



Em**POWER**ment

NSF Research Traineeship Program

Become a Mentor

Program Overview

The EmPOWERment program offers Ph.D. students the opportunity to pursue interdisciplinary training in energy-system modeling, data science, energy policy, business, legal, social-behavioral issues, and energy technologies to address the challenges facing a sustainable energy future.

Trainees are connected with a mentor working within the energy sector to help prepare them for a career within the sustainable energy field.

A mentor provides general guidance to a trainee by helping them explore different career paths, make connections to help build a professional network, and discover opportunities for professional internships and research experiences.

Interested in becoming a mentor?

Scan the QR code to complete the mentor interest form.



THE EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

Mentorship Guidelines & Expectations

Time Commitment

DESIGNED TO FIT YOUR SCHEDULE

Mentors and trainees will design a frequency for meetings that work best for their schedules and goals for mentorship.

Provide Resources

HELP FACILITATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH

Part of the mentor's role is to facilitate new connections for the trainee within your network of professionals to help build communication skills and establish the trainee's professional network prior to graduation. Mentors also may assist trainees in the exploration of potential internships, externships and co-op opportunities.

Serve as Interview Subject

SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

During the course of the mentorship, trainees will be asked to interview their external mentors about what it takes to be a successful innovator and collaborator. This interview will serve as the basis of a TEDx-style talk the student will develop to present to the external mentor.

Listen to Student TEDx Talk

ASSIST WITH COMMUNICATION SKILLS PRACTICE

Mentors listen to and provide feedback on trainee's presentation of a five-minute TedX-type talk around "lessons learned" from the external mentor during their interview.

Offer Feedback

HELP GUIDE TRAINEES DEVELOPMENT

Mentors provide annual input during the creation and modification of trainee's Individual Development Plan which focuses on career-development pathways, individualized goals, and explicit milestones that are appropriate to the trainee.