



ORNL Opportunities

A Newsletter of Internships and Jobs for New Graduates

March 2026

Internship Opportunities: education.ornl.gov

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.



Only very limited opportunities for Summer 2026 internships are available in March, and *require* you to have contact with a potential mentor. Please note that March is the beginning of recruiting season for Fall 2026 internships.

Opportunities Webinars: This webinar explains our various programs. Undergraduate opportunities on Monday, March 9 at 2:00 pm eastern. Graduate opportunities Monday March 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 March 23, also 2:00 pm eastern. Again, register at 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.

7400+
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

5500+
Guest researchers annually

1000+
Student Interns annually

2,700+
FY25 journal publications

Contact for Core University matters:
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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. The next one will be in early April. You got – the above link.

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 are closed but Fall applications will open in mid March.

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 are closed but Fall applications will open in mid March.

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 current application cycle will close in early May, with start dates in November 2026.

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

Postdoctoral Fellowship Opportunities: jobs.ornl.gov

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 March 6, 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 - 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 - Integrated Photonics
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Process Monitoring of Directed Energy Deposition of Metals
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Water Resources

Postdoctoral Research Associate - Watershed Systems Modeling
Postdoctoral Research Associate -Microscopy and Scattering of Membranes
Postdoctoral Research Associate- Atomistic Simulation and Data Science Approaches

Be in touch with us at postdocrecruitment@ornl.gov

Research Positions for Recent Graduates: jobs.ornl.gov

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 (March 6, 2026) only includes current listings that do not require significant experience beyond the PhD and postdoc. Listings show minimum degree or degree plus experience requirements. *Note: almost all listings have “or equivalent mix with education” in experience listings, so a graduate degree can substitute for experience when an undergraduate degree is the minimum requirement.*



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!

All listings and additional career information are at jobs.ornl.gov.

AI Security Systems Architect (MS +7 years or PhD +2-4 years)
Coated Particle Fuel X-ray Microscopy Scientist (PhD)
Computer Scientist (BS)
Electric Motors Researcher (PhD + 4 years)
Electrical, Instrumentation, and Controls Engineer (BS)
HPC Linux Storage Engineer (BS + 5 years, clearance)
Mechanical Designer (AS + 5 years)
Mechanical Engineer (BS + 5 years)
Metallurgist (PhD or other mix of degree and experience)
Nuclear Fuel Cycle Analyst - R&D Staff (BS + 8 years)
Production Engineer (BS + 5 years)
Programs and Planning Specialist (BS + 3 years)
R&D Associate - Multimodal Spectroscopy of Nanomaterials (PhD)
Research Associate - Grid Modeling (PhD + 2 years)

Research Data Steward (MS or PhD)
Research Scientist - Materials & Manufacturing Modeling (PhD)
Research Scientist, Computational Fluid Dynamics (MS + 7 years or equiv education mix)
Research Staff - Nuclear Structure and Nuclear Astrophysics (PhD + 5 years)
Robotics Engineer (BS + 5 years)
Staff Technician - Nuclear Materials Testing and Laboratory Coordination (AA)
Systems Engineer for Classified Networks (BS + 5 years)
Talent Acquisition Partner (Hybrid Eligible) (BS + 2 years)
Technical Professional- Systems Integration & Operations for Advanced Atomic Force Microscopy (BS + 5 years)
Technical Security and Signals Countermeasures Specialist (BS + 5 years, clearance)
Thermal Mechanical Engineer (BS + 5 years)

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.