

NOAA Ocean Exploration Internship/Fellowship Longitudinal Survey (2026 Update)

Purpose:

The purpose of this longitudinal survey is to track the ongoing experiences and progress of participants in NOAA's Ocean Exploration's internship and fellowship programs over time. By gathering data at multiple points throughout the internship and beyond, this survey aims to assess the long-term impact of the programs on participants' professional development, learning outcomes, career trajectories, and overall satisfaction. The information collected will provide valuable insights into how the program influences participants' growth and career readiness, helping to refine and enhance the structure and effectiveness of future internship and fellowship offerings.

Description of Respondents:

The respondents of this survey are alumni of NOAA Ocean Exploration's internship and fellowship programs who are at least three years removed from their participation. These individuals were involved in the previous program cycle (not the most recent) and are providing feedback based on their long-term career development and the impacts of their internship experiences. The participants include students and early-career professionals who participated in the Explorer-in-Training program as well as other NOAA-wide internship and fellowship programs (e.g., Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship, Hollings Scholarship, Lapenta Internships, etc.). Survey respondents may range from students and early-career professionals to more seasoned professionals across various sectors. The survey will be distributed to all program alumni every three years via email to the alumni contact list.

Logistics and Anticipated Burden

- Application form tool: Google Forms
- No. of Respondents: 200 total for FY26
- Participation Time: 30 min
- Burden Hours: 100 hours total for FY26

NOAA Ocean Exploration Internship/Fellowship Alumni Survey

The purpose of this longitudinal survey is to collect feedback from alumni of NOAA's Ocean Exploration's internship and fellowship programs, with the aim of assessing the long-term impact of these programs on career development, education, and overall satisfaction. Your insights will help to inform improvements to future program design and delivery. The survey is conducted every three years and

shared via email with alumni. If you would like to be removed from this survey for future years, please contact the NOAA Ocean Exploration internship coordinator at oei.internships@noaa.gov.

Public Burden Statement

A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with an information collection subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 unless the information collection has a currently valid OMB Control Number. The approved OMB Control Number for this information collection is 0690-0030. Without this approval, we could not conduct this information collection. Public reporting for this information collection is estimated to be approximately 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the information collection. All responses to this information collection are required to obtain services or benefits. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this information collection, including suggestions for reducing this burden to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration at 1315 East West Highway, SSMC#3, Silver Spring, MD 20910 Attn: Liz Hoadley, NOAA Ocean Exploration Education Team Lead (liz.hoadley@noaa.gov).

Privacy Act Statement

Authority: The collection of this information is authorized under 5 U.S.C. § 301, Departmental regulations which authorizes the operations of an executive agency, including the creation, custodianship, maintenance and distribution of records, and 15 U.S.C. 1512, Powers and duties of Department.

Purpose: NOAA collects limited information, such as name, address, phone number, or email address for a variety of purposes. This information will be used to respond to user inquiries or provide services requested by the user.

Routine Uses: Disclosure of this information is permitted under the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. Section 552a) to be shared among Department staff for work-related purposes. Disclosure of this information is also subject to all of the published routine uses as identified in the Privacy Act System of Records Notice [COMMERCE/NOAA-11](#), Contact Information for Members of the Public Requesting or Providing Information Related to NOAA's Mission.

Disclosure: Furnishing this information is voluntary. By providing this information, you are consenting to the use of that information only for the purpose for which it is submitted.

OMB Control Number [0690-0030] and Expiration Date [07/31/2026]

1. First Name [*Short answer text*]
2. Last Name [*Short answer text*]
3. Email Address (Please provide your personal email, not a temporary school or work account) [*Short answer text*]
4. Internship/Fellowship Year [*Drop-down (2009–2026) or short answer text*]
5. Which NOAA Ocean Exploration internship or fellowship program did you participate in? [*Multiple choice*]
 - Explorer-in-Training Program (10-Week)
 - Explorer-in-Training Program (Ocean Mapping, Expedition-Based)
 - NOAA Hollings Scholarship Program
 - NOAA EPP/MSI Scholarship Program
 - NOAA William M. Lapenta NOAA Internship Program
 - NOAA Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship
 - NOAA Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship
 - Other (please specify) [Write-in]
6. Current Academic/Professional Status [*Multiple choice*]
 - Undergraduate Student
 - Graduate Student
 - Employed
 - Seeking Employment
 - Other (please specify) [Write-in]

If you are currently a student,

7. Are you pursuing further education in a field related to your internship with NOAA Ocean Exploration? [*Yes/No*]
8. University and major or field of study [*Short answer text*]
9. When do you expect to graduate? (e.g., Fall 2027, Spring 2029) [*Short answer text*]

If employed,

10. Are you currently working in a NOAA or ocean exploration related field? [*Yes/No*]
11. In which sector are you currently employed? [*Multiple choice*]
 - Academia
 - Government
 - Private Industry

- Non-Profit
- Self-Employed/Freelance
- International Organization
- Other (please specify)

12. Job title, company/organization [*Short answer text*]

13. Please list any degrees or certifications earned since your internship with NOAA Ocean Exploration. (E.g., Ph.D., Oceanography; M.Sc., Marine Biology, etc.) [*Short answer text*]

14. Do you currently or have you ever worked at NOAA since your internship/fellowship? [*Yes/No*]

15. If so, which NOAA lab or program do/did you work in? [*Short answer text*]

Please select the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements. [*Likert scale: 1 = Strongly disagree; 5 = Strongly agree*]

16. My internship/fellowship with NOAA Ocean Exploration was highly relevant to my career and educational trajectory.

17. My internship/fellowship with NOAA Ocean Exploration influenced my career path or interests?

18. I have applied the skills and/or knowledge gained from my internship in my subsequent academic or professional work.

19. Anything else you would like to share? [*Long answer text*]

<SUBMIT>