

# SPIN: Strategic Program for Innovation at National Labs

Impactful Innovation Program for Lab Scientists and Emerging Leaders

**NOW Recruiting for the upcoming cohort in Spring 2024!**

This valuable innovation program is a partnership between the Polsky Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation and the National Labs, and delivers the tools, skills, and frameworks for applying an entrepreneurial mindset to scientific research and innovation. In 2024, this program continues to expand participation across all National labs.

## SPIN Program Value Proposition

- Demonstrate the benefits of applying the entrepreneurial mindset to scientific research and innovation.
- Provide lab staff and researchers with new tools to approach, conceptualize and solve problems by utilizing the mechanisms of entrepreneurship.
- Enhance effectiveness in research as well as inspire new frontiers.

## Three Critical Domains of Learning

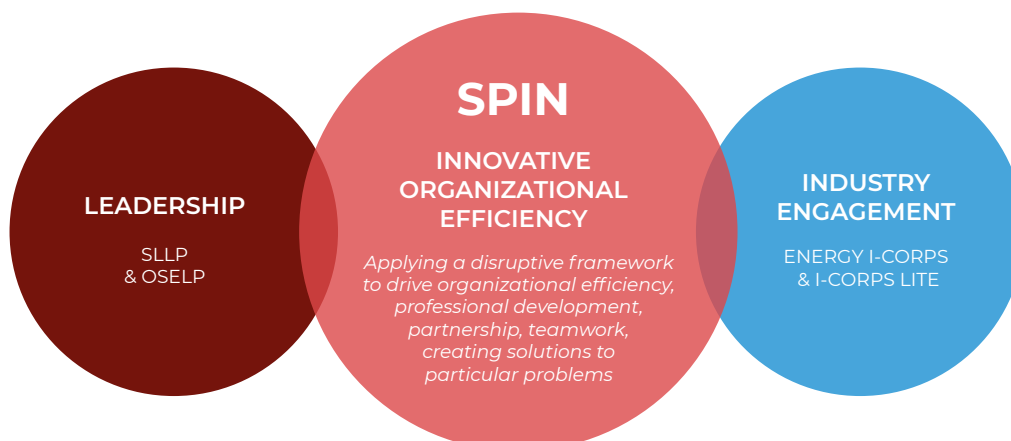
The following domains of learning are designed to catalyze the power of innovation and lead to greater organizational efficiency:

**Entrepreneurial Mindset:** Leveraging a strategic thought process to identify and make the most of opportunities, overcome and learn from setbacks, and problem-solve across a variety of settings.

**The Structure of Entrepreneurship:** The process of identifying a core value proposition, the people it serves, the associated reward, the infrastructure, resources and costs required to execute a solution.

**Applied Research in Action:** A practitioner's approach to evaluating opportunities across the commercialization landscape and the use of integrative partnerships to solve problems.

The SPIN Program delivers a framework for innovative organizational efficiency while also connecting to the topic areas of leadership and industry engagement.



## Program Details

### Module Curriculum

- Growth Mindset as a Model for Innovation
- High Functioning Teams
- Communication and Collaboration Strategies
- Tackling the Front End of Innovation
- Technology Commercialization in Practice
- Entrepreneurs as Missionaries
- Role of Internal / External Partnerships
- Presentation and Executive Communication Workshop
- DNA of Disciplined Innovation

### Eligibility Criteria

- Recognized potential for growth into a higher leadership position
- Actively engaged in activities of the lab
- Curious about practical applications for research
- Demonstrated innovation / creativity in problem solving
- Demonstrated collaborative ability
- Personal career objectives fit with goals of the program
- Full-time regular employee

## Session Details

2024 Dates	April 3, 4	In-Person
	April 17	Virtual
	May 1	Virtual
	May 15, 16	In-Person
	May 29	Virtual
	June 12	Virtual
	June 26, 27	In-Person

### Sessions will be both In-Person and Virtual

- Final session will be a full day event with presentations to Lab and University Leadership
- Participation will require supplemental reading and collaborative activities between sessions to enhance discussion and learning outcomes
- Tuition per person is \$10,400

## APPLICATIONS

**Open: January 15, 2024**  
**Close: February 29, 2024**

### Feedback from recent SPIN Participants

“I really have a great new perspective on what it means to be innovative in my job— everything from how I approach a new proposal that I'm writing , being able to initiate and manage the customer discovery process, all the way to what's that final last outcome of the research that I want to do”  
- **Jordan Tiarks | Laboratory Scientist II, Ames Laboratory**

“The program empowered me to access areas for enhancement and discern whether a proposition adds value or merely presents marginal gains” - **Chen Liao | Chemist, Argonne**

“I learned a lot of important aspects related to team building and leadership that I plan to integrate into my daily work life. These include an understanding of what a functioning team looks like, improving my communication and collaboration skills, as well as factors I need to consider when aiming to accelerate commercialization of technology that I've developed. I would highly recommend this program.”  
- **Akshay Murthy | Deputy Head, Qubits and Materials Department at Fermilab**

“SPIN offers a toolkit designed to foster critical thinking and a continuous drive for improvement advocating for a culture of innovation that persist beyond the program's duration”  
- **Florian Effenberg | Staff Research Scientist, PPPL**

For questions about the program, feel free to contact:

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