

Gold Experience for Interns

A next-level STEM internship

“My mentors were without doubt the best part about the internship. They made me feel completely at ease and part of the team in a short time. They gave me space to apply critical thinking whenever possible, but also helped me if I was stuck anywhere and needed guidance. The experience surpassed my expectations significantly.”



2020 PNNL
Student Intern



This effort aligns in support of DOE and the nation to sustain a pipeline of highly skilled and diverse **science, technology, engineering, and mathematics** (STEM) workers.

The PNNL Gold Experience for Interns is designed to provide students with an engaging, developmental, and impactful internship.

Through intentional recruitment, selection, onboarding, professional development sessions, enrichment and networking activities, mentoring, and more, PNNL STEM Education seeks to increase the number, diversity and quality of STEM professionals who establish careers at national laboratories or engage as future collaborators.

The comprehensive PNNL Gold Experience for Interns distinguishes the lab and provides students with onsite or virtual research and learning experiences across an array of disciplines.



For more information, visit:
www.pnnl.gov/stem-internships



or email:
stem.education@pnnl.gov

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT IMPACT

Interns tell us their experience at PNNL is truly golden.

In a 2020 internship exit survey, results indicated:

- 98%** expanded their technical knowledge
- 99%** increased their understanding of the work at DOE national laboratories
- 73%** plan to seek full-time employment at PNNL or other national laboratories in the future
- 97%** would seek opportunities to collaborate with PNNL staff in the future



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Through engaging learning sessions, interns can improve their ability to communicate, write abstracts, develop and give compelling research presentations, market their skills and expertise online, and grow as young STEM professionals.

ENRICHMENT & NETWORKING ACTIVITIES

Guided virtual tours, interactive sessions with scientists, trivia nights, and coffee breaks provide interns the opportunity to learn about the culture and operations of a national laboratory, connect with one another, and get a 'behind-the-scenes' look at research they may not encounter during their day-to-day work. Through these activities, interns begin to understand the scope and breadth of research performed at a national laboratory.

TOOLS & RESOURCES

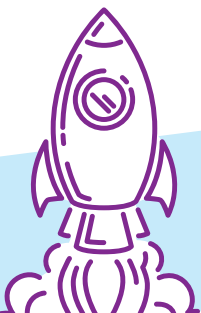
We provide simple ways for interns to engage with the Gold Experience, using tools like our intern newsletter, LaunchPad event registration website, and an internal networking website. Skilled and enthusiastic student program managers check in with students and mentors regularly to support the internship experience and collaboratively troubleshoot issues.

MENTORING

Each intern is paired with a trained mentor, who offers support, guidance, and connection to their team at the lab. Mentors and interns work together on immersive projects. Mentors receive annual training, a mentoring guide with resources for face-to-face and virtual mentoring, and a monthly mentor newsletter.

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUMS

PNNL STEM Education hosts formal research symposiums for interns throughout the academic year and during the summer. While presenting at a symposium is a requirement for DOE WDTS program interns, all interns are encouraged to participate. Mentors and PNNL staff are invited to attend as interns present their research and share their work. When symposiums are held virtually, family, friends, and academic mentors are also welcome to attend.



To view upcoming **Gold Experience for Interns** events, visit the **LaunchPad website**.

