



The University of Vermont

VERMONT SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES
33 COLCHESTER AVENUE
BURLINGTON, VERMONT 05405
TEL (802) 656-2940



Announcement Research Experience for Undergraduates

Application deadline: 11:59 PM on March 26, 2021

Program Overview

The Vermont Space Grant Consortium (VTSGC) is pleased to announce the Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program. REU awards are competitive and intended to support a substantive research effort, conducted by an undergraduate student mentored by a faculty adviser, in an area aligned with NASA priorities. The expectation is that the research will lead to a clear and substantial academic accomplishment requiring significant student effort. The goals of this program are two-fold: (1) to help prepare the next generation of researchers in STEM disciplines; and (2) to provide the undergraduate student a research experience that strongly aligns with NASA priorities.

Eligibility

Pursuant to NASA requirements for the National Space Grant Program, undergraduate students funded by this competition must be U.S. citizens and enrolled full-time in an undergraduate program within a STEM discipline at a Vermont college or university. Faculty serving as research mentors will be full-time faculty in STEM disciplines.

All eligible applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, protected veteran status, or any other category legally protected by federal or state law. The VTSGC encourages applications from all individuals who will contribute to the diversity and excellence of the program.

Amount and Period of Support

Subject to the timely arrival of NASA annual funding installments, these awards will provide a stipend of \$6,000 for a maximum of 12 months anticipated to span from June 2021 to May 2022. The award also includes up to \$1,000 for research-related travel. Awards will be made directly to the student.

Application Packet

The application for a VTSGC REU award shall be written by the student with collaborative support from a faculty mentor. The completed application packet must be typed (using an easily readable, 12-point font) and include the following items:

- Signed Cover Page. Use the form included with this announcement.
- Project Narrative (limit of two pages, exclusive of citations). A narrative providing a description of the project to be undertaken, its significance, methods and expected outcomes. Include any relevant prior work done by the student and/or the faculty mentor's research group.
- NASA Relevance (limit of one-half page). Describe how the proposed project is aligned with a new or continuing NASA research priority or technical need. For example, the applicant may cite a current or pending NASA Research Announcement and the Mission Directorate the research will be targeting. (See below list of Mission Directorates.)
- Student Resume (limit of two pages).
- Student Academic Transcript. An unofficial transcript is acceptable.

Electronic Application Procedure

All applications must be submitted electronically to the Space Grant Office. The electronic submission must be made no later than 11:59 PM on March 26, 2021. The application packet described must be saved as a single PDF file and emailed to the Space Grant Office to Ms. Debra Fraser (dfraser1@uvm.edu) with CC to Director Bernard Cole (SG.Director@uvm.edu). Incomplete proposals will not receive consideration.

Obligations Associated with Funding

Recipients of the REU award, in collaboration with their faculty mentor, will be required to provide written progress updates to the Space Grant Director during the award period as needed to comply with NASA reporting requests. A Final Report will be due within thirty (30) days of the end of the award period. Students will also have to complete a Vermont Space Grant Student Profile Form. This information will be used to complete a mandated report for the NASA Office of Education.

For More Information

Please contact Prof. Bernard Cole, Director of the Vermont Space Grant Consortium (802-656-1429 or SG.Director@uvm.edu) with any questions regarding this announcement.

The current NASA mission directorates are as follows:

- Aeronautics Research – www.aeronautics.nasa.gov/
- Human Exploration Operations – www.nasa.gov/directorates/heo/home/index.html
- Science – science.nasa.gov/
- Space Technology – www.nasa.gov/directorates/spacetech/home/index.html