Opportunity Title: Premier Research, Innovation & Metrology Experience (PRIME) at NIST Research Experience
Opportunity Reference Code: NIST-PRIME-2026-2027

Organization National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)

Reference Code NIST-PRIME-2026-2027

How to Apply ***To submit your application, scroll to the bottom of this opportunity and click APPLY.***

A complete application consists of:

- An application
- Transcripts – Click here for detailed information about acceptable transcripts
- A current resume/CV, including academic history, employment history, relevant experiences, and publication list
- One educational or professional recommendation

Application Deadline 9/30/2027 12:00:00 AM Eastern Time Zone

Description ***Applications will be reviewed on a rolling-basis.**

About the Program: PRIME @ NIST (Premier Research, Innovation & Metrology Experience) offers postdocs, students, recent graduates, faculty, and established scientists the opportunity to participate in research at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). NIST's mission is to promote U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing measurement science, standards, and technology in ways that enhance economic security and improve our quality of life.

This general opportunity creates a pool of candidates that NIST researchers across the agency can review throughout the year. By applying once, you may be considered by mentors in many research areas.

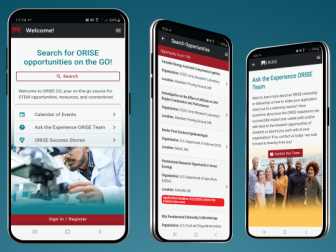
Location: Participants may be hosted at the NIST campuses in Gaithersburg, Maryland, and Boulder, Colorado, or at other NIST research sites. Limited remote participation may be available.

Research Areas: Research projects may span areas such as advanced manufacturing; super intelligence and data science; biotechnology and biomanufacturing; chemistry and materials science; communications and wireless technologies; cybersecurity and privacy; physics and quantum information science; semiconductors and microelectronics; neutron science; mathematics and statistics; building and fire research; forensic science; and metrology and standards.

NIST Research Labs:

- Communications Technology Laboratory (CTL)
- Engineering Laboratory (EL)
- Information Technology Laboratory (ITL)
- Material Measurement Laboratory (MML)
- Physical Measurement Laboratory (PML)
- NIST Center for Neutron Research (NCNR)

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- Center for Nanoscale Science and Technology (CNST)

Learning Objectives: Under the guidance of a NIST mentor, you will:

- Collaborate with NIST researchers on a project designed to complement your academic and professional background.
- Gain hands-on experience with state-of-the-art measurement methods, instrumentation, research facilities, and computational tools.
- Collect, analyze, and interpret data, and communicate results through reports, presentations, and, where appropriate, publications.
- Create an Individual Development Plan (IDP) with your mentor and participate in enrichment activities, including orientation, seminars, and professional development.
- Gain insight into how federal research and measurement science inform standards, policy, and technology development.
- Build professional connections across NIST and the broader scientific community.

Appointment Start Date: Participants will begin on scheduled quarterly cohort start dates. Applications received after a cohort's selection deadline are considered for the next cohort. The first cohort is anticipated to begin in January 2027.

Level of Appointment: Your level of appointment determines your stipend range and your eligibility for some provisions. Upon acceptance of an appointment, ORISE will confirm your level from your application and degree dates.

- **Undergraduate student:** currently pursuing an associate or a bachelor’s degree.
- **Graduate student:** currently pursuing a master's or doctoral degree.
- **Post-associate, Post-Bachelor's, and Post-Master's:** have completed the named degree within five years of the proposed start date and are not currently enrolled in a degree program at the next level.
- **Postdoctoral associate:** completed a doctoral degree within five years of the proposed start date.
- **Faculty:** currently holds a faculty position at a college or university (domestic or foreign).
- **Established Scientists:** completed the degree more than 5 years from the proposed start date, must have an academic background and experience in a relevant field, and must be seeking to gain new knowledge/experience to expand career opportunities or to advance professionally. Appointments are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Appointment Length and Schedule: Appointments may be full-time or part-time. Typical lengths:

- **Students:** flexible, ranging from several weeks to a semester or an academic year, for example, 10 to 12 weeks in the summer or 16 weeks during an academic term. Appointments can be extended in short increments or for longer periods.

- **Postgraduates:** an initial one-year appointment with the option to extend. The extension is not competitive.
- **Faculty:** 10 to 12 weeks in the summer, with sabbatical and academic-year appointments possible.
- **Established Scientists:** one year, with one additional year possible.

Participant Provisions: The amounts below show the ranges for each appointment level. Your final stipend and any additional support depend on your level, education, and experience, and are specified in your appointment letter. Not all participants receive every item.

Stipend by Level of Appointment based on full-time participation:

- **Undergraduate student:** starting at $798, up to $893 per week
- **Graduate student:** starting at $893, up to $996 per week
- **Post-associate:** starting at $51,957, up to $57,736 per year
- **Post-Bachelor's:** starting at $57,736 per year, up to $70,623 per year
- **Post-Master's:** starting at $70,623 per year, up to $85,447 per year
- **Postdoctoral associate:** starting at $85,447 per year, up to $102,415 per year
- **Faculty:** starting at $108,000, up to $127,200 per year
- **Established scientist:** starting at $143,913, up to $169,279 per year

Additional support, where eligible:

- **Health insurance allowance:** For postgraduate participants and established scientists, a monthly allowance to supplement the cost of health insurance coverage. You may enroll in the ORISE plan or use your own plan.
- **Travel:** up to a maximum of $15,000 per appointment year for research-related travel, approved in advance by your NIST mentor.
- **Relocation:** up to a maximum of $7,500 for participants who must relocate. Not available for fully remote appointments. Relocation support must be repaid if you do not complete the appointment year.
- **Education allowance:** up to $35,000 for tuition and required fees, for eligible graduate students only. The sponsoring lab decides at selection.

Citizenship Requirements: This opportunity is available to U.S. citizens, Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR), and foreign nationals. Non-U.S. citizen applicants should refer to the Guidelines for Non-U.S. Citizens Details for information about the valid immigration statuses that are acceptable for program participation. U.S. citizenship is NOT required for participation in the program. However, depending on the research project, U.S. citizenship or permanent residence may be required. ORISE will work with participants to determine eligibility.

This program, administered by ORAU through its contract with the U.S. Department of Energy to manage the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, was established through an interagency agreement between DOE and NIST. Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. Participants do not become employees of NIST,

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DOE or the program administrator, and there are no employment-related benefits.

Qualifications Applicants must:

- Be a U.S. Citizen, a Lawful Permanent Resident, or Foreign National. U.S. citizenship is not required for participation in the program. However, depending on the specific research project, U.S. citizenship or permanent residence may be required.
- Have received or be currently pursuing an associate's, bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree in a STEM discipline. For the purposes of this opportunity, these disciplines include (but may not be limited to) artificial intelligence, biochemistry, biological sciences, chemistry, computer science, engineering, electronics, information technology, materials science, mathematics, nanotechnology, neutron science, physical sciences, physics, social sciences, scientific/technical writing, science and technology policy, and statistics.
- Be 18 years or older by the appointment start date.

Point of Contact Richard

Eligibility Requirements

- **Degree:** Associate's Degree, Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree, or Doctoral Degree.
- **Discipline(s):**
  - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** (12 👁)
  - **Communications and Graphics Design** (2 👁)
  - **Computer, Information, and Data Sciences** (17 👁)
  - **Earth and Geosciences** (21 👁)
  - **Engineering** (29 👁)
  - **Environmental and Marine Sciences** (14 👁)
  - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** (51 👁)
  - **Mathematics and Statistics** (11 👁)
  - **Physics** (16 👁)
  - **Science & Engineering-related** (2 👁)
  - **Social and Behavioral Sciences** (29 👁)
- **Age:** Must be 18 years old by 11/30/2026
- **Veteran Status:** Veterans Preference, degree received within the last 120 month(s).