

STEM Education and Outreach

Panel: STEM Education and Outreach Through Space Science
Committee on Astronomy and Astrophysics (CAA) Spring Meeting
National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine

March 26, 2026

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Director

Office of Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists (WDTS)
Office of Science (SC)
U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)



U.S. DEPARTMENT
of **ENERGY**

Office of
Science

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



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Science

Office of Science (SC) Mission:

Delivery of scientific discoveries and major scientific tools to transform our understanding of nature and advance the energy, economic, and national security of the United States.



Nearly **29,000** Researchers Supported
at **>300** Institutions and **17** DOE Labs



Steward **10** of the 17
DOE National labs



Nearly **34,000** Users of **28**
SC Scientific Facilities



\$8.40B
(FY 26 enacted)

DOE STEM Education and Workforce Development

❑ DOE has a vibrant STEM ecosystem (DOE Science Education Enhancement

Act, part of Public Law 101-510, enacted in 1990)

- Training highly skilled workers for DOE mission and U.S. STEM workforce
- Promoting science and energy literacy at all levels

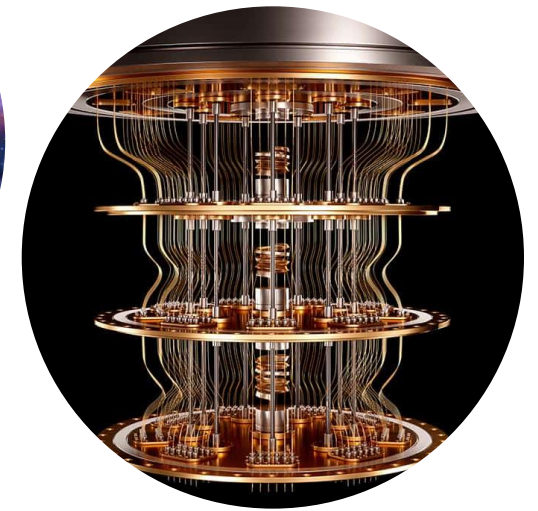
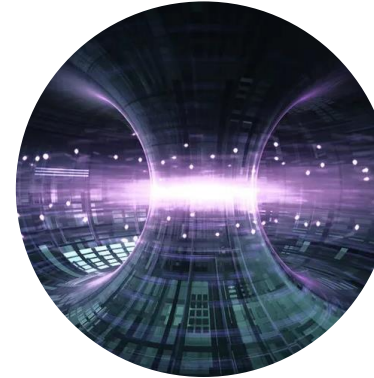
DOE supports thousands of undergraduates, graduate students, and postdocs annually on R&D awards and projects at universities and national laboratories

❑ Highlights of STEM activities

- SC research programs offices support over 4,400 graduate students and many postdocs annually on SC awards, and also support tailored training opportunities specific to the fields and disciplines that are not adequately addressed by university curriculum, including high performance computing, accelerator science, instrumentation, nuclear physics, nuclear chemistry, isotope R&D, and critical and emerging frontiers, such as quantum information science, artificial intelligence, and fusion energy science and engineering
- WDTS supports about 1,600 undergraduate internships, graduate training opportunities, and visiting faculty appointments annually across all 17 DOE National Laboratories

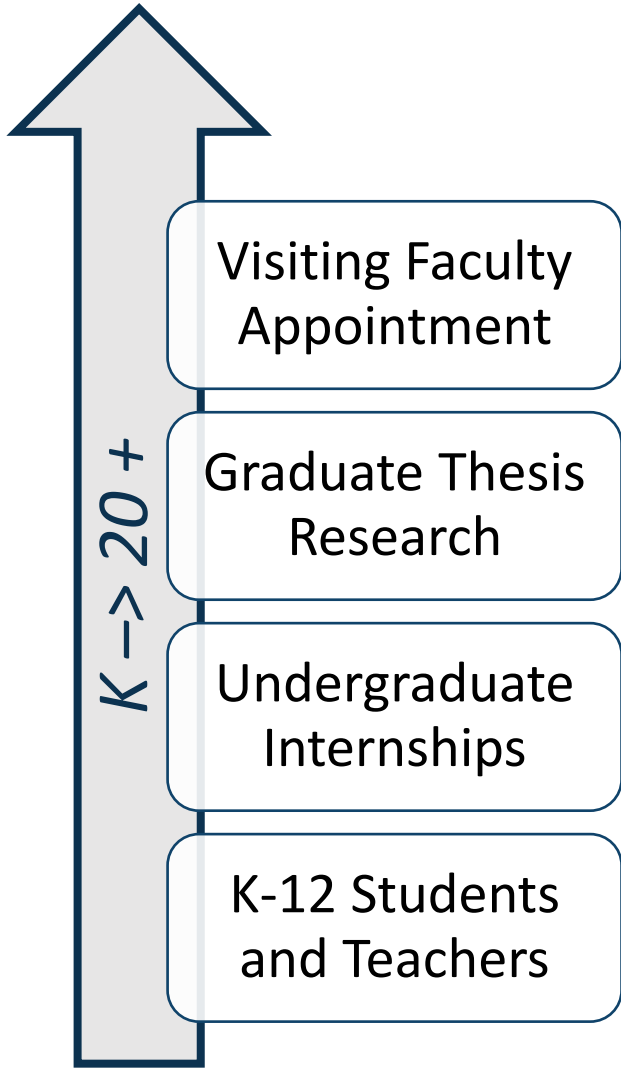
❑ Coordination within and beyond DOE

- Inter-agency coordination: OSTP/NSTC/QIS WD IWG and OSTP Task Force on Advancing AI Education



Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists (WDTs)

<https://science.osti.gov/WDTs>



Office of Science Laboratories

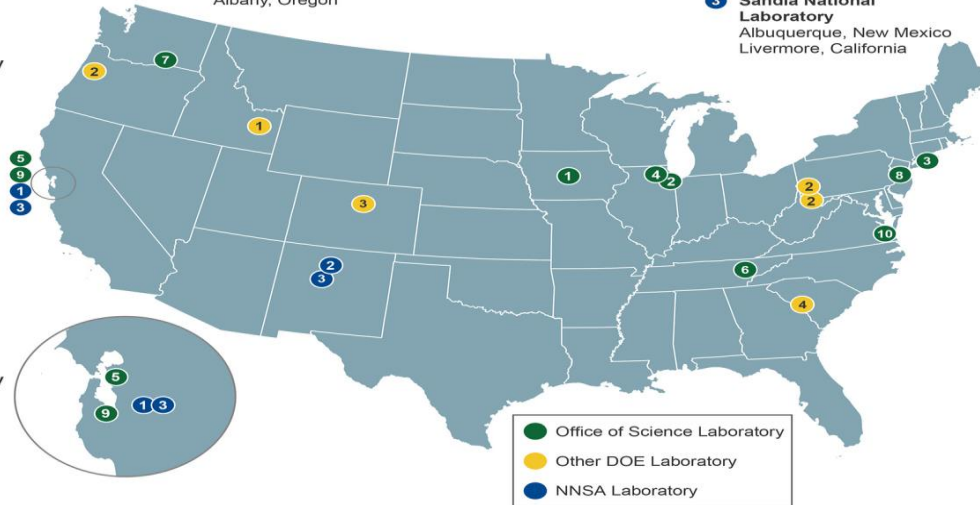
- 1 Ames Laboratory
Ames, Iowa
- 2 Argonne National Laboratory
Argonne, Illinois
- 3 Brookhaven National Laboratory
Upton, New York
- 4 Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory
Batavia, Illinois
- 5 Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
Berkeley, California
- 6 Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Oak Ridge, Tennessee
- 7 Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
Richland, Washington
- 8 Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory
Princeton, New Jersey
- 9 SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory
Menlo Park, California
- 10 Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility
Newport News, Virginia

Other DOE Laboratories

- 1 Idaho National Laboratory
Idaho Falls, Idaho
- 2 National Energy Technology Laboratory
Morgantown, West Virginia
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Albany, Oregon
- 3 National Laboratory of the Rockies
Golden, Colorado
- 4 Savannah River National Laboratory
Aiken, South Carolina

NNSA Laboratories

- 1 Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
Livermore, California
- 2 Los Alamos National Laboratory
Los Alamos, New Mexico
- 3 Sandia National Laboratory
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Livermore, California



**Discovery
Learning
Dedicated
Mentorship
Competence
Building
Accelerated
Growth**





The Presidential AI Challenge

The **Presidential AI Challenge** is a national challenge where **K-12 youth, educators, mentors, and community teams** come together to solve real-world problems in their communities using AI-powered solutions, with an opportunity to showcase their solutions at a national level.

Visit **AI.GOV** for
information
Registration due
01/20/2026

Categories

- Elementary Category
- Middle School Youth Category
- High School Youth Category
- Educator Category



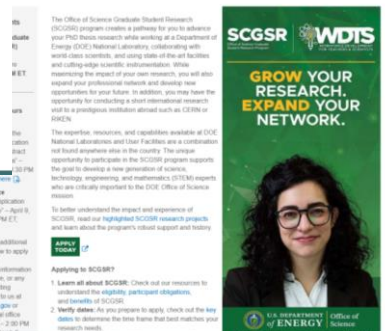
Outreach and Engagement: Examples

Audience focused Website Design

(<https://science.osti.gov/WDTS>)



Format Consistent branding, easy to navigate, stand-out buttons for actions, mobile friendly

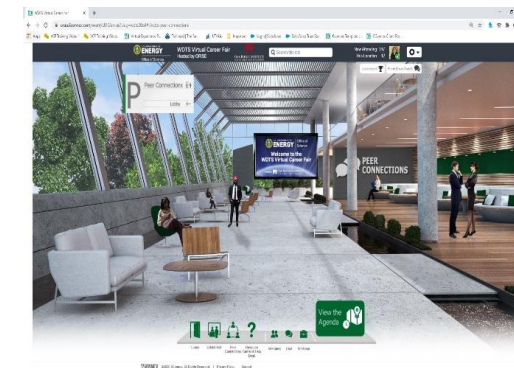
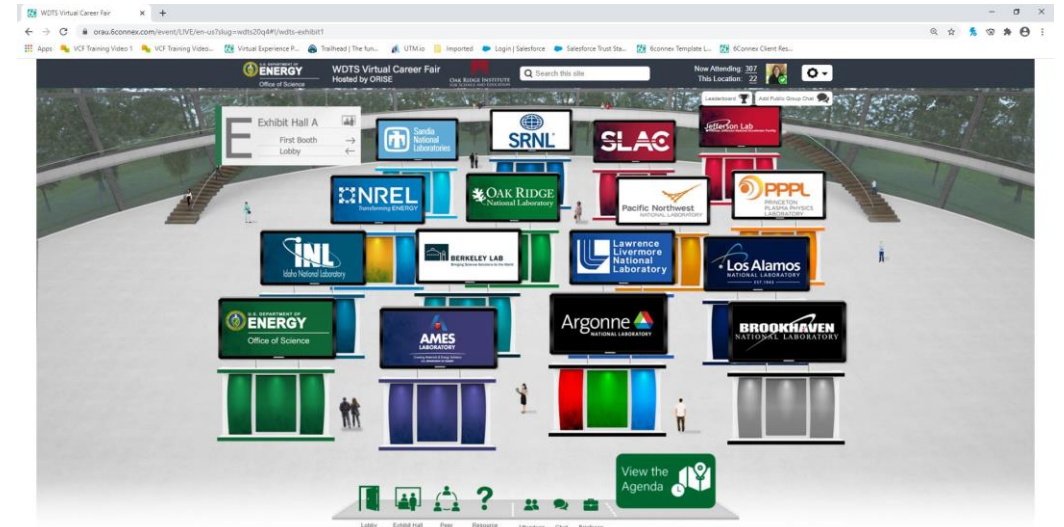


Contents What is the most important for prospective applicants?

Relatability

- Real program participants
- Real experiences

Virtual Internship Fair



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