

# The Woods Hole Partnership Education Program (PEP)

## 2023 Announcement

PEP is a project of the Woods Hole Diversity Initiative. Participating institutions are:

- NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center
- Marine Biological Laboratory
- Sea Education Association
- U. S. Geological Survey
- Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
- Woodwell Research Center

The Woods Hole Diversity Initiative's primary academic partner is the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

[The Woods Hole Partnership Education Program \(PEP\)](#) is accepting applications for the 2023 summer undergraduate research internship program. Based in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, PEP combines course work with research in marine, oceanographic, biological, and environmental sciences.

"We are excited to call for applications for our fifteenth PEP class, in-person, in the awesome village of Woods Hole," said Onjalé Scott Price, Director of the PEP internship.

The PEP staff will visit campuses to meet potential applicants December through February. They are available now via Zoom video conference to answer questions and to talk with interested groups of students and/or faculty. To make an appointment, contact the PEP Coordinator at: [WHPEPCoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:WHPEPCoordinator@gmail.com).

Launched in 2009 as a residential program, PEP is designed to promote a diverse scientific community. It recruits talent from all backgrounds, but especially from minority groups that are under-represented in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) research. To date, more than half of PEP interns have come from HBCU/MSI, and more than 80% identify as ethnicities underrepresented in STEM.

"We now have PEP alumni back in the Woods Hole community as post-baccalaureate fellows, graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, scientists and engineers. We are thrilled that these alumni will be able to serve as near-peer mentors for our next PEP cohort.", said Scott Price.

# The 2023 Program

The program includes a four-credit course and a 10-week research internship. The interns also go on a 5-day ocean research cruise aboard the [Sea Education Association \(SEA\) tall ship SSV \*Corwith Cramer\*](#). A research mentor guides each student during their research project, and a program advisor provides guidance, support, and career advice during the summer.

The students will live together on the SEA campus and participate in career-building activities such as career development seminars, workshops, and field trips. They will attend lectures at partner science institutions throughout the summer, and participate in local community activities.

## Course

The course is *Ocean and Environmental Sciences: Global Climate Change*. It is offered for four credits through the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. This course:

- Is interactive;
- Based on discussion rather than lecture;
- Has guest speakers;
- Includes a mini-research project using cruise data collected aboard the SSV *Corwith Cramer*; and
- Focuses on coding and computational skills to prepare students for the research internships

## Application Information

Designed for college undergraduates, PEP prioritizes college undergraduates, specifically rising juniors and seniors. PEP does consider applications from fourth year students who are graduating in May or June. Applications are encouraged from students majoring in :

- Natural sciences (biology, chemistry, physics, or geosciences and earth system sciences, etc.)
- Engineering
- Mathematics

PEP does encourage any interested undergraduate to apply, that includes students from community college and students of all majors (social sciences, communications, policy, etc).

The 2023 PEP internship will run June 3 through August 12. Participating students will receive a \$5,000 stipend in addition to tuition for the course, travel to/from Woods Hole, and room and board during the program.

**Applications are due Friday, February 10, 2023, with letters of recommendation due on February 17. The 2023 PEP Class will be announced mid-March.**

[Application information](#) and [reports on previous programs](#).

Students of all backgrounds are welcome to apply for PEP. Students from groups under-represented in marine and environmental sciences are especially encouraged to apply. This includes African American, Hispanic American, Native American, Asian Pacific Islanders, and Alaska Native students.