



Next Generation Leaders

Emerging leaders in bioscience

The Next Generation Leaders program at the Allen Institute recognizes and supports emerging and diverse early career researchers in bioscience. The program is designed to foster professional development, ideation, creativity, and collaboration among the Next Generation Leaders, as well as support engagement between the Next Generation Leaders and the Allen Institute.

Next Generation Leaders demonstrate a passion for using collaborative research to understand the complex problems facing bioscience research today. They will bring their scientific expertise and contribute to cultivating new ideas to make a broad, transformational impact on the future of science while exploring creative approaches to conduct research. In addition, Next Generation Leaders demonstrate interdisciplinary curiosity, bringing to the Institute their knowledge of subspecialty disciplines in areas such as bioethics, data visualization, culture building, public health, scientific outreach to communities, and more.

Next Generation Leaders complete a three-year term and will have the opportunity to engage with the Allen Institute scientific teams in Brain Science, Cell Science, Immunology, Neural Dynamics, Data Science, and Synthetic Biology; explore the concepts of Team and Open Science in developing research practices; participate in institutional programs; and act as ambassadors to spread the Institute's innovations, discoveries, and values throughout the scientific research community.

Over 50 Next Generation Leaders from diverse research institutions across North America and beyond have been recognized by the Allen Institute. Visit [Next Generation Leaders](#) to learn more and apply.

The application window for the Next Generation Leaders program opens on May 1, 2025, and closes on June 3, 2025.

Program Details:

Up to eight Next Generation Leaders (NGLs) will be appointed each year with up to 24 total members, and each NGL will serve a three-year term with the opportunity to:

- Attend an annual NGL event at the Allen Institute (travel expenses covered)
- Share their research with the Allen Institute community
- Provide feedback in an interactive format on research programs at the Allen Institute
- Network with Allen Institute scientists and current and former NGLs at events
- Participate in professional development programs and additional engagement opportunities ad hoc



Eligibility

Applicants from the United States and international academic and nonacademic research institutions are welcome to apply.

Applicants must:

- Hold a PhD and/or MD in a relevant field
- Be employed as an Assistant Professor or equivalent, beginning on or after May 1, 2023, OR currently be in a late-stage post-doctoral position actively seeking faculty roles
- Have a passion for collaborative research to understand the complex problems facing bioscience research today

Application Instructions

Fill out the application and upload materials via [Submittable](#) (NGL online application platform)

Interested participants must send the following to apply:

- A *curriculum vitae* (CV)
- A short overview of your research program and future research directions
- An overview of your two most significant publications that describes in non-specialist language the science and its impact
- A cover letter that explains how your research can align with Allen Institute work and the experience that you have with team science, open science, and strengthening the scientific community

Applications will undergo multiple rounds of review. Finalists will be notified of their application status and will be invited to:

- Present on their research
- Partake in a virtual interview

Application Window

- Applications will open on May 1, 2025
- The application window will close on June 3, 2025, at 11:59pm PDT
- Applications will undergo three rounds of review, with final decisions being made in August 2025. Applicants will be informed of their application decisions via email

For additional questions and inquiries, email NextGen@alleninstitute.org. Please be aware that due to the large number of applicants and inquiries, we are unable to respond to individual requests about the status of your application and that the Allen Institute main phone number will not be routed to the Next Generation Leaders team.



FAQs

Who is eligible to apply?

Early career researchers with up to two years in an Assistant Professor role or in any academic or industry equivalent role and late-stage post-doctorates are encouraged to apply.

For the purposes of the NGL program, early career researchers are defined as researchers who are about to transition—or have recently moved—to fully independent positions as investigators, faculty members, clinician scientists, or scientific team leaders in industry, and who are focused on establishing themselves as the experts in their chosen research areas. Group submissions will not be considered.

Who is not eligible to apply?

Candidates who do not fit the above definition of an early career researcher as described by the NGL program should refrain from applying. Ineligible candidates include academic or industry positions equivalent to Associate Professors, Full Professors, or any tenured faculty.

Is the opportunity open to candidates outside of the United States?

Yes. Applicants from outside the United States are welcome to apply.

Does it cost money to submit an NGL application?

No. There is no cost to submit an NGL application.

What contact information is collected on the application?

The application collects the candidate's name and email address. Status updates will be communicated via the email address provided in the application. Be sure to check spam or junk folders for communications generated by the system.

Will I receive confirmation that my application was received?

Yes. Our application platform (Submittable) will generate an automated email response confirming receipt of your application. Check spam or junk folders for communications generated by the system.

How do I check my application status?

Applicants can log into their Submittable account using their email address to view the ongoing status of their application and communications generated by the system.

Do I need to submit Letters of Recommendation?

We are no longer collecting letters of recommendation as part of the application process.

What are the CV guidelines?

We request that your CV be in English on an 8 ½ x 11-inch page, using Arial, 11-point font, single-spacing, and with one-inch margins on the top, bottom, left, and right. The page limit for CVs is two pages.

**What is the review process like?**

Applications are reviewed by a large pool of Allen Institute reviewers and current and former NGLs. Applications that go through the entire process can expect to be independently reviewed by at least four different reviewers.

The review process occurs in three stages:

Stage one: Review of scientific research and future research directions, grouped by research area. Only 50 applicants will progress to the next stage

Stage two: Holistic review of entire application. Only 10-12 applicants will progress to the next stage

Stage three: Virtual presentations and interviews with a review panel. Up to eight candidates will be chosen

When will I be contacted for an interview?

Only finalists will be invited for a virtual interview and will be contacted by an NGL team member. The estimated timeframe for interview requests will be from July 1, 2025, through July 31, 2025.

What is the interview process like?

Candidates should expect to give a short research presentation followed by a Q&A and an interview with a panel comprised of two members of the program committee, one current NGL, and one additional Allen Institute researcher.

Does the Allen Institute cover any expenses?

Yes. The Allen Institute will cover travel and accommodation expenses for all selected NGL candidates to attend the annual NGL event held in Seattle, Washington.

Is this a paid position at the Allen Institute?

No. This is not a paid position at the Allen Institute. There are therefore no employment benefits or visa assistance provided by the role.

Is the NGL program a certification program?

No. The NGL program is not a certification program. This is an opportunity to engage with the Allen Institute as members of the external scientific community.