Location - East Tennessee!

Nestled at the feet of the Great Smoky and Cumberland mountains, Knoxville and Oak Ridge have a distinctly slower southern feel, and yet, a growing bent towards fast-moving, modern innovation. With a moderate climate, a low cost of living, and a convenient central location, East Tennessee has much to offer new residents. Home to the University of Tennessee Division I Volunteers, Neyland Stadium, the nation’s fourth largest stadium, and Thomson Boling Arena, the nation’s largest single-sports arena, sports are a big deal here. However, a vibrant local culture is still in place – every weekend the Market Square Farmer’s Market features local fare from area farmers, and several nationally-acclaimed music and food festivals are hosted in Knoxville throughout the year, including the Big Ears Jazz Festival, the Dogwood Arts Fest and the International Biscuit Festival. As the gateway to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the U.S.’s consistently most-visited National park, you can find many kinds of outdoor activities in East Tennessee. Whether it’s hiking, biking, fishing, rock climbing or white water rafting, chances are you can find a nature trail or lake/river only a short drive from Knoxville or Oak Ridge. The nearby cities of Nashville (3 hours), Atlanta (3.5 hours), and Asheville (2 hours) opens additional options for those hankering to have a weekend getaway out of town.

In 2015, Knoxville was named by Forbes.com as one of the “Most Affordable Cities” and a “Best Place for Business and Careers.” Knoxville was also named in the top 100 for global growth in the world’s largest metro companies in 2015 by the Brookings Institution.
Join the Computing and Computational Sciences Directorate of ORNL and conduct groundbreaking computational research while still enrolled in your Master’s or Ph.D. graduate program!

The Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Computational Science & Technology Advanced Research Studies (C-STARS) program is highly selective, offering challenging graduate research opportunities in the computational sciences. C-STARS participants conduct research on high-visibility advanced computing projects in areas such as National Security, Climate Science, Urban Dynamics, Health Data Analytics, Astrophysics, Energy, Chemistry, or Computational Biology.

ORNL is an international leader in computing and computational sciences. Currently, ORNL operates several leadership-class supercomputers, including the DOE Office of Science’s Titan and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Gaea. Arriving in 2017 will be Summit, a next-generation supercomputer with a new type of hybrid CPU/GPU computing system that will provide five times the computing performance of Titan!

Industry, academic, and government researchers across the world access ORNL supercomputers and their support systems to generate and analyze data, leading to new opportunities for data visualization and data storage which are far outside the scope of most research environments.

How to Apply

Complete and submit your application to C-STARS through ORAU’s online application system, Zintellect (www.zintellect.com). On part of the application, you will need to provide an official verification of your master’s or doctoral degree enrollment and university transcripts, two reference letters, and a current resume. C-STARS applications are accepted on a year-round basis.

Please see our website for more information on how to apply: www.orau.org/ornl/c-stars

Eligibility

To apply for the C-STARS program, you must:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Be enrolled in a Master’s or Ph.D. program at an accredited institution
- Have medical insurance during the appointment
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.5/4.0
- Have significant prior computational experience

There are no U.S. Citizenship requirements to participate in the program, but non-U.S. citizens must be currently enrolled in a degree-granting U.S. college or university.

Benefits

C-STARS Program participants have the unique opportunity to conduct innovative computational research, on high-profile projects, while still enrolled in a graduate Master’s or Ph.D. program at their home institution. With a flexible program structure, C-STARS participants can conduct research full-time or part-time, for 1 to 5 years, depending on the structure of the graduate program and the ORNL research project’s needs. In addition to conducting research at one of the world’s best computing and computational sciences facilities at ORNL, participants will also receive substantial program benefits:

- Master’s program participants – $863/week stipend (pro-rated for hours per month)
- Ph.D. program participants – $935/week stipend (pro-rated for hours per month)
- Tuition and fees, a dislocation allowance (for those traveling farther than 50 miles to the ORNL area), a travel allowance for attending scientific meetings or conferences, and/or a housing allowance can be provided at the mentor’s discretion
- Participants are also encouraged to attend enrichment activities, including professional development workshops, Laboratory tours, lectures, seminars and poster presentations, with mentor approval