X-FORCE
NATIONAL SECURITY INNOVATION NETWORK

The X-Force Fellowship is a full-time, paid opportunity for student technologists and entrepreneurs to serve their country by solving real-world national security problems in collaboration with the Department of Defense (DoD). Running from June 3, 2024 to Aug. 9, 2024, the program matches students with DoD project sponsors to deliver a fresh perspective on national security problems by providing rapid, early-stage technical prototypes or policy solutions.

PARTICIPANTS

The X-Force Fellowship is open to U.S. citizens in undergraduate and graduate programs, as well as recent graduates. Fellows will work on mission-focused projects, engage directly with military and national security leaders, and gain perspective on how their skills and experience can impact national security. The program is open to students from academic backgrounds including STEM, policy, business, and more.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROJECT SPONSORS

DoD project sponsors will be matched with a team of X-Force Fellows (2-3) that will provide viewpoints and skills that match the project sponsor's needs. Upon the conclusion of the 10-week program, teams will deliver whitepapers, proof-of-concepts, and/or early-stage prototypes. Project sponsors must provide action officers that can commit 3-5 hours/week to engage with the Fellows and offer guidance/feedback.

PROJECTS

All X-Force Fellowship projects must be unclassified. Projects often include hardware design and prototyping, software development, data analysis and visualization, tech scouting, communications and marketing strategy, or policy research. Successful projects should be well-scoped with a clear end state, and should be achievable and deployable within 3-4 months. Priority will be given to project sponsors that can accommodate in-person Fellows.
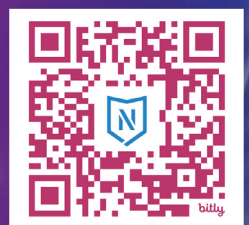
NEXT STEPS

Interested applicants should complete the interest form available on the NSIN website, **here**. Any questions or need for additional information, please contact *xforce@nsin.mil*.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Project Sponsor Applications:**
  Nov. 1, 2023 - Dec. 15, 2023
- **Student Applications:**
  Nov. 13, 2023 - Jan. 31, 2024
- **Program Duration:**
  June 3, 2024 - Aug. 9, 2024

SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION

About NSIN

NSIN is a program office in the U.S. Department of Defense, nested within the Defense Innovation Unit (DIU). We are set up to collaborate with a wide variety of innovators to include universities, researchers, students, entrepreneurs and start-ups. We create opportunities for collaboration across communities and connect those that might not traditionally work in national security. Together, we help drive national security innovation and develop technologies that directly support the individuals responsible for protecting our country.

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DEFENSE INNOVATION UNIT

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