



ORNL Opportunities

A Newsletter of Internships and Jobs for New Graduates

May 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. Nationally, about 1/3 of SULI applicants get a slot, and it's closer to 1/4 at ORNL. Having a mentor lined up is what gets you across the line!

We are now in the Fall 2026 application season for most internships. Graduate internships (GRO and SCGSR) have flexible start dates

Watch a webinar to help you apply. The schedule of May and June webinars is posted at <https://education.ornl.gov/webinars>.

Opportunities Webinars: This webinar explains our various programs. There is a version for undergrads and another for graduate students. Undergrads: May 12, 2026 2:00-3:00 PM ET. Graduate students: May 12, 2026 10:00-11:00 AM ET.

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. May 18, 2026 12:00-1:00 PM ET,

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. May 22, 2026 9:00-10:00 AM ET



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:
William Jenks
Lead, Core Universities Partnerships Programs
jenksws@ornl.gov

DOE Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships (SULI): Undergraduates and recent grads. Applications for Fall 2026 are open now through May 20. Fall 2027 applications will open in early June.

Research Student Internships (RSI): Undergraduates, recent grads, and graduate students. Fall 2026 applications are open through June 9th.

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. Fall 2026 applications are open through June 9th.

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. The next cycle will have a due date in November 2026 with earliest start date for that round being in June 2027

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 April 28, 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 - Advanced STEM and EELS for Quantum and Energy Materials
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Agentic AI
Postdoctoral Research Associate - AI for Hydrological Modeling
Postdoctoral Research Associate - AI for Science
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Application-driven Composable Distributed Storage
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Data Science for Materials Characterization
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Grid Modeling
Postdoctoral Research Associate - HPC Confidential Computing and Secure Multi-tenancy
Postdoctoral Research Associate - HPC System Architecture and Intelligent Storage Design
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Integrated Photonics
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Materials Joining and Allied Processes
Postdoctoral Research Associate - ML & CI for Sparse & Multi-Modal Computed Tomography
Postdoctoral Research Associate - Synthetic Polymer Chemist

Postdoctoral Research Associate- Advanced Scanning Probe Microscopy for Ferroic Materials
Postdoctoral Research Associate- Automation of Electron Microscopy Workflows
Postdoctoral Research Associate, Atomistic Simulations & AI-Driven Molecular Modeling
Postdoctoral Research Associate, Emerging Architectures and Performance for Advanced Computing
Postdoctoral Research Associate, Quantum Information Science

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 (April 2, 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	PhD + 2-4
Applications Engineer - Advanced Manufacturing	BS + 4
Associate R&D Staff Member in Data Science for Advanced Manufacturing (Temporary)	PhD
Associate Research Staff - Advanced Manufacturing of Extreme Environment Metals	PhD + 1
Associate Research Staff - Computational Solid Mechanics	PhD
Computational Fluid Dynamics Analyst	MS + 2 or PhD + 1
Computational Fluid Dynamics Modeler	MS + 2 or PhD + 1
Computational Fluid Dynamics Modeler (Early Career)	BS
Control System Infrastructure Engineer	BS + 2
Controls Systems Designer	AS + 2
Cooling Systems Engineer	BS + 5
Cyber Security Research Assistant	MS or BS + 2
Electric Motors Researcher	PhD + 4
Electrical Design Engineer	BS + 5
Electrical, Instrumentation, & Controls (EI&C) Technician	AS + 5
Grid-Integrated Power Electronics Research Engineer (Temporary)	MS
HPC Linux Storage Engineer	BS + 5

Mechanical Engineer	BS
Metallurgist	PhD, MS + 4, or BS + 5
Nonproliferation Professional	BS + 5
Nuclear Engineer (E)	BS or MS
Nuclear Mechanical Engineer	BS + 5
Nuclear R&D Associate Staff Member (E)	PhD
Production Engineer	BS + 3
Protection Systems Engineer	BS
R&D Associate Staff Member - Grid-Interactive Controls Group	PhD
Radar and Optics Applications Associate Research Staff	BS + 5, MS + 2, or PhD
Radar and Optics Applications Staff Assistant	BS, MS, or PhD
Radiation Protection Research Scientist (Temporary)	PhD
Radioisotope Production Technical Professional	BS + 8
Remote Handling Engineer	BS + 5
Research Associate - Grid Modeling	PhD + 2
Research Associate, Atomistic Simulations & AI-Driven Molecular Modeling	PhD within 5 years
Research Scientist - Materials & Manufacturing Modeling	PhD
Research Scientist, Biostatistics and Biomedical Informatics for Population Health Sciences (Hybrid)	PhD + 2
Research Scientist, Computational Fluid Dynamics	MS + 7 or PhD
Research Scientist, Emerging Architectures and Performance for Advanced Computing	PhD + 2
Research Software Engineer	BS + 3
Signal Processing and AI Researcher	PhD + 1-4
Superconducting Magnet/Cryogenics Engineer	MS + 7
Survey, Alignment, and Metrology Engineer	BS
Technical Advisor	BS + 5
Technician - Survey, Alignment, and Metrology	AS + 5

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.