



ORNL Opportunities

A Newsletter of Internships and Jobs for New Graduates

February 2026

Internship Opportunities

ORNL offers internships at the undergraduate, recent graduate, and graduate levels. Most undergraduates participate in fixed term internships that take place over the summer, fall, or spring academic terms. Most graduate students participate in collaborative research internships with flexible start and end dates that are intended to facilitate research that aids in the completion of their degrees. *Internships at ORNL include a stipend and a housing allowance for students living outside the immediate ORNL surroundings.*



Current information and application links are always available at education.ornl.gov. Visit education.ornl.gov/webinars for a current schedule of webinars presented to give essential guidance on programs, applications, and how to successfully navigate the process.

Applicants at all levels are strongly encouraged to reach out to potential ORNL Mentors in much the same way that you would a university professor. Scan the adjacent QR code for a handout that describes a good way to do this. Also, visit impact.ornl.gov to search directly by research area.



February is the last opportunity to arrange undergraduate internships for the summer in most of our programs, so please take action now if you are interested!

Opportunities Webinars: This webinar explains our various programs. Undergraduate opportunities on Monday, February 9 at 2:00 pm eastern. Graduate opportunities MONday February 16 at 2:00 pm eastern. Register at the above link.

Tips for ORNL Internship Applications: This webinar will provide guidance to students of all levels in how to set your application apart from the masses and lead to successful selection. Monday February 23, also 2:00 pm eastern. Again, register at the above link.

Open Office Hours for questions and inquiries: ask questions directly to ORE staff about applications, housing, transportation or any other topics related to educational programs at ORNL. Tuesday February 3 and Monday March 2 at 2:00 pm. You got – the above link.



Oak Ridge National Laboratory

ORNL Opportunities is a monthly newsletter for its Core Universities

As part of the original University Partnership Vision, ORNL established a founding group of core partners that includes Duke, Florida State, Georgia Tech, North Carolina State, University of Tennessee, Vanderbilt, Virginia, and Virginia Tech.

7500+

Staff, representing 60+ nations

#1

World's most intense neutron source, More R&D 100 Awards than any other national Laboratory, World's first exascale computer

5000+

Guest researchers annually

1000+

Student Interns annually

2,800+

FY24 journal publications

Contact for Core University matters:
William Jenks
Lead, Core Universities Partnerships Programs
jenksws@ornl.gov

DOE Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships (SULI): Undergraduates and recent grads. Applications for Summer 2026 are closed. [Application for Fall 2026 internships will open March 12.](#) .

Research Student Internships (RSI): Undergraduates, recent grads, and graduate students. Summer 2026 applications remain open through February 26, 2026.

Technical and Professional Internships (TPI): Undergraduates, recent grads, and graduate students looking for “practitioner” rather than “research” internships; also internships in non-science areas, such as communications and business operations. Summer 2026 applications remain open through February 26, 2026.

Graduate Research at ORNL (GRO): Graduate students interested in dissertation-related research. Flexible start and end dates, rolling applications. This is our largest graduate student internship program. To start an application, you must identify an ORNL mentor scientist who will supervise your research. The mentor will initiate the application.

DOE Office of Science Graduate Student Research Program (SCGSR): PhD candidates interested in dissertation-related research. This prestigious DOE-funded graduate internship has two application windows per year. There are two application cycles per year. The next application cycle will open in early February 2026, with start dates in November 2026.

Reach out to the Office of Research Education at education@ornl.gov.

Postdoctoral Fellowship Opportunities

Postdoctoral appointments are fully professional opportunities, normally for two years and extendable to three. A competitive compensation package accompanies the unique and exciting research opportunities of working at ORNL, one of the world’s leading research institutions. All postings are open searches posted at jobs.ornl.gov and clicking “Postdoctoral”. You can sign up for a weekly email listing at the web site.



These Listings are a SNAPSHOT of the available postdoctoral opening taken February 2, 2026. The list will certainly differ when you visit, with some closed and some new ones opened. Please visit jobs.ornl.gov for current listings!

Postdoctoral Research Associate - AI for Hydrological Modeling
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Biogeochemist
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Chirality-driven Quantum States
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Computation for Advanced Manufacturing
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Computational Fluid Dynamics
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Computational Methods for Data Reduction
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Computational Methods for Kinetic Equations
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Computational Radiation Protection Scientist
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Environmental Scientist

Postdoctoral Research Associate - Grid Modeling
Postdoctoral Research Associate - HPC Confidential Computing and Secure Multi-tenancy
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Neuromorphic Computing for Pixelated Detectors
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Process Monitoring of Directed Energy Deposition of Metals
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Quantum Algorithms for Materials Simulations
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Quantum Magnetic Materials
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Theory and Modeling of Dynamics in Condensed Matter
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Theory-in-the-loop of Autonomous Experiments for Materials-by-Desi
Postdoctoral Research Associate- Experimental Nuclear Structure, Reactions, and Astrophysics
Postdoctoral Research Associate, Scalable AI and Computational Imaging

Be in touch with us at postdocrecruitment@ornl.gov

Research Positions for Recent Graduates

ORNL has career opportunities for scientists and engineers that are posted on a rolling basis. Not shown in this newsletter are additional opportunities in Craft and Skilled Labor or Business and Administrative Support. This snapshot (December 31, 2025) only includes current listings that do not require significant experience beyond the PhD. Listings show minimum degree or degree plus experience requirements.



Even if there is not a current listing that fits your interest or graduation time, we strongly encourage you to join our Talent Community by creating an account at jobs.ornl.gov and setting up a profile; these are actively used in filling our positions!

This list is shorter than has been typical in recent months. All listings and additional career information are at jobs.ornl.gov.

Machine Learning Data Engineer BS + 5 years, MS + 4 years
Research Associate - Grid Modeling PhD + 2 years (e.g., postdoc)
Nuclear Fuel Cycle Analyst - R&D Staff BS + 8 years or equivalent education
Field Engineer in neutron facilities BS + 5 years
Cooling Systems Engineer in neutron facilities BS + 5 years

<u>Nuclear Mechanical Engineer</u> BS + 5 years
<u>Staff Member, Plasma / Ion Beam Research Scientist</u> PhD + 2 years
<u>Radioisotope Production Technical Professional</u> BS + 8 years
<u>HPC Linux Storage Engineer</u> BS + 5 years or education
<u>Plasma / Ion Beam Research Scientist- Associate</u> PhD
<u>Gas Dispensing Chemist/Engineer (Research Professional)</u> PhD + 2 years
<u>Gas Dispensing Chemist/Engineer (Technical Professional)</u> BS + 2 years or education
<u>Process Design Engineer</u> BS + 2 years or education
<u>HPC Linux Systems Engineer, Associate</u> BS + 2 years or education
<u>Kubernetes Platform Engineer</u> BS + 5 years or education
<u>Machine Learning Data Engineer</u> BS + 5 years or education

Distinguished Staff Fellowship Program: This extremely selective and prestigious opportunity for new Scientific Professionals has application windows in January, May, and September of each year. It is for recent STEM PhD graduates who will propose new lines of research in alignment with lab priorities. Use the QR code to get more information on this outstanding program.



ORNL is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified candidates, including individuals with disabilities and protected veterans, are encouraged to apply. ORNL is an E-Verify employer. If you have difficulty using the online application system or need accommodation to apply due to a disability, please email: ORNLRecruiting@ornl.gov.