

Opportunity Title: 2025 DEVCOM ARL Summer Student Experience: Advanced Ceramics for Extreme Conditions
Opportunity Reference Code: ARL-SSE-2025-SEM-0007

Organization DEVCOM Army Research Laboratory

Reference Code ARL-SSE-2025-SEM-0007

How to Apply **Application Deadline: January 12, 2025**

Applications must be submitted in [Zintellect](#).

A complete application includes:

1. **Resume** listing your relevant coursework and lab experience as well as all papers, presentations, or publications you may have authored or co-authored. Include any reprints or abstracts if they are available.
2. **Transcripts** verifying current enrollment in an undergraduate or graduate program at an accredited university or technical institute. Original student copies are acceptable.
3. **Statement of Interest** describing your scientific research experience including lab experience and relevant academic coursework. State how this experience intersects with your personal and professional goals.
4. **Three References** formal reference forms are not required for the Summer Student Experience, but names and contact information for references must be provided. During the review process, ARL Selecting Officials may contact references.

Application Deadline 1/12/2025 11:55:55 PM Eastern Time Zone

Description **Research Project**

Opportunities exist for foundational and early applied research and development (R&D) efforts towards enabling the next generation ceramics and ceramic composites for Army systems. Research activities include: 1) novel synthesis and processing techniques for opaque and transparent ceramics and composites with optimal structure/properties for extreme environments and high-rate impact, 2) advanced manufacturing science for development of heterogeneous multi-scale ceramics and interfaces with high fracture and failure tolerance, 3) high-throughput simulation, machine learning and design optimization for processing-structure-property relationships, and 4) high-throughput non-destructive evaluation and characterization for materials discovery.

Advisor Name: Lionel Vargas-Gonzalez

Advisor Email: lionel.r.vargas-gonzalez.civ@army.mil

About Science of Extreme Materials (SEM)

Materials and related manufacturing methods focusing on mechanical response and performance extremes, including active, adaptive, and flexible/soft materials; novel manufacturing science for energetic materials.

About the ARL-RAP Summer Student Experience (SSE)

The DEVCOM Army Research Laboratory (ARL) Research Associateship Program (RAP) [Summer Student Experience \(SSE\)](#) is an educational program that allows undergraduate through PhD students and recent bachelor's and master's degree graduates to participate in a paid research experience at a Department of Defense laboratory over the summer break.

 **ORAU Pathfinder**



Whether you are just starting your career or already at a senior level, ORAU offers internships, fellowships, research opportunities, and contract positions that can provide you with invaluable experience. Download the ORAU Pathfinder mobile app and find the right opportunity to propel you along your career path!

[Visit ORAU Pathfinder](#)

 **GET IT ON Google Play**

 **Download on the App Store**

Opportunity Title: 2025 DEVCOM ARL Summer Student Experience: Advanced

Ceramics for Extreme Conditions

Opportunity Reference Code: ARL-SSE-2025-SEM-0007

Participants are paired with scientists and engineers at ARL who are helping to shape and execute the Army's program for meeting the challenge of developing technologies that will support Army forces future operational needs. As a participant in the ARL-RAP SSE, you will be part of high priority research efforts that are broadly supported by [11 research competencies](#). While ARL has identified several specific research topics, the opportunity for general research may also exist under each competency.

About DEVCOM Army Research Laboratory (ARL) Research Associateship Program (RAP)

The [Army Research Laboratory Research Associateship Program](#) (ARL-RAP) is designed to significantly increase the involvement of creative and highly trained scientists and engineers from academia and industry in scientific and technical areas of interest and relevance to the Army. Scientists and Engineers at the DEVCOM Army Research Laboratory (ARL) help shape and execute the Army's program for meeting the challenge of developing technologies that will support Army forces in meeting future operational needs by pursuing scientific research and technological developments in diverse fields such as: applied mathematics, atmospheric characterization, simulation and human modeling, digital/optical signal processing, nanotechnology, material science and technology, multifunctional technology, combustion processes, propulsion and flight physics, communication and networking, and computational and information sciences.

About Army Research Directorate (ARD)

ARL's [Army Research Directorate \(ARD\)](#) focuses on exploiting concept development, discovery, technology development, and transition of the most promising disruptive science and technology to deliver to the Army fundamentally advantageous science-based capabilities through ARL's 11 research competencies. This intramural research directorate also manages the laboratory's essential research programs, which are flagship research efforts focused on delivering defined outcomes.

Location(s) of Appointment

- Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland (APG)

Tentative Summer Program Dates: May 12, 2025 - August 29, 2025. If selected, you will coordinate your exact participation dates with your Research Advisor.

For questions about the Summer Student Experience Program, please email ARLFellowship@orau.org.

Qualifications Preferred Technical Skills

Preferred attributes include a strong knowledge of ceramic engineering principles and analytical and mechanical characterization techniques. Specialized expertise also desired in areas of ceramic synthesis methods, inorganic chemistry, colloidal particle suspension dispersion and rheology, advanced microscopy and spectroscopy techniques, high-rate mechanisms,

Opportunity Title: 2025 DEVCOM ARL Summer Student Experience: Advanced
Ceramics for Extreme Conditions

Opportunity Reference Code: ARL-SSE-2025-SEM-0007

advanced manufacturing, process control and modeling, and AI/ML
techniques.

- Eligibility Requirements**

- **Citizenship:** LPR or U.S. Citizen
 - **Degree:** Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree received within the last 12 months or currently pursuing.
 - **Overall GPA:** 2.50
 - **Academic Level(s):** Master's Degree (Journeyman Fellow) or Doctoral Degree (Postdoctoral Fellow).
 - **Discipline(s):**
 - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** ([1](#)👁)
 - **Engineering** ([27](#)👁)
 - **Age:** Must be 18 years old by 5/1/2025