



2025-2026
ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPPORTUNITY
spacegrant.carthage.edu

DR. LAUREL SALTON CLARK (LSC)
WISCONSIN SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM (RFP)
GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Key Dates

Spring 2026 Research

- Applications Open: September 1, 2025
- Deadline: October 13, 2025
- Awards Announced: December 5, 2025

Summer 2026/Academic Year 2026-2027 Research

- Applications Open: November 1, 2025
- Deadline: February 2, 2026
- Awards Announced: March 27, 2026

Awards

Award Amount: \$6,000 (subject to funding availability)

Purpose

The **Dr. Laurel Salton Clark Memorial Graduate & Professional Research Fellowship** honors Columbia Shuttle astronaut and Wisconsin native Dr. Laurel Clark. It supports graduate or professional students in environmental or life sciences whose research has an aerospace component and who embody Dr. Clark's commitment to leadership, balance, and improving the human condition.

The **WSGC Graduate & Professional Research Fellowship** provides support for students in graduate or professional programs conducting independent STEM-related research or design aligned with [NASA Mission Directorates](#).

Eligibility

- Be a U.S. citizen or U.S. national.
- Be enrolled full-time in (or admitted/applied to) a graduate or professional degree program at a WSGC member college/university.
- Maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA (applications below 3.0 may be considered individually).
- Provide above-average GRE, MCAT, or equivalent standardized test scores.
- Demonstrate strong academic performance and aerospace-related research potential.
- Submit a complete online application.

Application Process

1. Create a NASA STEM Gateway account: stemgateway.nasa.gov/public/s/login/
2. Create a WSGC account: spacegrant.carthage.edu/about/login/
3. Log in and complete the Clark Fellowship or WSGC Graduate Fellowship application.
4. Submit two letters of recommendation with the application or to the WSGC [Office](#) with subject line LSC26_LOR (Clark Fellowship) or RFP26_LOR (WSGC Graduate Fellowship):
 - One from an academic advisor/mentor (willing to supervise the project)
 - One from a faculty member, employer, or aerospace professional

Required Materials

- Proposal (2–4 pages), including:
 - Statement of space/aerospace-related research and alignment with [NASA Mission Directorates](#) goals
 - Tasks, schedule, and expected results
 - Evidence of prior aerospace/space-related experience
 - Significance/value of research to the field
- Academic resume
- One-page budget summary (see budget template)
- Graduate and undergraduate transcripts (unofficial copies acceptable)

Budget Template

Proposed Budget Template		
Organization _____		
Period of Performance ____/____/____ to ____/____/____		
BUDGET ITEM	WSGC	TOTAL
Salaries and Fringe Total*		
<i>Include name and role for each individual receiving salary and fringe through WSGC funding.</i>		
Travel Total**		
<i>Annual Wisconsin Space Conference</i>		
<i>Include Location</i>		
Participant Support Total		
<i>Include name and role for each student/individual receiving a stipend through WSGC and Match funding.</i>		
Materials and Supplies Total***		
Other Direct Costs		
Total	\$ -	\$ -

* Include name, role, hours, rate, and fringe details.

** Travel must directly support research; international travel not permitted. WSGC supports travel to the Wisconsin Space Conference only if listed in the budget.

*** WSGC will not fund overhead

Application Evaluation

ACADEMIC PREPARATION

- GPA/Transcripts
- Letters of Recommendation

SPACE/AEROSPACE/SPACE-RELATED PROMISE

- Proposal Clarity, Quality and Strength of Proposal
- Significance/Value of Proposed Research
- Independence of Proposed Research
- Alignment with [NASA Mission Directorates](#) Goals
- Articulation of Alignment with NASA Mission Directorate

NON-PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- Uniqueness of Subject Matter: Is the Field of Study Unusual Among the Applicants, or Closely Related to a Number of Others
- Breadth/Significance/Relevance of Other Activities (e.g. outreach, service, hobbies), and/or unique circumstances/backgrounds

Awardee Acceptance Components

Recipients must:

- Present research at the Annual Wisconsin Space Conference (Aug. 2026 for Spring/Summer awards; Aug. 2027 for Fall/Academic Year awards).
- Submit award acceptance materials (Award Agreement, W9, biography, photo).
- Submit award mid- and closeout materials (interim and final reports, student story, project photos/video, proceedings paper, and awardee publications, presentations, patents, and technology transfers report).
- Complete NASA reporting requirements (STEM Gateway activity acceptance).

Contact

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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 #80NSSC25M7122. 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.