The U.S. Army Research Laboratory (ARL) Research Associateship Program (RAP) affords undergraduate and graduate students and recent graduates, postdoctoral fellows, faculty, and senior scientists the opportunity to conduct research in a range of fields aligned with Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM); collaborating with a selected ARL research advisor. Each fellowship is uniquely designed to complement the individual's academics and expertise providing professional development through cutting-edge research initiatives performed at approved ARL facilities. Appointments in the program are awarded to individuals in recognition of their scientific interest and academic excellence in STEM related fields. The program is administered by ORAU through a Cooperative Agreement with the ARL.

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Areas of Research

COMPUTATIONAL AND INFORMATIONAL SCIENCES DIRECTORATE (CISD)
- Science of Cyber Security • Information Sciences
- Network Sciences • Atmospheric Sciences
- Computational Sciences
Advanced Computing CISD conducts basic and applied research in a variety of disciplines resulting in technologies that support state-of-the-art capabilities in the distribution and/or assimilation of real or simulated digitized battlespace information.

HUMAN RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING DIRECTORATE (HRED)
- Ergonomics • Neuroscience • Human Performance
- Network Science
HRED is ARL’s principal center for research and development directed toward optimizing soldier performance and man-machine interactions. The HRED examines human performance in the perceptual, cognitive, and psychomotor domains in order to increase the body of knowledge of human capabilities and limitations, and to assess the impact of emerging technologies on soldier performance.

SENSORS AND ELECTRON DEVICES DIRECTORATE (SEDD)
- Computer Science • Electrical Engineering
- Electrochemistry • Materials Science
- Solid-State Physics
SEDD is the Army’s principal center for research and development in the exploration and exploitation of the electromagnetic spectrum, which includes radio frequency, microwave, millimeter-wave, infrared (IR), visible, and audio regions.

SURVIVABILITY AND LETHALITY ANALYSIS DIRECTORATE (SLAD)
- Electrical Engineering • Optics Engineering
- Physics • Computer Science and Engineering
- Biomechanical Engineering
- Operations Research and Statistics
SLAD conducts analytical investigations, modeling and simulations, and laboratory and field experiments to provide its analyses as well as technical advice, and to be the subject-matter expert on survivability and lethality matters to program executive officers (PEOs) and program managers (PMs), users, testers, the Army’s independent evaluator, and other customers.

VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY DIRECTORATE (VTD)
- Intelligent Systems • Propulsion Technology
- Mechanics and Structures • Integrated Analysis
- Quantitative Technology Assessments
VTD is the principal Army organization responsible for the pursuit of mobility-related science and technologies leading to advanced capabilities and improved reliability for Army air and ground vehicles.

WEAPONS AND MATERIALS RESEARCH DIRECTORATE (WMRD)
- Energetic Materials • Computational Science
- Materials Science and Engineering
- Polymers and Composites
The goals of the WMRD are to enhance the lethality and survivability of weapons systems, and to meet the soldier’s technology needs for advanced weaponry and protection.