The Laboratory for Physical Sciences (LPS) was founded in 1956 by the federal government to drive physical sciences research in future technologies to prevent technological surprise. LPS focuses on four areas of research: solid state and quantum physics, optical and RF innovations, microelectronics integration and advanced computing systems.

Students in the Pathway to a Physics Ph.D. (P³) will have the opportunity to conduct research at LPS and receive their degree from University of Maryland, a top Physics PhD program.

Apply at go.umd.edu/pathwaytophysics
The Department of Physics at the University of Maryland is one of the strongest in the United States—invariably ranked in the top fifteen. It is extremely large and scientifically diverse. The research opportunities in physics at UMD are unparalleled in the United States. Moreover, the Washington, DC area is home to numerous federally funded research labs including LPS, NIST, ARL, NRL, NIH, NASA and NIH, where UMD Physics students can conduct research and get hired to work after graduation. The DC area is a remarkable interesting, lively diverse, and cosmopolitan place, making it an ideal setting for graduate students.

APPLICATION PROCESS

For the application you will need:
- An undergraduate transcript
- A CV or resume
- A short description of research you have done.
- A statement of purpose describing your scientific interests and goals.
- An optional essay discussing your life experiences that may be helpful in our evaluation.
- Letters of reference from someone whom you did research; at least one letter from a course instructor.

Submit your application at go.umd.edu/pathwaytophysics

TAKE ALL THE COURSES IN YOUR CURRICULUM. DO THE RESEARCH. ASK QUESTIONS. FIND SOMEONE DOING WHAT YOU ARE INTERESTED IN! BE CURIOUS!

-Katherine Johnson

THE PROGRAM TIMELINE

Year 1: Conduct research at LPS, take courses, and receive weekly mentoring with faculty member.

Year 2: Conduct research at LPS, finish courses for masters, and continue to receive weekly mentoring.

Year 3 Onward: On time completion of PhD degree.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

We are looking for students who have a passion for science and ambition to succeed. We are interested in students who have made the most of the educational and research opportunities available to them. We will review applications, looking at a student’s entire record. We do not require a minimum GPA, and will not look at the GRE. We particularly encourage applications from students who will be graduating from a Historically Black College or University (HBCU) or other Minority Serving Institutions (MSI).