



PhD position in Engineering Science or Geomechanics

Join our dynamic research team where you can work on ground-breaking discoveries in the interdisciplinary field of multiphysical geomechanics.

The Program:

The *Engineering Science* and *Geotechnical Engineering and Geomechanics Programs* at the University of Colorado Boulder focus on building a strong foundation for PhD students to tackle emerging challenges in energy and infrastructure. We have excellent faculty who:

- Provide top notch courses in analytical mechanics, computational mechanics, and applied mathematics.
- Guide you towards innovative research ideas.
- Help you develop collaborations and networks that can launch you towards your future goals.

The Position:

We are seeking a PhD student with passion for mechanics and physics to work in a funded graduate research assistant (GRA) position at the University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder), CEAE department, starting Spring or Fall 2026.

We are looking for candidates that:

- Anticipate or have recently obtained B.S. or M.S. in Civil or Mechanical Engineering.
- Have a strong background in physics, solid mechanics, and applied mathematics.
- Are self-driven in learning new knowledge.
- Demonstrate excellent and independent research ability.

The research project will focus on the mechanics of porous materials informed by the physiochemical processes at the solid-fluid interface. Other potential topics may include bifurcation analysis, granular mechanics, fracture mechanics, and phase field theory.

We offer:

- Teaching Assistantship and Research Assistantship (\$3,352.96/month which will increase to \$3,605.09/m after passing comprehensive exam) with tuition coverage.
- Health insurance and other student benefits.
- Astonishing natural surroundings in the Boulder area, providing an inspiring setting for living, studying, and enjoying world-class outdoor sports.

For more information, please contact Prof. Yida Zhang via yida.zhang@colorado.edu. For those who are interested in applying, please send an email with subject line "Application for geomechanics PhD Position". The email may include a curriculum vitae/resume, English testing scores, and academic transcripts. Review of applications will begin immediately.