The U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Mickey Leland Energy Fellowship (MLEF) program is a 10-week summer research fellowship for undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate students in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.

The MLEF program focuses on providing underrepresented and minority students the opportunity to gain real-world, hands-on research experience with DOE’s Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM).

The mission of the MLEF program is to strengthen a diverse pipeline of future STEM professionals. This program has mentored over nine hundred of the best and brightest students from across the Nation for future careers in STEM.

MLEF participants come from various educational backgrounds:
- 26% Undergraduate Students
- 74% Graduate Students

MLEF creates a positive impact for participants, institutions and the U.S. economy. But don’t just take our word for it. Researchers surveyed MLEF alumni who completed a 10-week summer appointment between fiscal years 2006 and 2017. Below is a highlight of the results.

- **Achieve Career Goals**: 93% of MLEF Fellows felt the program helped them achieve career goals.
- **Academic Achievement**: 82% earned a more advanced degree following the program.
- **Produce Intellectual Contributions**: 260+ products such as co-authored scholarly publications, conferences, courses and research publications have been created by past participants.
- **Gain Experience**: 89% of participants felt the program resulted in better job preparation.
- **Stay Connected**: 78% of participants continue to communicate with other MLEF participants.
- **Get STEM Related Opportunities**: 95% employed in STEM-related occupations.

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MLEF alumni worldwide

20 states nationwide

44 educational institutions

74% of participants identified as belonging to an underrepresented or minority group, which includes individuals who identified as: Hispanic/Latino, Black/African American, Asian, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander or female.

All students who meet the eligibility requirements are encouraged to apply for MLEF. MLEF participants are not selected on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factor.