



2023-2024 ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OPPORTUNITY

spacegrant.carthage.edu

HIGHER EDUCATION INCENTIVES (HEI)

Spring 2024 Research

Applications Open: August 11, 2023
Application Deadline: October 9, 2023
Award Announcement: December 1, 2023
Award Cycle: January 1-May 31, 2024

Summer/Academic Year 2024-2025 Research

Applications Open: November 1, 2023
Application Deadline: February 5, 2024
Award Announcement: March 29, 2024
Award Cycle: July 1, 2024-May 31, 2025

Awards*: Multi-institutional Awards**: up to \$15,000
Major Awards: up to \$10,000
Minor Awards: up to \$5,000

**Based on availability of funds.*

***Projects demonstrating collaboration between two- and four-year campuses or multiple four-year campuses will be eligible for the multi-institutional award.*

Current & Past Award Recipient

Purpose: The Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium invites proposals for value-added, higher education teaching/training projects related to any space or aerospace discipline. This is a seed-grant program for faculty-implemented undergraduate education projects that support the most innovative ideas on how to increase the space and aerospace content of undergraduate university and college offerings.

Projects should:

- have an emphasis on space sciences, aerospace engineering, or any other space-related discipline or interdisciplinary STEM field.
- be intended for education and/or training of undergraduate students, with an emphasis on faculty enhancement and curriculum development in undergraduate education.
- align with the [NASA Mission Directorates](https://www.nasa.gov/mission-directorates) (For more information on NASA Directorates, see spacegrant.carthage.edu/about/mission/directorates).

To Apply:

- **CREATE a NASA STEM GATEWAY account** stemgateway.nasa.gov/public/s/login/ (applicants will be required to update profile information annually).
- **CREATE a WSGC account** spacegrant.carthage.edu/about/login/ (applicants will be required to update profile information annually).
- **Sign into** your WSGC account and submit an application and supporting documents to **HIGHER EDUCATION INCENTIVES** <https://spacegrant.carthage.edu/forms/account/login/> (applicants may apply to multiple funding programs)

Application Requirements:

- [WSGC affiliate member universities or colleges](#) are eligible. Industry, nonprofit associations, and nonmembers can propose programs and work jointly with one of our academic members, providing the educational activity occurs at a member campus (e.g., visiting lectureship, an extension course, nonprofit group offering).
- Students funded through this grant must be U.S. Citizens.
- Affiliate member institutions must have [affiliate award agreement documents on file](#) with the WSGC Program Office.
- Higher Education Incentives must align with at least one of [NASA Mission Directorates](#).
- The Consortium especially encourages applications from women, underrepresented communities and persons with disabilities.
- Minimum 1:1 match

Supporting Material Required with Application: Submit a proposal addressing each of the seven elements listed below. Be sure to identify each element within the proposal clearly. Applicants will upload the proposal at the bottom of the application. The proposal should not exceed 15 pages, including figures.

- 1. Introduction/Summary:** Summarize the project in one page or less. Important issues to address here and in the body of the proposal are how this project will provide curriculum development, faculty enhancement, or in any other way provide training for undergraduates in the space sciences, aerospace engineering, or other space-related discipline. NASA guidelines require that every proposal demonstrate how the proposed activities align with the goals and objectives of one or more [NASA Directorates or Centers](#). **Because the WSGC is required to demonstrate the alignment of each of our projects with NASA Directorate or Center goals, proposals that do not demonstrate such alignment will not receive funding.** Provide references of related work. Be aware that not all of the WSGC review panel members are likely to be experts in this area, so make sure to provide fundamental information on the project topic.
- 2. Background:** Summarize the current and previous research on the topic covered by the grant and indicate its importance to the field. If the applicant has received previous funding from the Higher Education Incentives program, the proposal must demonstrate that the past project has met the goals and objectives of Higher Education Incentives program. The applicant should provide specific information on how the curriculum development, faculty enhancement, or in any other way provide training for undergraduates in the space sciences, aerospace engineering, or other space-related discipline led to larger proposal submission(s), broader collaborations, etc. As this is a seed grant program, priority funding is for those projects that can demonstrate strongest growth in Wisconsin's aerospace infrastructure. Also, include the previous support from the WSGC Higher Education Incentives Program (title, date, amount).
- 3. Proposed Activities:** Describe
 - Purpose – include audience, educational objectives
 - Method – what activity(ies) will be included
 - Expected Outcomes – anticipated value, added benefits
 - Types of presentations and/or papers that will be a by-product of this project.

Be sure to provide fundamental information on the project. The proposed project should provide value-added, higher education teaching or training in an innovative way, and the proposal should document how this project will achieve these goals. It is important to note that it is expected that faculty spend considerable time updating courses as a normal part of their duties. Proposed work falling under the purview of normal course development or improvement is unlikely to be funded.

- 4. Evaluation Plan:** Provide a brief self-evaluation plan, including how the program will be continued after WSGC funds are no longer available. Provide a dissemination plan for sharing project results with WSGC affiliate members and campus stakeholders. Include sufficient detail to allow reviewers to assess the viability of the plan.

5. **Timeline/Schedule:** Please provide dates indicating when the project start and finish date, as well as any important milestones. Applicants will be required to submit an Interim Report and a Final Report. Periods of performance must align with the award cycle provided within the Announcement of Opportunity. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a proposal that will not require a no cost extension.
6. **Budget/Use of Funds:** Provide a budget summary using the [Grant Budget Proposal and Invoice Reporting Template Form](#). The proposal shall include a budget detail explaining the use of allowable funds for the proposed project including labor (Name/position, number of hours, hourly rate, and fringe calculation rates), travel (location, transportation costs, hotel costs, meal costs), participant support costs, materials and supplies, and any other costs (with equivalent detail).
- Budget proposals shall include a quarterly spend-down plan to demonstrate grant funds will be fully expended within the Summer or Academic Year Award Cycle.
 - The Higher Education Incentives Program will normally provide funding for labor, including collaborators and students.
 - WSGC financially supports travel to and from the Wisconsin Space Conference if expenses are included in the budget proposal. Travel details should include purpose, location and duration. (*NOTE: A conference presentation is required for this award).
 - Travel will be considered if it is fundamentally important to the project.
 - Foreign travel is generally not allowable.
 - A minimum 1:1 cost-share commitment is required.
 - WSGC will not fund overhead; however, the organization's 1:1 project match may include overhead cost-share.
 - NASA (WSGC is a NASA-funded organization) does not accept the purchase of capital items as reasonable use of funds for this program. Consult the applicant's institutional policies on what constitutes a capital purchase.
 - Given budget limitations, we will likely not support any amount for equipment or rental of facilities.
 - Laptops require pre-approval and must demonstrate use solely for the funded grant.
7. **CV/Personnel*:** Please include an updated two page CV. **Note: This grant only allows one Principal Investigator to be listed on the application.* Include brief qualifications for any personnel included in projects. WSGC requires a list of all students receiving funds through this grant to be submitted as outlined in the Award Agreement Letter. Students register on the WSGC application website under **PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM STUDENT PARTICIPATION**.

Award Acceptance Requirements: As part of the award acceptance, awardees will present their project at the Annual Wisconsin Space Conference as outlined in the award agreement and submit the following documents on the WSGC application website under Program Applications/Your Applications:

- Award Agreement Letter
- Institution W9
- Media Release Form
- One-Paragraph Biography
- PI Professional Photo
- Quarterly Invoices/Cost-Share Report with Supporting Documentation
- Office of Education Survey
- Interim Report (if period of performance is greater than 6 months)
- Summary/Final Report (due 30 days after the project end date)
- Present project at the Annual Wisconsin Space Conference
- 2-3 project photos featuring faculty/students/program participants
- Alumni Story

Please direct questions about the Higher Education Incentives Program to:

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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 Educational Cooperative Agreement #80NSSC20M0123. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for this award is 43.008. Award recipients are subject to the terms of this award.

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.

Please follow us on     for program updates

