

GETTING TO  
**zero**

# Next Gen Program

Are you interested in starting your career 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 \(BOC\)](#)!**



- **Clean energy jobs** are **growing** at a rate of 4.9%, **more than double** the economy-wide construction growth ([US Energy and Employment Report 2024](#))
- BUT **76%** of employers in the energy sector reported that hiring qualified workers was **difficult**
- As a Next Gen participant, you get to:
  - **Gain** skills and knowledge that employers are looking for
  - **Build** your network of established professionals and peers
  - **Discover** career paths, internships, and job opportunities
  - **Attend** the Getting to Zero Forum, the leading conference connecting leaders of the sustainable building industry

**Join the Next Gen program as a bridge to your new career in sustainability, where we help you break into industries where your skills and perspectives are needed most.**

## What to expect

### 4 hours per month

Includes virtual monthly group meetings, check ins with your mentor, and attending optional events.

### Professional Certification

Obtain a professional certification or training sponsored by the program.

### 1:1 Mentor

You will be paired with a mentor based on career aspirations and lived experience.

**Applications will open  
early 2026**

## Questions?

**Contact Emma Riccardi  
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