STUDENT SATELLITE INITIATIVES
FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
ELIJAH BALLOON PAYLOAD TEAM

Applications Open: January 6, 2017
Submission Deadline: February 20, 2017
Award Announcement: Week of April 7, 2017
Work Period: May 1, 2017 – May 15, 2018

Awards: *$4,000 stipend per student fellowship.
Lodging at the Milwaukee School of Engineering dorms for students who do not live in the area.
* Based on availability of funds.

Purpose: The Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium (WSGC) is looking for 4-6 full-time students from affiliate member institution majoring in a science or engineering discipline to join the science payload team of our high-altitude balloon project, Elijah. Interested students do not need to have experience, a pre-formed team or an initial idea for a payload project. Interested students do need a desire to work with other students to conceive of and carry out a payload project. WSGC will form the team and provide the launch personnel and vehicle, as well as a mentor.

Program: The Student Satellite Initiative is an innovative NASA project that provides students an opportunity to fly science experiments in a near-space environment. Selected students will form a collaborative team of science and engineering specials, whose task will be to design and build a payload to be launched from a high-altitude balloon which will ascend up to 100,000 feet or more. Students will be expected to define an important science question or set of questions that might be addressed by a high-altitude balloon flight; and then with the assistance of mentors, design and build a science-driven payload. Students will design and build the science experiments to fly in this environment; assist the Elijah Balloon Launch Team in the launch of their payload; track and chase the balloon as it traverses; retrieve the payload upon landing; and analyze the resulting data.

To Apply: To apply for this fellowship, you must a) register online and b) apply online.

Application Requirements: To apply for this Student Satellite Initiatives Research Fellowship, you must register online at https://spacegrant.carthage.edu/about/login/ and meet the following minimum requirements:

- U.S. citizen
- At least a Sophomore standing as of Fall 2016 and must be enrolled through December 2017 (Students enrolled in a two-year program who declare their plan to be enrolled at a WSGC Affiliate University at the end of their sophomore year are also eligible to apply)
- Enrolled at a WSGC college or university
- Majoring in a science or engineering discipline
• Minimum 2.5 GPA (Proposals that include a GPA of less than 2.5 will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis)
• A strong interest in the success of the project. *Motivation is more important than experience, with self-motivation and ability to complete work with minimal supervision being absolutely critical.*
• Interviews will be scheduled individually; every effort will be made to schedule interviews at the applicant’s home campus or via a phone conversation.

**Supporting Materials Required with Application:**
1. Letter of Interest
2. Resume
3. Two faculty references (Names, Emails, and Phone Numbers)

See [Tools & Tips](#) for more information on how to create business correspondence and a resume.

Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium invites applications for the Student Satellite Initiatives Elijah Balloon Payload Fellowship Program for the 2017-2018 academic year. Application forms must be completed and be accompanied by supporting documentation. WSGC especially encourages applications from members of minority groups, women, and persons with disabilities. Internships will be awarded on the basis of academic performance, experience, and demonstration of commitment to the project. The diverse scientific and engineering needs of the team will also be considered.

**Current and Past Award Recipients**

**Work period:** Students will be payload team members for the period from approximately June 1 2017 to August 11, 2017, with some data analysis performed through December. Start time is flexible, based on the end of spring term for each institution. Payload team members will present their results at the Annual Wisconsin Space Conference to be held at the University of Wisconsin La Crosse, La Crosse, WI in August 2017.

**Location:** Meetings of the team will take place in either Milwaukee or occasionally in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Students must be able to provide their own transportation.

**Award Acceptance Components:** As part of the award acceptance, you will be asked to attend the Annual Wisconsin Space Conference in August 2017 and submit the following documents on the WSGC website under Program Applications/Your Applications:

• Award Acceptance Letter
• W9
• Media Release Form
• One-Paragraph Biography
• Professional Photo
• Interim Report
• Present project at the Annual Wisconsin Space Conference in August
• Submit a Proceeding Paper by Sept. 15th to the Proceedings of the Wisconsin Space Journal

If you have questions about the *Elijah Balloon Payload Program*, please contact:

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**Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium**
Carthage College
2001 Alford Park Drive, Kenosha WI 53140
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E-mail: spacegrant@carthage.edu
This funding opportunity is made available for the pursuit of space-related research and/or activities through the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program: NASA Training Grant #NNX15AJ12H. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for this award is 43.008.

All awards are fully competitive awards of opportunity in which applications are reviewed by the WSGC Technical Advisory Panel and other experts as needed. Awards are made by the Assistant Director based on recommendations from the Associate Director.