Overview
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 postgraduate students in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.

For 25 years the MLEF program has emphasized providing under-represented and minority students with the opportunity to gain real-world, hands-on research experience with the DOE's Office of Fossil Energy.

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

MLEF Attracts a Diverse Group of Participants

800+ MLEF alumni worldwide

83.5% of participants identified as belonging to an under-represented or minority group*

*Includes individuals who identified as Hispanic/Latino on a question regarding ethnicity; and/or as Black/African American, Asian, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander on a question regarding race; or female on a question regarding gender.

MLEF Engages with Top Educational Institutions

260+ educational institutions

47+ states nationwide

MLEF Strengthens the Pipeline of Future STEM Professionals

MLEF participants come from various educational backgrounds:

- Doctoral Degrees: 14%
- Master’s Degrees: 18%
- Bachelor’s Degrees: 68%

825+ Intellectual products*

*Intellectual products are defined as authored or co-authored scholarly publications, conferences, courses, and research reports.

MLEF Creates a Positive Impact

MLEF creates a positive impact for participants, institutions, and the U.S. economy. By August 2015, 100 U.S. DOE 10-week summer appointments were in place.

Researchers surveyed MLEF alumni who completed a 10-week summer appointment between fiscal years 2006 and 2017. More than 89% of MLEF program alumni reported that their experience resulted in better preparation for careers in science and engineering, and they commended the value of the hands-on experience.

- 95% employed in STEM-related occupations
- 90% of MLEF participants felt the program helped them achieve career goals
- 89% of participants felt the program resulted in better job preparation
- 78% of participants continue to communicate with other MLEF participants
- 70% of participants continue to communicate with MLEF mentors
- 82% earned a more advanced degree following the program
- 82% of alumni identified MLEF as a major factor leading to their current careers

Learn more about the MLEF program and how the U.S. Department of Energy is working to meet the energy challenges of the future.

Visit www.energy.gov/fe/mlef or contact us at mlef@hq.doe.gov.