

**Opportunity Title:** All ORISE Ignite Off! 2026 Competition  
**Opportunity Reference Code:** All-ORISE-IGNITE-OFF-2026

**Organization** ORISE

**Reference Code** All-ORISE-IGNITE-OFF-2026

**How to Apply** Click on *Apply* now at the bottom of the opportunity to start your application.

**Application Deadline** 6/12/2026 11:59:59 PM Eastern Time Zone

### **Description** What is the Ignite-Off Competition?

Hosted by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), the annual Ignite Off! Competition showcases the talents of ORISE interns from participating federal agencies and offices as they share their research through Ignite Talks. Each competitor has five minutes to present their project, using 20 picture-centric slides that automatically advance every 15 seconds. Contestants have access to an ORISE professional development course that teaches the process for developing an Ignite Talk. The 2026 Ignite Off! Competition will be held virtually.

More information on past Ignite Off! competitions can be found here: [Ignite Off! Competition - ORISE \(orau.gov\)](#).

### **What is an Ignite-Talk?**

An Ignite Talk is an innovative and fast-paced style used to deliver a concise presentation. During an Ignite Talk, presenters discuss their research using 20 image-centric slides which automatically advance every 15 seconds. The result is a fun and engaging five-minute presentation.

More information on what an Ignite-Talk is can be found here: [Ignite Talks - ORISE \(orau.gov\)](#).

### **How do I find out more about the 2026 competition?**

Information session will be held on the following dates:

- May 14th 2:30-4:00pm ET [Register Here](#)
- June 2nd 2:30-4:00pm ET [Register Here](#)

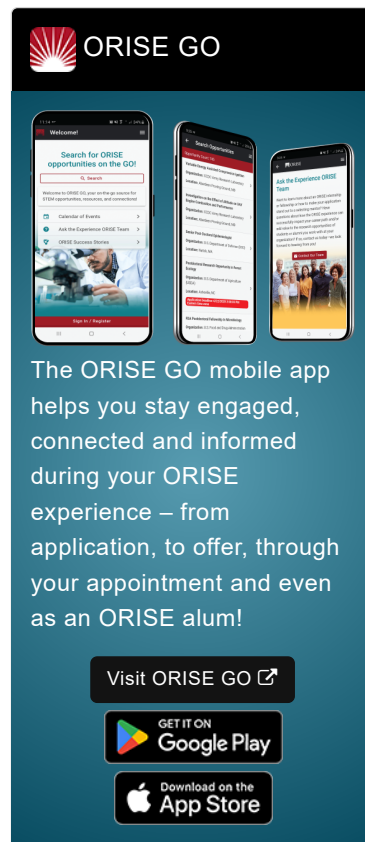
Unable to attend a session? Click [Here](#) to watch a recording from a previous information session.

### **Once I apply, what are the next steps?**

Step 1: Applicants will be selected the week of June 23rd and notified to prepare to present in one of the semi-final rounds. If selected, you will need to submit a business headshot, and your availability for the practice sessions and semi-finals.

Step 2: Practice sessions will be held two days the week of July 7th and three days the week of July 14th providing contestants with the opportunity to practice their Ignite Talk and receive feedback.

Step 3: Semi-finals will be held the week of July 27th (exact dates will be



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announced at time of selection). Each contestant will present their Ignite Talk virtually during the semi-final round and the video will be recorded.

Step 4: The top two contestants from each semi-final round will then compete in the final event (using the same recorded video presentation from their semi-final) which will be scored by a panel of national judges. Finalists will be announced the week of August 3rd.

#### **What happens if I win?**

Contestants who advance to the final round will be competing for the following prizes:

- **1st Prize:** \$1,000 gift card, Engraved Trophy, and a feature in the ORISE Newsletter
- **2nd Prize:** \$750 gift card
- **3rd Prize:** \$500 gift card
- **Fan-Favorite Presentation:** \$500 gift card

All finalists will receive a cash prize in the form of a gift card and ORISE-branded merchandise.

Winners' Ignite Talk videos will be featured on the ORISE Website.

**Questions?** Please email [ExperienceORISE@orau.org](mailto:ExperienceORISE@orau.org)

**Qualifications** All current ORISE undergraduate students, graduate students, recent college graduates, and post-doctoral participants are eligible to participate. (Appointment start date must be on or before 6/12/2026)

High School students, Faculty and Established Scientists are **ineligible** for the 2026 competition.

#### **A complete application consists of:**

- A completed Zintellect application for this posting
- Submission of 2-3 slides that you will use for your Ignite-Talk
- Submission of 3 main points and a call to action

Mentor approval will be required for all participants selected to move onto the semi-finals.

**Point of Contact** [Kam](#)

**Eligibility** • **Degree:** Any degree .

**Requirements** • **Discipline(s):**

- **Business** ([11](#))
- **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** ([12](#))
- **Communications and Graphics Design** ([6](#))
- **Computer, Information, and Data Sciences** ([17](#))
- **Earth and Geosciences** ([21](#))
- **Engineering** ([27](#))
- **Environmental and Marine Sciences** ([14](#))

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- **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([51](#))
- **Mathematics and Statistics** ([11](#))
- **Other Non-Science & Engineering** ([13](#))
- **Physics** ([16](#))
- **Science & Engineering-related** ([2](#))
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences** ([29](#))
- **Age:** Must be 18 years of age