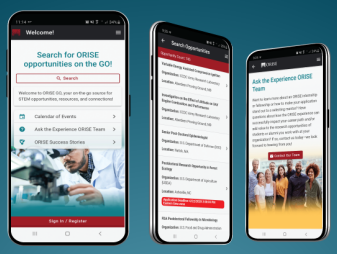
Research Student Internships (RSI) Program Details

- Appointments are for 16-19 weeks during the Spring, with the option for a 12-month appointment available for recent graduates.
- Participants are expected to participate full-time each week, with the option for part-time participation for students enrolled in school full-time. Participants enrolled less than full-time may be approved for part-time appointments on a case-by-case basis by the Office of Research Education (ORE). Requests must be supported by the mentor and demonstrate that the appointment provides a meaningful educational experience, the participant remains in good academic standing, and the project includes appropriate mentoring and supervision.
- Appointments will start on **January 19, 2027**, and end on **May 7, 2027**. Dates for individual appointments may be flexible to account for academic calendars. For students with conflicts that are not academic calendar related, they may elect to start on January 25, 2027.
- Appointments may be extended depending on funding availability, project assignment, program rules, and availability of the participant.
- Appointments will be conducted virtually or on-site in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

A few helpful tips before you start an application:

- Review the science areas at ORNL to determine what best fits your career goals. You will find the eight discipline areas at www.ornl.gov.
  - For example, if you choose Clean Energy, you will find a variety of news, current research highlights, and more. You can explore other research areas, or related links and organizations to identify your areas of interest and key words, important terminology, papers, etc. that can be used as you answer application questions or update your resume.
  - Type a key word about your research interests into the search box at the top right corner on www.ornl.gov and follow the links provided

OAK RIDGE INSTITUTE FOR SCIENCE AND EDUCATION
ORISE GO



The ORISE GO mobile app helps you stay engaged, connected and informed during your ORISE experience – from application, to offer, through your appointment and even as an ORISE alum!

Visit ORISE GO
GET IT ON Google Play
Download on the App Store

to identify key researchers at ORNL and/or the webpages of the related directorates or divisions. For example, typing "Environmental Science" leads to the link for the Environmental Sciences Division.
    - You will find general contacts and can access many of the Division or User Facility pages under "Our People".
- After you have completed your application, reach out via email to the researchers of interest you have identified (use the Contact - Find People - Staff Directory link at www.ornl.gov to enter a name and obtain an email address).
    - Tell them about your background and describe how your career objectives and interests relate to their research.
    - Include an updated resume/CV in the email and let them know which programs you have applied to at ORNL.
    - Showing initiative by reaching out to discuss your passion for science and research is a great way to introduce yourself to potential mentors. This personal connection can be the key to "standing out" from other applications. **The RSI program uses "pool" based application postings where multiple mentors will consider candidates with a variety of interests for different educational project opportunities, so this can be a critical step for selection success.**

Qualifications **Citizenship**

Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) at the time of application.

Eligibility Requirements (Note: Postdoctoral students are not eligible for the RSI program)

To be considered for this opportunity, applicants must:

- Meet one of three criteria noted below:
    1. Applicants may be currently enrolled as a full-time undergraduate or graduate student in a degree-seeking program at an accredited U.S. college or university (including accredited U.S. community colleges) at the time of application.
        - Applicants must have completed at least one academic term (or academic quarter, if applicable) and demonstrate full-time academic engagement, typically defined as completion of at least 12 semester credit hours (or equivalent) by the start of the appointment. Applicants from institutions with non-standard credit systems (e.g., quarter systems or institutions where full course loads are defined differently) will be evaluated based on successful completion of a full-time course load as defined by their institution.
        - Applicants must have completed at least one academic term prior to the start of the appointment; first-term freshmen are not eligible.
    2. Applicants may also be a recent graduate (associate/bachelor/master) from an accredited U.S. college or

university (including accredited U.S. community colleges) at the time of application. **The time period between receipt of an undergraduate or graduate degree and starting the RSI appointment must not exceed two years plus up to 30 calendar days.**

3. Applicants may be a veteran of the United States Armed Services who has received their DD-214 no more than four years prior to the start date of the internship (to be verified with a DD Form 214 and a high school diploma or GED).

- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 on a 4.00 scale at the time of application (undergraduate and graduate cumulative GPA combined, or graduate GPA alone, as applicable). Eligibility is determined based on the cumulative GPA in effect on the application date. Applicants must provide documentation verifying this GPA before the appointment begins. Exceptions to the minimum GPA requirement may be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Office of Research Education (ORE) and require a written justification from the ORNL mentor.
- Be at least 18 years of age at the time of application

Application Review and Appointment Offer Process

- Applications are reviewed directly by ORNL researchers with an available project.
- Selections and appointment offers will be made on a rolling basis starting on or around October 29, 2026.
- Selected applicants must respond to their offer within seven (7) days of receipt of the offer.

During the Appointment

Appointments require a commitment to the research program at ORNL. The participant's research must be conducted in a manner and according to a time schedule that meets the overall research needs of ORNL.

- **Program Requirements**
  - All RSI participants are required to submit an appointment reflection and develop a poster or powerpoint by the end of the program.
  - Participants may also have the opportunity to collaborate on manuscripts and/or to join conferences, poster sessions, and other opportunities to present or publish their research.
- **Stipend (paid biweekly)**
  - Participants receive a biweekly stipend. Stipend payments and housing allowances are taxable as an educational benefit. There will be a delay after starting before you receive your first stipend. **You should be prepared to cover all personal expenses for the first 30 days of your appointment. Note**: Stipend levels are determined based on your academic status at the time of application. If your academic status changes prior to your start date or during your appointment, your stipend level may be adjusted

accordingly. Confirmation of your academic status will be required.
    - $750 per week for undergraduate students, recent graduates (Associate's), or recently separated veterans with high school diploma/GED
    - $850 per week for recent graduates (Bachelor's)
    - $950 per week for graduate students or recent graduates (Master's)
- **Housing Allowance (paid biweekly with stipend)**
    - A housing allowance of $250 per week will be provided to participants.
- **Travel**
    - Eligible participants whose permanent address is more than 50 miles from the host facility may receive a travel reimbursement of up to $1,000 for round-trip transportation expenses to and from ORNL.

Contingencies

All awards and active participation in the program are contingent upon security access approval to Oak Ridge National Laboratory, agreement with the Terms of Appointment, and completion of all contingencies in the offer letter. All contingencies of an appointment offer must be met before the applicant can begin an appointment.

- Participants are subject to DOE clearance approval for laboratory access.
- Participants are required to have coverage under a health insurance plan for the duration of the appointment period and must provide proof of such coverage. It is your responsibility to secure insurance coverage before starting the appointment.

The complete application requires:

- Profile information
- Educational details (i.e. dates of attendance/graduation, GPAs, majors, etc.)
- Relevant Experience
- Awards and honors
- Statement of Purpose: goals, experience, skills, and personal information
- Research areas of interest
- An updated resume or CV, 2 page limit (.pdf upload)
- Academic records - For this opportunity, an unofficial transcript or copy of academic records may be submitted showing name, school name, current/enrolled classes, and GPA (.pdf upload)
- One Recommendation - **The application will be considered incomplete and will not be eligible for review and consideration until one recommendation is received.** Applicants will provide contact information for recommenders, including current email addresses. Applicants are encouraged to request multiple recommendations and begin contacting recommenders immediately upon submitting an

application. Recommendation letters will be uploaded in Zintellect and should address the applicant's academic record and potential for success in a STEM internship, as indicated by intellectual merit, research/technical, communication, and teamwork skills. Recommenders cannot be a family member. The first recommendation received via Zintellect will meet the program requirement.

All documents must be submitted via Zintellect. All application components **must** be completed and received in the system in order to be considered.

For questions, please contact ORNL-RSI@orise.orau.gov.

Eligibility Requirements

- **Citizenship:** LPR or U.S. Citizen
- **Degree:** High School Diploma/GED, Associate's Degree, Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree, or Doctoral Degree received within the last 25 months or currently pursuing.
- **Minimum Overall GPA:** 3.00
- **Discipline(s):**
  - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** (12 👁)
  - **Computer, Information, and Data Sciences** (17 👁)
  - **Earth and Geosciences** (21 👁)
  - **Engineering** (27 👁)
  - **Environmental and Marine Sciences** (14 👁)
  - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** (48 👁)
  - **Mathematics and Statistics** (11 👁)
  - **Physics** (16 👁)
  - **Science & Engineering-related** (2 👁)
  - **Social and Behavioral Sciences** (29 👁)
- **Age:** Must be 18 years of age
- **Veteran Status:** Veterans Preference, degree received within the last 120 month(s).

Affirmation I confirm that one of the following is true:

- I am currently enrolled as a full-time undergraduate or graduate student in a degree-seeking program at an accredited U.S. college or university (including accredited U.S. community colleges) at the time of application, and I have completed at least one academic term (or academic quarter, if applicable) and can demonstrate full-time academic engagement by the start of the appointment.
- I am a recent associate's, bachelor's, or master's graduate from an accredited institution (including recent graduates currently enrolled or planning to enroll in graduate studies). **The time period between receipt of an undergraduate or graduate degree and starting the RSI appointment must not exceed two years plus up to 30 calendar days.**
- I am a veteran of the United States Armed Services who has received

or will receive a DD-214 form no more than four years from the start date of the of appointment period.