The Marine Energy Graduate Student Research Program

Allison Johnson
Engagement and Outreach Lead
Water Power Technologies Office
U.S. Department of Energy
The Marine Energy Graduate Student Research Program

**Eligibility**
To be considered, applicants must:
- Be a U.S. Citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident.
- Be enrolled as a full-time master’s or doctoral graduate student at an accredited U.S. college or university.
- Conduct marine energy research for a thesis or dissertation.
- Have a cumulative graduate GPA of 3.00 or higher on a 4.00 scale.
- Be available to conduct research at the host facility for at least six months.

**The Experience**
During the 6-12 months of the fellowship, fellows will:
- Conduct marine energy research toward a thesis or dissertation.
- Work with a host facility, such as a national lab, industry partner, NGO, or a government organization.
- Gain access to leading scientists and researchers and state-of-the-art equipment.
- Gain insight into research and career opportunities.
- Apply academic interests to real-world challenges.

**The Benefits**
In 2023, fellows could receive up to $87K in pay and benefits:
- A monthly stipend. ($2.2K/mo. for master’s, $3K/mo. for PhD)
- A stipend to cover the cost of health insurance. ($615/mo. for individuals, more for family)
- Some tuition reimbursement. (up to $25K)
- Reimbursement for travel for educational and research purposes. (up to $7K)
- If applicable, a relocation allowance. (up to $3K)

It is possible that these exact amounts may change for 2024 to adjust for inflation.
Claire Gonzales, a 2022 fellow

- Claire is a doctoral student in marine science at the University of California, Santa Barbara.
- Claire worked with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management during her fellowship.
- Claire’s research focused on the co-location of marine renewable energy with offshore aquaculture development along the California coast.
- This work is intended to address both social and physical factors that will inform renewable energy development efforts and ultimately help evaluate proposed marine renewable energy co-location projects.

Background photo shows shellfish farming. *Photo courtesy of Aquarium of the Pacific*
Congratulations to our 2023 Fellows!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hannah Brachfield</th>
<th>Brittany Lydon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Host: The U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Office of Fleet Installations and Environment</td>
<td>Host: The National Renewable Energy Laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree Program: Master’s in Environmental Sciences and Public Policy at Oregon State University</td>
<td>Degree Program: PhD in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Washington</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nicole Marone</th>
<th>Alexander Robinson</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Host: The Ocean Renewable Power Company and Sandia National Laboratories</td>
<td>Host: The Pacific Northwest National Laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree Program: PhD in Ocean Engineering at the University of New Hampshire</td>
<td>Degree Program: PhD in Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Washington</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Details on the 2024 Program

• Applications will be open from September – December 2023.

• Fellowships start in spring or summer of 2024.

• For more information on the Marine Energy Graduate Student Research Program, please visit the WPTO website at energy.gov/water or the ORISE program website at https://orise.orau.gov/marine-energy-research-program

Interested in hosting a fellow? Attend an informational webinar on August 2nd or reach out!

Allison.Johnson@ee.doe.gov
Ashley.Brooks@ee.doe.gov
waterpowertechnologiesoffice@ee.doe.gov

Sign up for our newsletters!

Water Column (monthly marine energy news)

Hydro Headlines (monthly hydropower news)

Water Wire (monthly marine energy and hydropower news)