

Dive into the Bridge to Ocean Exploration (B2OE) Program with the Ocean Exploration Cooperative Institute (OECI) at the University of Rhode Island's (URI) Graduate School of Oceanography (GSO)! Dip your toes into the multidisciplinary world that is ocean science with opportunities in video/data engineering, media asset management, technology asset management, applied coral science, and multimedia production.



The OECI (<u>https://web.uri.edu/oeci/</u>) is a unique consortium of top oceanographic institutions: URI, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI), University of New Hampshire (UNH), the University of Southern Mississippi, and the non-profit, Ocean Exploration Trust. They work together to push the boundaries of ocean exploration with research and innovation in remotely-operated and autonomous vehicle operations, virtual engineering connectivity, and ocean science communication and engagement.

A core mission of the OECI is to inspire future generations of ocean scientists and engineers, and support the Blue Economy. The B2OE Program, based out of URI/GSO's Ocean Science Exploration Center, is an experiential program key to advancing this mission. Currently, the OECI is recruiting **up to nine students** to participate in this **PAID**, **part-time, experiential learning program** within these potential, project pathways:

> Computer science/programming Ocean exploration data science Ocean technology maintenance 3D modeling and animations Multimedia production, storytelling, and/or video editing

Project Pathway Breakdown- Computer Science/Programming:

- Advancements in computing systems have the potential to revolutionize ocean science exploration, and greatly improve ocean modeling and prediction efforts. Data driven simulations, algorithm refinement, and other programming applications allow researchers to further explore large data sets and reach potential conclusions (at scales and rates that may be otherwise unachievable). As computer systems improve and advance, researchers continue to unlock deep sea mysteries and develop solutions to the many challenges our oceans face.
- This project pathway will focus on working with and creating data processing software to review, run, and optimize data simulations for deep sea technologies.
- Useful coursework/experience requested for this project pathway:
 - Seeking students who have completed at least 1 year at CCRI
 - Suggested courses:
 - Computer literacy, including familiarity with programming languages (e.g Python, Matlab), markup languages (HTML, XML), operating systems (e.g. Linux) and data structures/algorithms
 - Introduction to Software Engineering, Programming Concepts, Database Design & Management, Technical Math
 - Interest in image processing and/or marine habitat assessment

Benefits to B2OE Program participation:

- Up to \$17/hour (paid via two stipends, one in January/February 2025, and the other in May 2025)
- Exposure to cutting-edge ocean science, engineering, and media production technologies and best practices within the OECI
- Collaboration with OECI personnel; field trips to tour URI, WHOI, and other facilities, as well as local industry (if/when possible)
- Opportunity to remotely participate in NOAA Okeanos Explorer and EV Nautilus expeditions
- Peer-to-peer interaction to build communication skills
- Information exchange and networking opportunities with industry professionals during a virtual Blue Economy Career Awareness Fair

In addition to the above mentioned part-time experience, **additional program requirements and expectations include**:

- Time commitment of up to 10h/week (November 2024- May 2025)
- Potential for onsite and/or tele-work
- Weekly tag-ups with mentors to gauge project progress and answer questions (mentors are also available via email for questions, etc. at any time)
- Participation in OECI student events, including a virtual Blue Economy Career Awareness Fair
- Final project summary report and presentation
- Participation in pre- and post-experience 360° evaluation

Eligibility:

- U.S. Citizenship (or F-1, J-1 visa status if applicable)
- Currently enrolled CCRI students (undergraduate/associate's degree, and/or workforce certificate)

- Degree, major, or intent to major in a field relevant to the OECI's mission; these can include, but are not limited to: STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), computer science, media production and graphic design, communications, education, and/or business operations/administration.
 - Preferred for this pathway: Computer Studies Students (all concentrations) with programming experience

Application Requirements:

- Interested students must complete the <u>OECI BOE online application</u> on or before 11:59 pmET, October 17, 2024.
- In addition to this application, interested individuals will also be required to submit their current resume or CV with 3 professional references listed (who can speak to the applicant's character and professional and/or academic background- this can be a professor, advisor, teacher, community member, work supervisor, mentor, etc.).



Applications will be reviewed and analyzed based on merit and relevant

experience. Potential participants will be notified by **October 23, 2024**, for an in-person or virtual interview. Final selections will be made on or before **November 12, 2024**, and candidates will be notified of their program status. **The anticipated program start date, with an on-site orientation at URI's Graduate School of Oceanography campus in Narragansett, RI, will be on or before November 21, 2024**.

Questions? Please contact Holly Morin (<u>holly_morin@uri.edu</u>).