Opportunity Title: Materials Research for Impact Protection
Opportunity Reference Code: ARL-R-WMRD-300006

Organization DEVCOM Army Research Laboratory

Reference Code ARL-R-WMRD-300006

Application Deadline 10/14/2026 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

Description **About the Research**

ARL is a world-leader in fundamental research on high performance protection materials. The Composites and Hybrid Materials Branch of the US Army Research Laboratory is looking for an applicant in the area of mechanics of materials. Applicants should have received a bachelor's degree or an advanced degree in Mechanical Engineering, Materials Engineering, Engineering Mechanics, or a similar field. This opportunity will involve research tasks geared towards the development and characterization of personal protective equipment and materials optimized for protection against blunt impact. Individuals with experimental and/or computational expertise relevant to head injury and impact biomechanics are especially encouraged to apply. This opportunity is only open to U.S. Citizens.

ARL Advisor: Thomas Plaisted

ARL Advisor Email: thomas.a.plaisted.civ@mail.mil

About WMRD

The goals of the Weapons and Materials Research Directorate (WMRD) are to enhance the lethality and survivability of weapons systems, and to meet the soldier's technology needs for advanced weaponry and protection. Research is pursued in energetic materials dynamics, propulsion/flight physics, projectile warhead mechanics, terminal effects phenomena, armor/survivability technologies, environmental chemistry, and advanced materials (energetic, metals, ceramics, polymers, composite/hybrids, and mechanics) for armor, armament, missiles, ground vehicles, helicopters, and individual soldier applications necessary for maintaining and ensuring supremacy in future land warfare.

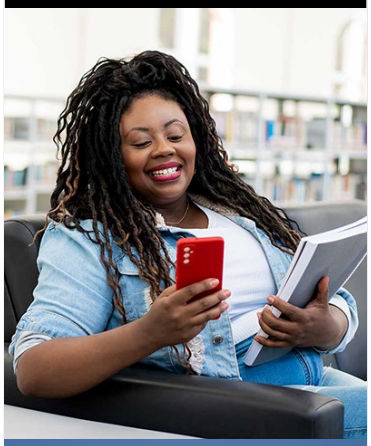
About ARL-RAP

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 CCDC 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.

A complete application includes:

DEVCOM ARMY RESEARCH LABORATORY

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- **Curriculum Vitae or Resume**
- **Three References Forms**
  - An email with a link to the reference form will be available in Zintellect to the applicant upon completion of the on-line application. Please send this email to persons you have selected to complete a reference.
  - References should be from persons familiar with your educational and professional qualifications (include your thesis or dissertation advisor, if applicable)
- **Transcripts**
  - Transcript verifying receipt of degree must be submitted with the application. Student/unofficial copy is acceptable

If selected by an advisor the participant will also be required to write a **research proposal** to submit to the ARL-RAP review panel for :

- Research topic should relate to a specific opportunity at ARL (see Research Areas)
- The objective of the research topic should be clear and have a defined outcome
- Explain the direction you plan to pursue
- Include expected period for completing the study
- Include a brief background such as preparation and motivation for the research
- References of published efforts may be used to improve the proposal

A link to upload the proposal will be provided to the applicant once the advisor has made their selection.

Questions about this opportunity? Please email ARLFellowship@orau.org

Eligibility Requirements

- **Citizenship:** U.S. Citizen Only
- **Degree:** Any degree .
- **Academic Level(s):** Any academic level.
- **Discipline(s):**
  - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** (12 👁)
  - **Engineering** (27 👁)