



STUDENT SATELLITE INITIATIVES FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM ELIJAH BALLOON TEAM

Applications Open:	December 6, 2019
Submission Deadline:	February 11, 2020
Award Announcement:	Week of April 7, 2020
Work Period:	May 1, 2020 – September 15, 2020

Awards: *\$4,000 stipend – student research fellowship (maximum 4 students)
*\$5,000 stipend – student research fellowship team lead (one returning student)
Lodging at the Milwaukee School of Engineering dorms or a commuter parking pass (optional)

* *Based on availability of funds.*

Purpose: The Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium (WSGC) is looking for 4-5 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 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; launch their payload; track and chase the balloon as it traverses; retrieve the payload upon landing; and analyze the resulting data. The team lead will assist the Student Satellite Initiatives Associate Director administer the payload design and launch aspects of the program.

To Apply:

- Register on the WSGC website (<https://spacegrant.carthage.edu/forms/account/login>). Applicants will be prompted to update personal information annually.
- [Sign in](#) and submit the [Grant Application Form](#) (*applicants may apply to multiple funding programs*) and *supporting documents*.

Application Requirements: Applicants who meet the following requirements can apply for this fellowship by registering and applying online at spacegrant.carthage.edu/about/login:

- U.S. citizen
- WI resident during academic year
- At least a Sophomore standing as of Fall 2020 and must be enrolled through December 2020 (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 full-time in, admitted to, or applied to any undergraduate program 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.*
- Completed application online (*see Supporting Materials Required with Application below*)
- Attend a WSGC sponsored kick-off retreat in Lake Tomahawk, WI from May 27-30, 2020
- Team lead applicants must have completed an Elijah Balloon Research Fellowship within 24 months

NOTE: After the submission deadline, WSGC may request an individual interview; 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.

The Consortium invites applications for the Elijah Balloon Fellowship Program for the 2019-2020 academic year. For consideration, application forms must be complete, and be accompanied by supporting documentation. The Consortium especially encourages applications from members of minority groups, women, and persons with disabilities, and from those pursuing interdisciplinary aerospace studies in, but not limited to, engineering, the sciences, architecture, law, business, nursing and medicine. Award winners will be chosen based on academic performance, aerospace-related promise, and the demonstrated interest in pursuing a career in STEM/aerospace. 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 May 1, 2020, to September 15, 2020, with some data analysis performed through December. Start time is flexible, based on the end of spring term for each institution. Elijah Balloon team members will present their results at the Annual Wisconsin Space Conference to be held at Milwaukee School of Engineering in Milwaukee, WI in August 2020.

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 2019 and submit the following documents on the WSGC website under Program Applications/Your Applications:

- Award Acceptance Letter
- W9 (*Carthage College award recipients submit a W4 and I9*)
- Media Release Form
- One-Paragraph Biography
- Professional Photo
- Office of Education Survey must be completed by December 15, 2021
- Interim Report
- 2-3 project photos featuring awardee w/project
- 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

Please direct questions about the [Elijah Balloon Research Fellowship Program](#) to:

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Please follow us on     for program updates



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.