

# The Marine Energy Graduate Student Research Program

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY** | Energy Efficiency &  
Renewable Energy

WATER POWER  
TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE



OAK RIDGE  
INSTITUTE  
FOR SCIENCE  
AND EDUCATION

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# 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.K/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.

# Spotlight on a Previous Fellow



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!

## Hannah Brachfield

Host: The U.S. Fleet Forces Command,  
Office of Fleet Installations and  
Environment

Degree Program: Master's in  
Environmental Sciences and Public  
Policy at Oregon State University



## Brittany Lydon

Host: The National Renewable  
Energy Laboratory

Degree Program: PhD  
in Mechanical Engineering at the  
University of Washington



## Nicole Marone

Host: The Ocean Renewable Power  
Company and Sandia National  
Laboratories

Degree Program: PhD in Ocean  
Engineering at the University of  
New Hampshire



## Alexander Robinson

Host: The Pacific Northwest  
National Laboratory

Degree Program: PhD in  
Materials Science and  
Engineering at the University of  
Washington



# 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](https://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 2<sup>nd</sup> or reach out!**



Scan QR for  
webinar  
registration

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