

Fellowship Program in Renewable Energy Commercialization



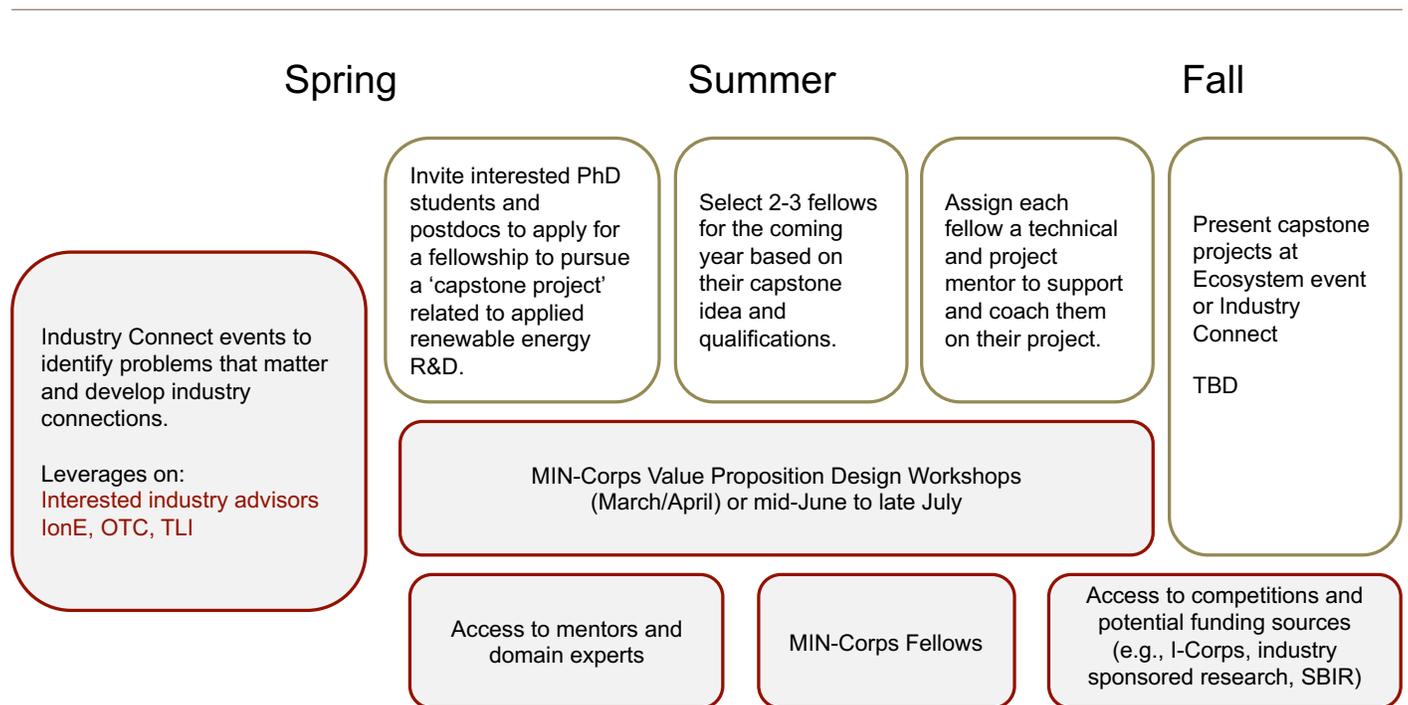
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Global climate change presents a significant challenge for mankind but also creates economic opportunities for the development of new energy technologies. With increasing public acceptance that new energy solutions are needed in the very near future, there will be tremendous need to quickly bring new energy technologies from the lab to commercialization to deployment. Doing so effectively requires not only technical expertise, but also skills in entrepreneurship and technology translation. Building on the University of Minnesota MIN-Corps program, this competitive program will provide fellowship support to interested

Ph.D. students and postdoctoral researchers to translate their technical innovations in the renewable energy space into real world solutions.

GOAL

A joint initiative of the Institute on the Environment and the College of Science and Engineering, in partnership with the University of Minnesota MIN-Corps program and the Office of Technology Commercialization, to accelerate technology translation of renewable energy and energy efficiency research at the University of Minnesota.



The above figure shows essential elements of the program. Interested individuals are invited to apply for a one-year fellowship, which may be renewable based on success in achieving self-defined milestones. All applicants are strongly encouraged to enroll in MIN-Corps classes. Fellows will also have the opportunity to participate in lonE's entrepreneurship and leadership development offerings and to become part of a community of students, fellows, faculty and staff that are passionate about creating innovative solutions contributing to our clean energy future. Fellows will

be selected based on the strength of their application (commercial potential of technology, contacts with/ commitment by external stakeholders, etc.) by a selection committee that will include internal and external stakeholders. Selection will typically occur in summer, giving interested applicants the opportunity to attend MIN-Corps classes in the spring. To jumpstart the program, applicants for the first class of fellows are invited to submit their applications by February 28, 2021, for a start of fellowship support in Summer or Fall 2021.

Application Instructions

Fellows can apply for a budget of up to \$50,000 per year, which may include their stipend and benefits, travel, materials and supply, etc. Fellows must be affiliated with the University of Minnesota and mentored by a University of Minnesota faculty member for the duration of the award period.

1. Fill attached Project cover sheet

2. Project Description (not to exceed three pages, excluding figures and references, minimum 11 pt. font). Provide:

- Project title
- Abstract (less than 250 words)
- Project description, including: Relevance of the project, commercialization potential
- Applicant qualifications, including training in entrepreneurship/technology transfer
- Project milestones/deliverables, including timeline of achieving those
- Pathway to commercialization: How do milestones/deliverables fit into larger path-way to commercialization
- Research support, including: What is the “research home” of the project? Who are internal and external partners? Which support do they provide, if any?
- Budget, **use a separate page**: Brief explanation of the support that is requested, and how it will be used
- **Only for applicants applying for a fellowship renewal**: Provide up to one additional page of information about progress toward milestones.

3. Letter of confirmation from UMN faculty mentor

A letter from the faculty mentor, stating applicant’s name and project title, that confirms that faculty member will mentor the applicant during the project period and will provide access to research laboratory and other support. Letters should be emailed to IonE-REC@umn.edu by February 28, 2021

4. Optional, but recommended: Letters of support

Letters of support and/or commitment from internal or external stakeholders. Letters are not to exceed one page and should be emailed to IonE-REC@umn.edu by February 28, 2021

QUESTIONS?

Please contact IonE-REC@umn.edu

COLLEGE OF
Science & Engineering

INSTITUTE ON THE
ENVIRONMENT

TECHNOLOGY
COMMERCIALIZATION

MIN-CORPS
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