

GETTING TO  
**zero**

# Next Gen Program

Are you interested in helping students start their careers in sustainability, energy efficiency, or building decarbonization?

**Next Gen is NBI's career preparation program for college students, fostering the next generation of diverse buildings industry leaders.**

**People of color** are among the **most at risk** of being left behind by the decarbonization and electrification movement. This will result in disproportionate financial burden unless programs are planned with equity at their core. The industry must be **more diverse** to ensure **everyone** can access and benefit from building efficiency and electrification measures. **Next Gen is part of the solution.**

The program works to address the lack of diversity in the industry by prioritizing students from underserved communities and preparing participants for their career in sustainability and resiliency.

Next Gen is a **FREE** career preparation program that provides:



**Professional certification**



**Career preparation**



**Mentorship** ★



**Cohort building**



**Education**



**Conference attendance**

**Now offering a new pathway to more careers with the [Building Operator Certificate \(BOC\)](#)!**



- Each student is matched **1:1** with a mentor based on their **career aspirations** and **lived experience**
- Mentorship is often a **crucial component** of career development, especially in today's competitive job market
- As a mentor, you get to:
  - **Share** skills and knowledge
  - **Build** confidence in your mentee and act as a sounding board
  - **Help** underrepresented talent access opportunities
  - **Gain** fresh perspectives and ideas from your mentee
  - **Connect** with potential intern and entry level job candidates

**This is your chance to give back, shape the future of your field, and open doors for the next generation in industries where diverse voices are needed most.**

## What to expect

### 2-3 hours per month

Includes check ins with your mentee, check ins with mentor cohort, training, and participation in student discussion groups

### Flexible schedule

Ability to structure your time with your mentee to fit your schedule.

### Mentorship Training

Receive mentorship and equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) training on how to cultivate a relationship with your mentee.

**Applications will open  
early 2026**

## Questions?

**Contact Emma Riccardi  
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