

# Postdoctoral Fellowship Program for Engineering Excellence

Established in 2021, the MIT School of Engineering Postdoctoral Fellowship Program for Engineering Excellence seeks to discover and develop the next generation of leaders to help guide the school toward a more diverse and inclusive culture.

This program is designed to help postdoctoral fellows develop in multiple dimensions. In addition to an emphasis on research, it will focus on providing resources and opportunities, and building a professional network for the fellows. The program will arrange a set of professional development opportunities as presentations and discussions for the cohort along three career paths: academic, engineering leadership, entrepreneurship.

Pursuing this postdoctoral position is an opportunity to deepen training, develop research independence, and pivot research direction. It also provides trainees time to explore career options and serves as a stepping stone for the next phase of their career. In the application process, we encourage applicants to come prepared with ideas for projects they wish to accomplish during their tenure in the program. Additionally, they identify leading researchers who can help them develop and pursue their research interests.

## Funding

The program expects to select 12-15 School of Engineering Distinguished Doctoral Fellows per cohort. These fellows receive funding for two years, including a \$75,000 stipend and \$10,000 per year discretionary expense allowance. This allowance can be used to purchase health insurance and cover relocation costs among other items.

## Eligibility

The program is open to individuals who:

1. are a member of an ethnic group, racial group or gender identity historically underrepresented in engineering at MIT (Black/African American, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian, or other Native Pacific Islander, Hispanic/Latinx, women);
2. have experienced overcoming significant challenges in their path toward graduate school or be a member of an underserved population;
3. are graduate students who are within a year of finishing their PhD;
4. are recent PhD recipients within one year of graduation; or
5. are scholars in industry within one year of earning their PhD who wish to pivot to an academic career.

## Applying to the program

Application materials include:

- **Application survey** with biographical, demographic, and research interest information
- **Curriculum vitae**
- **Cover letter:** Include a statement (1-page maximum) on why this program is a good fit for you and how your identity and/or background has informed your pathway. Include which area of engineering you wish to work. Indicate a possible faculty advisor at MIT.
- **Research statement:** Include a research statement (2-page maximum) describing your accomplishments, current work, future research direction, and impacts of work with a faculty mentor.
- **Diversity statement:** Include a statement (1-page maximum) on how you think about diversity, have contributed to diversity, and/or how your research or other work has advanced or will advance diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- **Three reference letters:** Applicants should request their references and submit a letter of recommendation directly to the application portal. Referees will need the applicant's name and registered email address for the submission.

## Key dates

Online application opens

November 1, 2022

Virtual info sessions

November 15, 2022

December 8, 2022

Application submission deadline

January 31, 2023 at 5pm ET

Interview status notification

Mid-February 2023

Virtual interview

Late February 2023

Notification of fellowship status

Mid-March 2023

Intent to accept fellowship deadline

Early April 2023

Fellowship start date

September 1, 2023

## Additional questions?

Contact us at [soe-pfpfee@mit.edu](mailto:soe-pfpfee@mit.edu).

Learn more

