



Cal Poly Humboldt
**Schatz Energy
Research Center**

Paid Internship: Student Research Intern, Offshore Wind

Position at a Glance

Position: Student Research Intern, Offshore Wind

Who can apply: Cal Poly Humboldt undergraduates

Term: October 2026–Spring 2027

Time commitment: approximately 8–10 hours/week

Compensation: \$5,000 stipend, paid monthly to the student's university account

Work location: Hybrid, with flexible work hours

Application deadline: Applications due by Monday, September 14, 2026, at 8am Pacific

Apply now: <https://forms.gle/sDK3zEQh7Rdo1tX37>

About the internship

The Schatz Energy Research Center has an opening for an undergraduate student research intern to join our offshore wind team on a project developing entanglement mitigation strategies for offshore wind turbines. This paid internship is expected to start in October 2026 and continue through the Spring 2027 semester. The internship is supported by the Philip & Yuriko Anton Climate Endowment.

About the Research

Offshore Wind (OSW) Secondary Entanglement: Floating offshore wind turbines are anchored to the seafloor using mooring lines. Lost fishing gear and other marine debris can become caught on these lines, creating a potential entanglement risk for marine wildlife. This is known as **secondary entanglement**.

Our research team is developing technologies and methods to monitor and identify entanglements on offshore wind mooring lines. The project combines computational simulations, sensor testing and validation, and a detection-focused remotely operated vehicle (ROV). Together, these approaches help us understand how floating wind platforms and their mooring systems respond under different entanglement scenarios and inform strategies for detecting and mitigating entanglement risks.

What you will do

As a student research intern, you will support our ongoing mooring line entanglement research. A significant portion of the project development has been completed, with important work remaining to support system integration, analysis, documentation, and final reporting. You will contribute to this phase of the project by helping develop technical reports and communication materials, organizing and interpreting research results, and supporting other project activities as needed.

Your work may include:

- Developing technical reports and public-facing communication materials.
- Participating in discussions related to technical system integration.
- Organizing, interpreting, and presenting research results.
- Documenting project methods, assumptions, and findings for team review.
- Maintaining organized records of project data, models, and analysis files.
- Participating in team meetings, sharing progress updates, and adapting to new tools or tasks as needed.
- Designing and running simulations of floating offshore wind platforms and mooring systems using computational software such as OrcaFlex, with training and support from the project team.
- Processing simulation results and extract relevant performance and loading data.
- Applying statistical methods to analyze simulation results and identify patterns.

Note: The list of responsibilities is subject to change.

What you can expect to learn

This internship offers hands-on experience contributing to an applied research project and working as part of a collaborative research team. You will strengthen skills in technical communication, research documentation, and interpreting project results, with opportunities to gain experience with computational modeling and data analysis depending on project needs.

Minimum qualifications

Education and Experience

- Eligible applicants must be undergraduate students in good academic standing at Cal Poly Humboldt who are registered for at least 6.0 units in Fall 2026.
- Experience using quantitative or computational methods, gained through academic coursework, projects, research, work experience, or other activities.

Knowledge, skills, and abilities

- Interest in contributing to applied research related to offshore wind, marine systems, or environmental and engineering challenges.
- Proficiency with word processing, spreadsheet analysis, and basic data management.
- Skill in organizing, interpreting, and presenting quantitative results clearly.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to convey technical concepts in plain language.
- Ability and willingness to work respectfully and effectively in a collaborative team setting.
- Willingness and ability to learn and use new tools, methods, and software to support research and collaboration.

Desirable Skills and Knowledge

- Exposure to basic mathematical or computational modeling.
- Experience with programming, data analysis, or simulation tools.
- Coursework in engineering, physics, mathematics, computer science, or a related field.

Important note about qualifications: The desirable skills and knowledge listed above are not required. If you meet the minimum qualifications, we encourage you to apply even if you do not meet every desirable qualification.

Schedule and work arrangement

This position is expected to average approximately 8–10 hours per week during the academic semesters. Work hours are flexible and can be scheduled around the student's class schedule and other academic commitments. The project team will work with the selected intern to establish a regular schedule that supports both the student and the project.

The position is hybrid, with a combination of onsite and remote work. The intern is encouraged to spend some time onsite at the Schatz Center each week, ideally during times when their mentor or supervisor is also available. Specific onsite hours and meeting times will be determined with the selected intern based on their class schedule and project needs.

Compensation and Internship Duration

The student research intern will receive a **total stipend of \$5,000** for contributions to the project during Fall 2026 and Spring 2027. The stipend will be paid in monthly installments to the student's university account and will first be applied to any outstanding university fees or charges. Any remaining balance will be refunded to the student according to the university's standard refund process.

The internship is expected to begin in October 2026 and continue through the Spring 2027 semester. The intern is expected to complete approximately 250 hours of project work over the appointment period.

How to apply

Deadline

All application materials must be received by **Monday, September 14, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. Pacific Time.**

Materials

Applicants must submit all required application materials through the official application form:

<https://forms.gle/sDK3zEQh7Rdo1tX37>

The form will ask you to provide your contact information, indicate how you learned about the vacancy, and upload the application materials listed below.

Please prepare the following materials for submission:

1. **Formal letter of application / cover letter:** A formal letter of application (cover letter) addressed to the Schatz Hiring Committee that includes the following:
 - a. Describe your background and what motivates you to apply.
 - b. Describe your experience related to the qualifications above, including examples of relevant work, projects, research, and/or college or university coursework.

Note: Your cover letter will be used as a writing sample to assess the quality of your writing.
2. **Resume:** A resume of 3 pages or fewer is preferred; however, we encourage you to include all relevant and transferable experience and skills you wish us to consider.

Additional materials may be required from candidates invited to interview.

What counts as relevant experience?

You may demonstrate your qualifications through any combination of the following.

- Paid employment and internships
- Volunteer service and community engagement
- Leadership or participation in clubs, student organizations, or other extracurriculars
- Independent or course-based projects, research, or fieldwork
- Relevant college or university coursework successfully completed or in progress

Questions? For additional information about this opportunity, please email

schatzenergy@humboldt.edu or call (707) 826-4345.

About the Schatz Center

Who we are

Since 1989, the Schatz Center has been a leader in applied research and project development for clean and renewable energy. Our current portfolio includes microgrid development, sustainable transportation design, carbon life cycle analysis, solar product testing, offshore wind feasibility studies, and planning and policy for clean energy access around the globe.

As residents of a rural coastal community, we are keenly aware of our social and environmental responsibilities. We are committed to increasing energy access and resilience for communities worldwide — and do so through clean and renewable design that reduces climate change and restores environmental and human health.

Our organizational commitments

Our Vision

The Schatz Center envisions a healthy planet with thriving, equitable, resilient communities powered by clean energy.

Our Purpose

Our team is committed to addressing climate change and improving human and ecosystem health through work that supports clean energy, climate-resilience, equity, and justice. Our work includes:

- Research and development – we do applied research focused on energy and environmental issues.
- Technology deployment – we design, integrate, build, test, and operate innovative, renewable, and resilient energy systems that are responsive to social and environmental needs.
- Collaboration – we work with public and private partners including Tribal Nations, communities, agencies, academic institutions, foundations, and industry to exchange knowledge and implement innovative solutions locally and internationally.

- Education and Training – we support learning that provides practical, hands-on experience for current and future practitioners and leaders.

Our Values

We value:

- Kindness: Treating people and the planet with care and respect through acts of inclusion, helpfulness, generosity, and encouragement.
- Integrity: Approaching one another and our interdisciplinary research with curiosity, open-mindedness, transparency, and humility.
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Providing a nourishing and rewarding environment for Center staff, students, and partners. Respecting the differences of our colleagues and actively seeking to identify and remove barriers to ensure opportunities to thrive.
- Justice: Working to advance racial justice, gender equality and women's empowerment, LGBTQIA+ rights, economic equality, and environmental justice.
- Teamwork and Collaboration: Supporting internal and external community building and engagement to create inclusive and innovative solutions. Sharing knowledge with and learning from our colleagues, collaborators, community partners, and the public to advance understanding.
- Effectiveness: Using our technical, scientific, and policy expertise to do good work that makes a difference.

About the Philip & Yuriko Anton Climate Endowment

This internship is made possible through generous support from the [Philip & Yuriko Anton Climate Endowment](#). Philip and Yuriko Anton are pleased to support research assistantships at the Schatz Energy Research Center through their Anton Climate Fund. Support will go to undergraduate students pursuing extracurricular work at the Center related to clean energy and climate change, with a preference for supporting student involvement in projects involving renewable energy technologies such as offshore wind energy.

Questions, accommodations, and assistance

- For additional information about this opportunity, please email schatzenergy@humboldt.edu or call (707) 826-4345.
- For assistance with the application process, please submit an [Accommodation Request Form](#) or contact the campus ADA Coordinator at (707) 826-4678 or ada@humboldt.edu.
- For more information regarding accommodation, you may also visit the [Cal Poly Humboldt Campus Disability Resource Center](#).
- Individuals in need of a telecommunications relay service may contact the California Relay Service at (877) 735-2929 TTY.
- Learn more about our employment opportunities at schatzcenter.org/jobs.