

Office of Science Graduate Student Research Program (SCGSR)

2026 Solicitation 2

Applications due November 4, 2026, 5:00 pm ET



U.S. DEPARTMENT
of **ENERGY**

Office of
Science

[Energy.gov/science](https://energy.gov/science)

SCGSR Program

Foster advanced workforce development in areas critically important to SC mission

Funds PhD candidates (stipend up to \$3,600/month) for conducting part of their thesis research at DOE National Laboratories

3 – 12 months in collaboration with a DOE National Laboratory scientist

Awardees have the option to apply for additional SCGSR funding to make short visits (6 weeks) to CERN (Switzerland) or RIKEN-CCS (Japan) during their SCGSR award period

2026 Solicitation 2 – Application window: August 12 – November 4, 2026

Full details, requirements, FAQs, and link to application at: <https://science.osti.gov/wdts/scgsr/>



SCGSR Program by the Numbers



"The SCGSR program has been the most valuable part of my graduate education."

SCGSR 2022 S2 Awardee



What Awardees Say About SCGSR

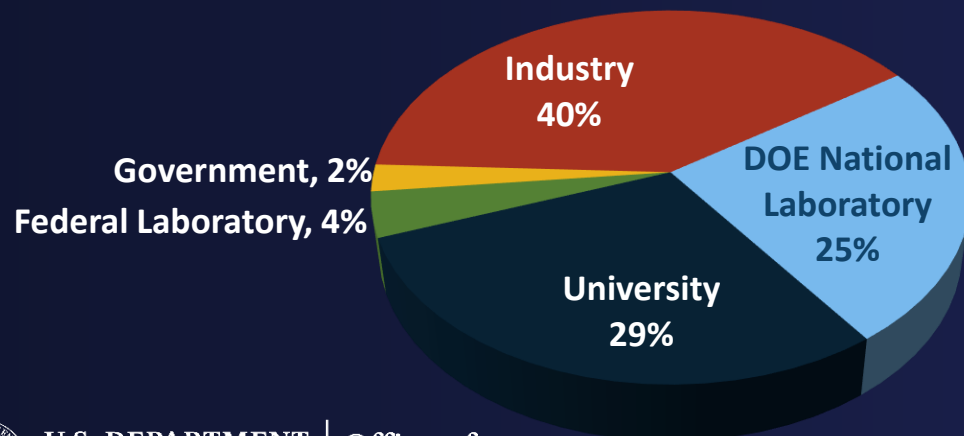
99% Received training not available at their universities

99% Expanded their networks

99% SCGSR introduced them to careers outside academia

100% Their SCGSR award led to completion of a key part of their PhD dissertation

SCGSR Alumni Work in...



>1,000 Research articles
>30,000 Citations
>900 Research presentations
>120 International Presentations
14 Patents



Eligibility, Benefits, and Application

- Online application at <https://wdts.ornl.gov/scgsr/Account/Login>
- Application requires a **3-page long research proposal** and **letters of support** from the student's **PhD thesis advisor** and the **collaborating DOE National laboratory scientist**.
- Proposed SCGSR project must be **aligned with one of the SCGSR priority research areas**
<https://science.osti.gov/wdts/scgsr/How-to-Apply/Priority-SC-Research-Areas>
- **Applications proposing to use an SC user facility must apply for user facility time separately.**



Eligibility:

- US Citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident
- Ph.D. Candidacy
- Research aligned with an SCGSR priority area
- Established collaboration with a DOE National laboratory scientist

Award Benefits:

- Stipend of up to \$3,600/month
- Reimbursement of inbound/outbound travel up to \$3,000
- Eligible for 6-week long research visit to CERN (Switzerland) or RIKEN-CCS (Japan) (optional)



Application Requirements

Only COMPLETE applications submitted by the deadline will be considered!

Due November 4, 2026, 5:00 PM ET

- All required fields of the Application System <https://wdts.orau.gov/scgsr/Account/Login>
- Official graduate transcripts and **explicit proof** of Ph.D. Candidacy
Remove SSN or dates of birth from transcripts, otherwise they will be *immediately eliminated from the system and deemed non-compliant*
- Research Proposal (*3-pages maximum*)
- Letters of Support:
 - thesis advisor
 - collaborating DOE National laboratory scientist



<https://science.osti.gov/wdts/scgsr/how-to-apply/>



56 SCGSR Priority Research Areas for SCGSR 2026 S2

Convergence Research Topical Areas

- (a) Accelerator Science (ASCR, BES, BER, FES, HENP, and IRP)
- (b) Artificial Intelligence and Data Science (ASCR, BES, BER, FES, and HENP)
- (c) Microelectronics (ASCR, BES, FES, and HENP)
- (d) Quantum Information Science (ASCR, BER, FES, and HENP)

Advanced Scientific Computing Research (ASCR)

- (a) Applied Mathematics
- (b) Computer Science
- (c) Advanced Computing Technologies

Biological and Environmental Research (BER)

- (a) Computational Biology and Bioinformatics
- (b) Biomolecular Characterization and Imaging Science
- (c) Plant Science for Resilient Bioenergy Crop Production
- (d) Microbiome Engineering
- (e) Earth System Model Development: Computational Modeling
- (f) Model and Analysis, Multi-sector Dynamics, and Process Research

Basic Energy Sciences (BES)

- (a) Materials Chemistry
- (b) Biomolecular Materials
- (c) Synthesis and Processing Science
- (d) Experimental Condensed Matter Physics
- (e) Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics
- (f) Physical Behavior of Materials
- (g) Mechanical Behavior and Radiation Effects
- (h) Quantum Information Science in Materials Sciences and Engineering
- (i) X-ray Scattering
- (j) Neutron Scattering
- (k) Electron and Scanning Probe Microscopies
- (l) Atomic, Molecular, and Optical Sciences
- (m) Gas Phase Chemical Physics
- (n) Computational and Theoretical Chemistry

- (o) Condensed Phase and Interfacial Molecular Science
- (p) Quantum Information Science Research in Chemical, Geosciences, and Biosciences
- (q) Catalysis Science
- (r) Separation Science
- (s) Heavy Element Chemistry
- (t) Geosciences
- (u) Photochemistry and Radiation Chemistry
- (v) Photosynthetic Systems
- (w) Physical Biosciences
- (x) Accelerator and Detector Research
- (y) Instruments R&D for Neutron and X-ray Facilities

Fusion Energy Sciences (FES)

- (a) Structural Materials Science & Technology
- (b) Plasma-Facing Components and Plasma-Materials Interactions
- (c) Advancing Confinement Approaches
- (d) Fuel Cycle and Tritium Processing
- (e) Blanket Science & Technology
- (f) Fusion Plant Engineering & System Integration
- (g) General Plasma Science
- (h) High Energy Density Plasmas
- (i) Plasma Technology

High Energy and Nuclear Physics (HENP)

- (a) Theoretical and Computational Research in High Energy Physics
- (b) Experimental Research in High Energy Physics
- (c) Theoretical and Computational Research in Nuclear Physics
- (d) Experimental Research in Nuclear Physics
- (e) Advanced Detector Technology Research & Development in HENP
- (f) Advanced Accelerator Technology Research & Development in HENP

Isotope R&D and Production (IRP)

- (a) Targetry and Isotope Production Research
- (b) Nuclear and Radiochemical Separation, Purification, and Radiochemical Synthesis
- (c) Biological Tracers, Imaging, and Therapeutics



Key Dates for 2026-2028

The online application system closes at 5:00 PM Eastern Time.

	2026 Solicitation 1 (Most Recent)	2026 Solicitation 2 (Ongoing)	2027 Solicitation 1*** (Upcoming)
On-line Application Opens	February 11, 2026	August 12, 2026	February, 2027
Applications Due (including all letters of support)	May 6, 2026	November 4, 2026	May, 2027
Offer Notification Period <i>Begins on or around</i>	September 8 – 21, 2026	April 1 - 16, 2027	September, 2027
<i>Earliest*</i> Start Date for Proposed Project Periods	November 2, 2026	June 7, 2027	November, 2027
<i>Latest**</i> Start Date for Proposed Project Periods	March 1, 2027	October 4, 2027	March, 2028

**Proposed project periods may not begin before this date, and may be 3 to 12 consecutive months in duration.*

*** Proposed project period must begin no later than this date, and may be 3 to 12 consecutive months in duration.*

**** Dates are tentative.*

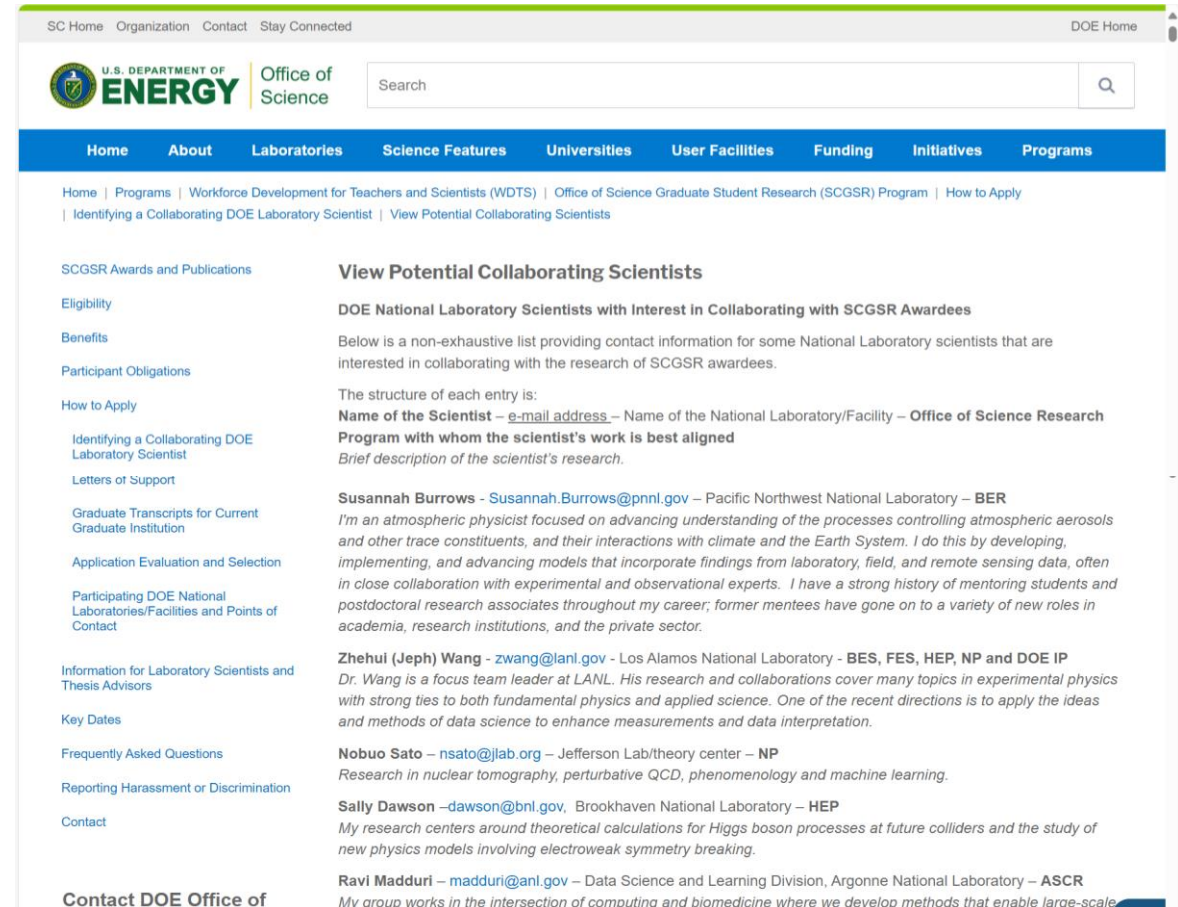


A Non-Exhaustive Database of Potential Collaborating Scientists



<https://science.osti.gov/wdts/scgsr/How-to-Apply/Identifying-a-Collaborating-DOE-Laboratory-Scientist/View-Potential-Collaborating-Scientists>

- Lists over 200 National Lab scientists willing to collaborate with PhD students through SCGSR
- Many more scientists interested in collaborating with SCGSR awardees. For additional contacts send an email to sc.scgsr@doe.gov



The screenshot shows the SCGSR website interface. The top navigation bar includes links for SC Home, Organization, Contact, Stay Connected, and DOE Home. Below this is the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science logo and a search bar. The main navigation menu lists Home, About, Laboratories, Science Features, Universities, User Facilities, Funding, Initiatives, and Programs. The left sidebar contains a list of links: SCGSR Awards and Publications, Eligibility, Benefits, Participant Obligations, How to Apply, Identifying a Collaborating DOE Laboratory Scientist, Letters of Support, Graduate Transcripts for Current Graduate Institution, Application Evaluation and Selection, Participating DOE National Laboratories/Facilities and Points of Contact, Information for Laboratory Scientists and Thesis Advisors, Key Dates, Frequently Asked Questions, Reporting Harassment or Discrimination, and Contact. The main content area is titled 'View Potential Collaborating Scientists' and includes a sub-header 'DOE National Laboratory Scientists with Interest in Collaborating with SCGSR Awardees'. It provides a non-exhaustive list of scientists and their contact information. The first entry is Susannah Burrows, a physicist at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. The second entry is Zhehui (Jeph) Wang, a focus team leader at LANL. The third entry is Nobuo Sato, a researcher at Jefferson Lab/theory center. The fourth entry is Sally Dawson, a researcher at Brookhaven National Laboratory. The fifth entry is Ravi Madduri, a researcher at Argonne National Laboratory.



Application Assistance Workshops + Office Hours

Workshop 1: Program overview ◦ guidance on abstract ◦ meet SC program managers to see how your research fits in the program's priority areas

September 3, 2026, 2:00 – 3:30 PM ET →



<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/dnhk8a83Tby9rmckYfx-SQ>

Workshop 2: Application Q&A ◦ proposal writing tips ◦ meet current/past awardees and national lab scientists to get advice on proposal writing and application

October 1, 2026, 2:00 – 4:30 PM ET →



<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/FWFmgQ3dSH2wOkNGZ2Pi9w>



Office hours: Every Friday 1:00 – 2:00 PM ET starting on September 4, 2026 at:

→ <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1659653312?pwd=WxUnTkCR3ME3MPEtySzabisSiLeLvE.1>



Thank You!

More Information at:

