



# U.S. DEPARTMENT of ENERGY

Hydrocarbons and  
Geothermal Energy Office

## Workforce Development Opportunities

### Overview

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) **Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office (H GEO)** is expanding America's skilled energy workforce by investing in hands-on training, education, research opportunities, and academic-industry partnerships.

These programs strengthen regional energy economies, build workforce pipelines, and prepare students and early-career professionals to support the nation's hydrocarbon—including coal, oil, and natural gas—and geothermal industries.

### Mickey Leland Energy Fellowship Program

A 10-week paid summer research program for undergraduate and graduate students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.

- 30-year history with 1,300+ alumni nationwide
- 50-60 participants annually; undergraduate and master's students in STEM
- Hands-on research projects at DOE National Laboratories, including the National Energy Technology Laboratory
- Stipend provided. Travel and housing assistance may be available

### University Training and Research Program

A program that provides competitive grants to train the next generation of the energy workforce and expand institutional education and research capacity.

- Nationwide, competitive solicitation under which grants are awarded for projects that are two to three years in duration

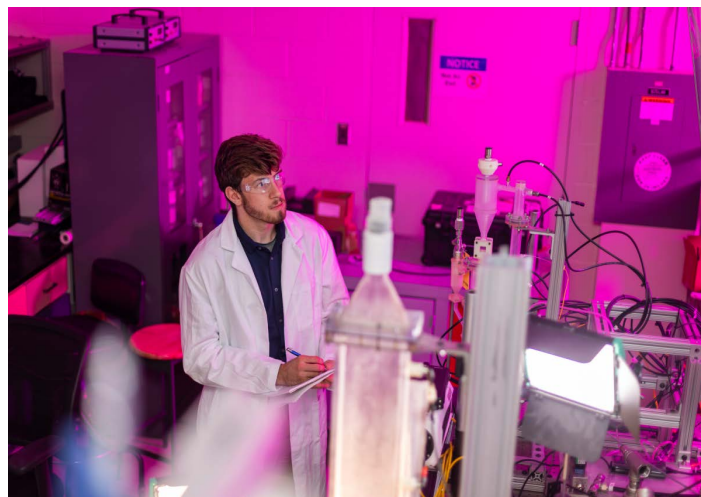


- Projects pertain to early-stage research and development, student training, and workforce development
- Maintains and enhances the educational, training, and research capabilities of institutions of higher education

### Geothermal Collegiate Competition

An annual competition that invites collegiate teams to develop real-world geothermal solutions while competing for cash prizes.

- Funded by DOE for 10+ years; provides opportunities to engage with industry professionals and local communities
- Builds understanding of how geothermal energy can provide affordable, reliable energy nationwide
- Competition topics vary (e.g., networked geothermal systems, data visualization, geospatial mapping, and geothermal infographics)





## Geothermal INTERN

Graduate students design their own internships in the geothermal industry and acquire core professional competencies and skills.

- Graduate students work with companies, DOE National Laboratories, or other government agencies
- The National Science Foundation (NSF) accepts applications on a rolling basis; applicants must be funded on an existing NSF grant to qualify
- 37 students from 27 U.S. institutions have participated to date

## Geothermal Energy from Oil and Gas Demonstrated Engineering

This initiative leverages the extensive knowledge, technology, skill, and experience of the oil and gas sector to help expand the deployment of geothermal energy.

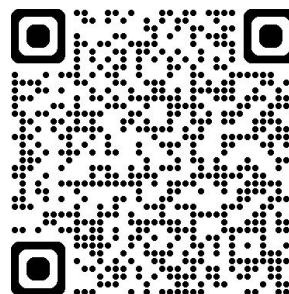
- Assesses and creates a roadmap to overcome knowledge gaps in geothermal energy, based on best practices used within the oil and gas industry
- Addresses four interrelated focus areas, including workforce adoption
- Includes several workforce-relevant activities, including a workforce development stakeholder survey, an internship program, a weekend-long “Student Days” workshop, and a Geothermal Innovation Summit

## Recent Announcement: Partnerships for Academic-Industry Career Training

A program that will create regional academic-industry consortia that expand technical training programs at two-year institutions of higher education (e.g., trade and vocational schools, community and technical colleges, and Tribal colleges).

- Up to \$11.3 million total available funding, including up to \$2.3 million specifically for Tribal Colleges and Universities
- Training programs lead to industry-recognized credentials that prepare students for competitive jobs within HGEO industries

## Learn More About Our Programs



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For more information, visit: [energy.gov/HGEO](https://energy.gov/HGEO)  
Information current as of February 2026