

# THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

## Physical Sciences Career Pathways

Explore the ways you can apply your UChicago degree to the professional world through the sample student pathways.

**E EXPERIENTIAL PROGRAM**

**I INTERNSHIP**

**P POST-GRAD**





# uchicago

Innovators of Tomorrow

## Jeff Metcalf Internship Program

UChicago provides more than 4,200 paid, substantive internship opportunities each year through the Jeff Metcalf Internship Program. 1,000+ Metcalf employers from a diverse range of industries hire students each year for project-based internships. Students studying the physical and mathematical sciences can intern and work with leading industry experts at the forefront of inquiry and innovation at government agencies, hard science organizations, research institutions, and technical firms including Gilead, Microsoft Research, NASA, Pixar, and Tesla.

## Catalyzing Career Paths

UChicago offers many early career programs for students interested in career paths utilizing the mathematical and physical sciences:

- The Computation and Engineering in the Life Sciences (CELLS) program connects students to careers in computational biology where they can harness the power of computational approaches and analytics to answer big questions in the life sciences.
- Prototype for Success supports students who are passionate about entrepreneurship in STEM.
- The Green Data Program is training a new generation of professionals to help leaders make data-driven decisions on climate, energy, and the environment.
- Humanities UX helps students discover careers at the intersection of media, design, and data science.
- The Financial Markets Program supports students interested in mathematical modeling and programming who wish to pursue quantitative finance careers.

## Quantum Innovation

Home to two Department of Energy National Quantum Information Science Research Centers, the Midwest region is a leader in the charge to develop innovation quantum technologies and build an elite quantum workforce. UChicago students have joined leading quantum employers such as Cold Quanta, IBM, Quantum Opus, and Quantopticon. Careers Advancement hosts quarterly quantum programs, including an annual Quantum Recruiting Forum each spring, to bring together scientists and engineers and hear from experts in Chicago's innovative quantum science landscape.

## Advance Clean Energy Efforts

The Clean Energy Track is an interactive program designed to foster exploration into clean energy and battery storage career pathways. This program immerses students in the theory and practice of innovative advancements in physical sciences and engineering disciplines, and the policy and economic components of this industry connecting students to employers such as Ampaire, Argonne, Ford, Mercedes, Nanograf, and Rivian. From electric vehicles to battery research to renewable energy, students are invited to join the Clean Energy Track and take an active role in revolutionizing science and society in these emerging fields.

## Fermi Scholars

The Fermi Scholars Program is a selective cohort for students who show a strong interest in and exceptional promise for success in the physical sciences. Named after Professor Emeritis Enrico Fermi, renowned Nobel prize winner and one of the lead physicists of the Manhattan Project, the program provides special professional development programming and intensive advising to help students explore different pathways in physical sciences and achieve their goals. Students are selected and invited to join the cohort at the time of admission.



## Treks

Career treks give students the opportunity to meet multiple employers, build their professional network, and learn how they can be top candidates for internships and full-time jobs. Students in the physical sciences have visited aerospace firms in Seattle, tech organizations in San Francisco, and research institutions in Denver. Airbnb, Canoo, Clorox, the Climate Corporation, the EPA, John Deere, and Thermo Fisher Scientific have welcomed trekkers to their offices and labs.

## Renowned Research

UChicago is a global leader in experimental and theoretical research, where top authors, scholars, and award winners regularly share their knowledge with the community. Undergraduate students can participate in faculty-mentored research projects on black holes, material chemistry, and topology. Research endeavors enable student to build their curricula vitae with hands-on experiences to make them more competitive for graduate programs and full-time roles. The University of Chicago is also closely affiliated with Argonne National Laboratory and Fermilab National Accelerator Laboratory which offers research opportunities and an annual summer internship program while connecting students to expert mentors and cutting-edge science.

## Graduate School Preparation

Over 30% of students majoring in the physical sciences enter graduate programs directly following graduation. Physical science students interested in pursuing graduate degrees have access to UChicago graduate divisions to pursue research projects and build academic relationships in preparation for strong graduate school applications, as well as direct access to masters and doctoral programs. Career Advancement hosts a half-day Graduate School Exploration and Preparation Conference to support students in advancing their academic journey.



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