

Overview

The X-Force Fellowship program is an opportunity for technologists and entrepreneurs to serve their country by solving real-world national security problems in collaboration with the United States military. The X-Force Fellowship program is full-time, in-person, paid and runs from early June to mid-August. At its core, the program matches highly talented undergraduate and graduate students with operational military commands to deliver rapid, early stage prototypes that help solve project sponsor problems.

Participants

The X-Force Fellowship program is open to U.S. citizens at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Participants will possess a diverse set of skills ranging from mobile and web app development, data analysis and visualization, hardware prototyping, social media strategy, and technology scouting. Participants are provided the opportunity to work on a mission-focused real-world project, participate in a professional development opportunity, work directly with military and national security leaders, and gain perspective as to how their skills and experience can have an outsized impact on national security.

Military Project Sponsors

The X-Force Program addresses real-world military problems that require technical and entrepreneurial expertise. Military Project sponsors will be matched with a small team of Fellows (2-3) with diverse viewpoints and skill sets that match the project needs. Over a period of three months, the Fellows will deliver rapid, early-stage prototypes to the project sponsor. During the program, military sponsors must supply an Action Officer to engage with their Fellows on a weekly basis (typically 5-10 hours per week). Sponsors are expected to provide Fellows regular on-base access to facilities and personnel where appropriate and relevant.

Projects

All project work is done at the unclassified level. Projects often include hardware design and prototyping, software development, data analysis and visualization, technology scouting, communications and marketing strategy, and policy research. Successful projects are well-scoped with a clear end state and are achievable and deployable within 3-4 months.

Next Steps

Interested applicants should complete the interest form available on the NSIN website, <u>here</u>. Fellows will be paid a competitive stipend and provided with a small budget for travel and material expenses.

Interested military hosts can email info@nsin.us for more information.

About the National Security Innovation Network

The National Security Innovation Network is a program of the U.S. Department of Defense that collaborates with major universities and the venture community to develop solutions that drive national security innovation.

We operate three portfolios of programs and services: National Service, Collaboration, and Acceleration. Together, these portfolios form a pipeline of activities and solutions that accelerate the pace of defense innovation.

