



**September 2023**

**Call to Recommend Undergraduate Applicants for the 2024 WDTs Mini-Semester Program**  
**Participants explore the science and opportunities of a national research laboratory**

**Announcement to:** Administrators/Professors/Science Department Chairs

**Opportunity:** Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) research facility home to seven Nobel Prizes and some of the best scientific research facilities in the world including the National Synchrotron Light Source II, the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider, and the Center for Functional Nanomaterials, is offering a one-week experience during the 2024 winter break. BNL's Office of Educational Programs (OEP) is seeking your assistance in recommending eligible students to apply to this extraordinary, one-week program to be held in January 2024.

**Objective:**

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- To introduce traditionally underrepresented students in STEM fields to the opportunities at BNL and the larger DOE community; to understand the possibilities within the DOE, the largest funder of the physical sciences in the country, delivering discovery science and transformative technology to power and secure the nation's future.
- To inspire a broader interest and awareness of DOE STEM internship opportunities at a national laboratory in a WDTs recruitment program.

**Program:**

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The 2024 WDTs Mini-Semester program will be held on-site from **January 08 - 12, 2024**, Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. This year we will be hosting two tracks, an Interdisciplinary Science track, and an Engineering/Technical track. Students will apply to their selected track. Both tracks will explore the science and unique opportunities and facilities at BNL. All students will interact with world-class scientists, engineers, facilities and build a network foundation of their own with laboratory administrators and the scientific community. Housing and transportation for the week will be supported by BNL.

**2024 Program Tracks:**

- **Interdisciplinary Science Track**

Students in this track will be introduced to the broad wide range of first-class research conducted at BNL in the areas of Physics, Energy, Climate Science, Computational Science, and user facilities. This week will help students understand different pathways to a variety of scientific careers, develop personal networking opportunities with the BNL scientific community and the laboratory administrators. Throughout the week, students will learn research concepts through hands-on activities that will be supported and reinforced directly by BNL researchers. Students majoring in all STEM areas are encouraged to apply.

- **Technical/Engineering**

The technical/engineering week will reflect the development of highly specialized instrumentation and controls that support the scientific enterprise at BNL and other national laboratories. This track will focus on sensor development and programming, troubleshooting, use of sensors and other instrumentation critical to facility operation and detection of various signals associated with research at the Lab. The program will be supported by technical/engineering subject matter experts with lectures, demonstrations, tours of instrumentation and facility development sites, and support of hands-on activities. Local undergraduate students from community colleges and universities pursuing a technical or engineering degree are encouraged to apply.

### Informational Session:

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**2024 Mini-Semester Application Virtual Office Hours: 12 – 1 pm on Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Link: <https://bnl.zoomgov.com/j/1616427752?pwd=SjFXU0NNV3VWT01jRnNwbTZLRnhldz09>

### Eligibility:

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- **Members of the following underrepresented minority groups in STEM: African Ancestry, Hispanic/Latino, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander, Women, LGBTQIA+ and rural students.**
- **Applicants must be U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents (green card holder) and enrolled full time at their college/university.**
- **Eligible students must be majoring in a STEM discipline and have demonstrated strong abilities and interest in STEM. A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required.**
- **Students accepted into the 2024 Mini-Semester will be required to submit a WDTs DOE internship application for summer 2024. We do not guarantee admission into the summer internships.**

### Housing & Transportation:

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Participants will be required to stay on-site for the duration of the program. BNL will provide housing and round-trip travel for all accepted participants.

### Application Procedure:

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1. Please distribute the accompanying flyer and/or the following links to the two track applications to your qualified candidates:
  - **Interdisciplinary Track -**  
(<https://surveys.external.bnl.gov/n/WDTsMiniSemesterAppInterSciTrackForm.aspx>)
  - **Technical/Engineering Track -**  
(<https://surveys.external.bnl.gov/n/WDTsMiniSemesterAppTechEngTrackForm.aspx>)
2. Students must complete an essay identifying **three BNL research areas of interest** and why the student is motivated in participating in the 2024 WDTs Mini-Semester program at BNL.
3. Two letters of recommendation are required, one letter must be from a STEM faculty member. Student recommendations are submitted online. Instructions on how to request and submit the recommendation letters is provided in the application confirmation email. **The deadline to submit letters of recommendations is October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**
4. Incomplete applications are not considered. Students are responsible to follow up with their recommending faculty to ensure that letters of recommendation are received by the due date.

### Dates to Remember:

**2024 Mini-Semester Application Deadline:** Wednesday, October 25, 2023 @ 5 pm (ET)

**2024 Mini-Semester Recommendation Deadline:** Friday, October 27, 2023 @ 11:59pm (ET)

**Student Notification By:** November 6th, 2023

Please feel free to contact me at [Nzmich1@bnl.gov](mailto:Nzmich1@bnl.gov) if you have any questions regarding the program. Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.

Sincerely,



Nicole Zmich (She, Her, Hers)  
Sr. Educational Program Representative