

# Application Form

## Profile

**If you have any questions or difficulty submitting this application, please reach out to Alex Guzhnay at [aguzhnay@newhavenct.gov](mailto:aguzhnay@newhavenct.gov) or call 203-946-7670.**

Nicole

First Name

Allen

Last Name

Middle Initial

nicole.allen@yale.edu

Email Address

265 College Street

Home Address

Unit 1C

Suite or Apt

New Haven

City

CT

State

06510

Postal Code

### What ward do you live in (optional - please select ward if you know)?

Ward 1

Home: (781) 400-4267

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

### Are any of the above number a cell phone number?

Yes  No

### If so, which? Also, is it okay to send a text message?

Yes

### Are you currently employed by the City of New Haven or the New Haven Public School System?

Yes  No

Employer

Job Title

To see our list of Boards and Commissions please click here: <https://newhaven-ct.granicus.com/boards/w/976a34cad711af7c/boards>

### Which Boards would you like to apply for?

New Haven Food Policy Council: Submitted

**Is this an appointment or reappointment request? \***

Appointment

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**Interests & Experiences**

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve. Please attach any of the follow:

**Resume, Curriculum Vitae (CV), Professional Bio, or a Statement of Interest.**

[Nicole\\_Allen\\_Resume.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

**If not submitting a Resume or CV, please submit a ~150 word Statement of Interest as to why you are interested in serving on your selected boards/commissions. If you have uploaded a resume OR you are seeking reappointment, you can write n/a.**

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n/a

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**Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?**

In my undergraduate at Georgia Tech, I was able to be very involved in my school community and the broader Atlanta community (a bit) through my work at the campus gardens, and teaching students to cook with seasonal, local food, or donating food to on-campus and nearby food pantries. Now as a graduate student, I'm excited that I'll be in New Haven longer and be able to be involved for a longer period of time. I've also become interested in food policy. It's lovely when groups such as the ones I was a part of at GT distribute food and make it easier to use whole foods, but it feels like changing city policy could have a larger, longer-lasting impact.

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**Why do you believe you would be a good fit for your selected board and commission(s)?**

I have no previous experience with any government positions, and would hope that as a member of the general public I could bring some creative ideas and perspectives to the table. Also, as a student and a young adult, I understand well the difficulties that can come with learning how to cook and eat, and establishing these habits for life, while busy with the day-to-day.

**Do you have any time commitments that would prevent you from participating in board/commission meetings? Meeting times can be found by visiting [newhavenct.gov/boards](http://newhavenct.gov/boards), but most are usually once a month for 1-2 hours.**

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No

Question applies to New Haven Food Policy Council

**The New Haven Food Policy Council currently does not have a set meeting time. If appointed, what time of day / day of the week works best for you?**

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Evening

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## Demographics

**Some boards and commissions require membership to be politically proportionate, per State Statute on minority party representation (CGS § 9-167a). What is your political affiliation on your voter registration?**

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Democrat

**In order to stay compliant with our city's charter, are you registered to vote in New Haven?**

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Yes  No

We strive to maintain diversity in all of our Boards and Commissions. These questions are optional and if you volunteer the information we will only use it to ensure that our boards and commissions are diverse.

## Ethnicity

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Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

## Gender

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Female

**How did you hear about serving on our Boards & Commissions?**

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Ward 1 Alder Campaign Event

# Nicole Allen

## Education

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Yale University, PhD in Biomedical Engineering

Enrolled: Aug 2025

Georgia Institute of Technology (GT), B.S. in Biomedical Engineering (*summa cum laude*)

May 2025

## Research Roles

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Undergraduate Researcher, GT and Emory University

2021 - 2025

*Neural Circuits for Visual Perception* | Advisors: Prof. Bilal Haider, Dr. Kayla Peelman

- Train mice in a visual spatial attention task. Record neural signals using wide-field calcium imaging. Analyze resulting neural and behavioral data (MATLAB) to explore how visual attention propagates.

Young Science and Engineering Researchers Program (YSEP), Tokyo Institute of Technology

Summer 2024

*Photonic Neurons for Neuromorphic Computing Architecture* | Advisor: Prof. Yuya Shoji

- Work to create a neuromorphic photonic circuit for computing systems using the lab's magnetic materials (CoFeB and Ce:YIG). Create a spiking neural network model of the proposed fabrication to determine feasibility.

Nakatani Research and International Experience for Students Fellow, Osaka University

Summer 2022

*Cultivation of Terahertz Biotechnology* | Advisors: Prof. Masayoshi Tonouchi, Prof. Kazunori Serita

- Tested non-invasive THz imaging techniques on a mouse cochlear sample, analyzed results (Origin and MATLAB) to create simulation models of the sample. Work is towards creating better non-invasive ear diagnostic tools.

## Publications

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Zheng, L., Chen, H., Fujita, T., Kakigi, A., Allen, N., Murakami, H., Tonouchi, M., & Serita, K. (2025). Three-dimensional terahertz near-field imaging evaluation of cochlea. *Optica*, 12(4), 437. <https://doi.org/10.1364/optica.543436>

## Selected Fellowships and Awards

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National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, 3 years stipend and tuition for PhD 2025 - Present

Outstanding Mentor Award, GT, Award for outstanding mentorship in women engineers' program 2024, 2025

Mayo Clinic Convergence Science Award, Team selected for competitive Mayo Clinic capstone 2024 - 2025

United Nations Millenium Fellowship, Project to increase campus education about local and seasonal food Fall 2024

Memu Landscape Studio Fellow, UTokyo, Fully funded week-long food research program in Hokkaido Summer 2024

Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) Scholarship, JP¥80,000 monthly stipend Spring 2024

Women In Engineering Scholarships, GT, Recognizing academics and leadership 2022, 2023, 2024

Nakatani RIES Fellowship, Osaka University, Fully funded research program Summer 2022

## Presentations

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Undergraduate (2021-2025): BMES 2022 (Poster, San Antonio, TX), WE Local (Poster, Baltimore, MD), WE23 (Poster, Los Angeles, CA), 8<sup>th</sup> Global Botanic Garden Congress (Poster, Singapore), SFN 2024 (Poster, Chicago, IL), New York Climate Exchange AI Innovation Challenge (Finalist, NYC, NY), IBM TechXChange (Speaker, Las Vegas, NV), WE24 (Speaker, Chicago, IL), Mayo Clinic Alligator Tank (Finalist, Jacksonville, FL), SOWTH by Georgia Organics (Speaker, Atlanta, GA).

## Teaching

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Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

Fall 2023, 2024

BMED 3410 – *Intro to Biomechanics* | Professor: Dr. Fatiesa Sulejmani, Dr. Denis Tsygankov

- Review content and evaluate course pacing. Assist with grading and answering student questions on Piazza. Host review sessions. Obtained the 'Gold Standard' for TAing.

## Service

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Students Organizing for Sustainability (Executive Board, VP of Finance, Urban Agriculture Project) (2022-2025)  
League of Women Voters

- Of the United States, Data Modeling Working Group (2023)
- Of Georgia, Legislative Session Reporter (2023-2025)