

New NASA Opportunities for MSIs!

NASA MSI Exchange <nasa-msiexchange@mail.nasa.gov>

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Week of Jan. 15, 2024 - HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Thank you for subscribing to the **NASA MSI Engagement Newsletter**, a service of the [Minority University Research and Education Project \(MUREP\)](#) in the [Office of STEM Engagement \(OSTEM\)](#). This newsletter provides bi-weekly updates on NASA funding, faculty, student, training, and event opportunities. If you wish to share this newsletter with a colleague, invite them to register at the [MSI Exchange](#).

Upcoming Deadlines in This Issue

- **2024 Exploration Science Summer Intern Program:** Jan. 22
- **NASA Jack Eddy Postdoctoral Fellowship:** Jan. 26
- **SARP Summer Internship:** Jan. 31
- **BIG Idea Challenge:** Feb. 1
- **NASA Tech Leap:** Feb. 1
- **NASA Summer Internships:** Feb. 2
- **EUROPA ICONS Summer Internship Opportunities:** Feb. 2
- **MSI Incubator Wildlife Tech Challenge:** 8 p.m. Feb. 2
- **NASA Tech Catalyst Prize:** Feb. 8
- **NASA Program Scientist IPA Astrophysics Division:** Feb. 9
- **USRC Proposal:** Feb. 22

Events Happening Online

- **2024 Solar Eclipse Webinar:** 12 p.m. EST Jan. 23 | [RSVP here](#)
- **OSBP Pathways to Procurement at NASA:** 1 p.m. Jan. 25 | [Register here](#)
- **Blue Skies Information Session:** 3:30 p.m. EST Jan. 25 | [Submit questions here](#)
- **Capability Statement Training:** 3 p.m. EST Jan. 29 | [Register here](#)
- **Science Mission Directorate Town Hall:** 1 p.m. EST Jan. 31 | [Live Stream](#) or [Webex](#)
- **MIRO Pre-Proposal Webinar 3:** 4-5 p.m. Feb. 6 | Details will be posted a week before.
- **SMD Inclusion Plan Requirements Town Hall:** 3 p.m. EST Feb. 20 | [Webex](#)

MSI Exchange Updates

Upload and Update Your Capability Statement

It's January. Has your MSI submitted a capability statement, or has it been a while since it was posted? Check the [MSI Exchange](#) to ensure your institution's capabilities are known and up to date.

A capability statement is a one-page document that serves as a resume for your MSI and can open doors that inspire relationships with strategic partners. Having a capability statement in the MSI Exchange offers a competitive advantage, as federal agencies, industry, and academia use the MSI Exchange to identify MSIs for teaming opportunities and competitive federal awards such as grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts. It is important to not only have a capability statement in the [MSI Exchange](#), but to also ensure that the information is periodically updated with the current point of contact.

Call to action: Register for the next [Capability Statement Training](#) at 3 p.m. EST Jan. 29 to learn best practices for creating a capability statement. Or visit the [Resources Page](#) in the MSI Exchange for a capability statement template and access a previously recorded training session to update your MSI's document. If your capability statement is ready for upload, submit it to the MSI Exchange at NASA-MSIExchange@mail.nasa.gov.

Funding Opportunities

MIRO Funding Opportunity for MSIs

Award Amount: Each award may not exceed \$1,250,000/per year in any given year; and shall not exceed a total of \$4,999,999 over the five-year period of performance.

Information Site: [Appendix 9: MIRO](#)

Pre-Proposal Webinar: 4-5 p.m. EST Feb. 6

Webinar Registration: Details will be posted a week before session.

Proposal Deadline: 11:59 p.m. EST Feb. 14

The NASA's MUREP Institutional Research Opportunity (MIRO) program is soliciting proposals from four-year colleges/universities designated by the U.S. Department of Education as a Minority Serving Institution (MSI) for the [MIRO](#) activity. Non-MSIs are encouraged to collaborate with a lead MSI. Engagement Opportunities in NASA STEM (EONS- 2024), solicits proposals for competitive funding opportunities in support of the programs administered by NASA's Office of STEM Engagement (OSTEM).

EONS-2024 is an omnibus announcement that includes a wide range of NASA STEM Engagement opportunities for basic and applied science and technology research and education. Specific opportunities will be issued periodically throughout the year as Appendices to this solicitation with individual requirements and milestones. Successful MIRO proposals will be funded as multi-year cooperative agreements with a five-year period of performance. For more details, visit [Appendix 9: MIRO](#) or the [MIRO landing page](#). For general inquiries, email NASAMIRO@nasaprs.com.

Small Business, Big Opportunities: Pathways to Procurement at NASA

Event: 1 to 2:30 p.m. EST Jan. 25

Register: [Small Business, BIG Opportunities](#)

Join the Office of Small Business Programs for the Small Business, BIG Opportunities: Pathways to Procurement at NASA event to learn how to connect with NASA representatives, industry experts,

and fellow entrepreneurs. This event is focused on fostering meaningful networking while providing valuable insights into federal government contracting opportunities.

Attendees can expect to:

- Gain insight into NASA's mission to support and collaborate with other small businesses
- Learn about upcoming opportunities
- Engage with experienced small business and procurement specialists
- Hear inspiring stories from small businesses that have secured contracts with NASA

Register today and be part of this transformational event that could propel your small business to space and beyond!

Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Sciences (ROSES)

ROSES is an omnibus solicitation with individual program elements, each with its own due date(s) and topic(s). You can view the list of ROSES opportunities in [Table 2](#) (organized by due date), [Table 3](#) (organized by research), or by [open program elements](#). Together, these program elements cover the wide range of basic and applied supporting research and technology in space and Earth sciences supported by NASA's Science Mission Directorate. Visit the [SARA ROSES blog](#) for updates, clarifications and amendments. Current ROSES opportunities include:

- [A.47 Earth Action: Community Action for Equity and Environmental Justice](#)

Award Amount: Requests may not exceed \$300K for 2 years

Information Site: Visit the [SMD Bridge Program Seed Funding website](#) for FAQs

Information Session: Please see the [link to the slides](#)

SMD Relevance: Please reference [here](#) on determining relevance to Science Mission Directorate

Proposal Deadline: Proposals accepted on a rolling basis through March 29

Contact: padi.boyd@nasa.gov

Future Investigators in NASA Earth and Space Science Technology Award

Deadline: Feb. 6

Award: Max value of \$150,000 over 36 months

The Future Investigators in NASA Earth and Space Science and Technology ([FINESST](#)) for graduate students is accepting proposals from accredited U.S. universities and other organizations for research projects that contribute to the Science Mission Directorate. The Future Investigator, with support and empowerment from their mentor (who serves as the Principal Investigator), designs, and conducts research using NASA data to help answer some of the biggest challenges facing our planet. If you missed one of our informational sessions, check out the [PDF Presentation](#). For more information, visit [NASA's ECR Program in Earth Science](#) or [FINESST NSPIRES](#) websites.

SMD Inclusion Plan Requirements Town Hall

Event: 3 p.m. EST Feb. 20

Submit Questions: [Questions here](#)

Webinar Link: [Webex](#)

NASA's Science Mission Directorate (SMD) Inclusion Plan Community of Practice will host a webinar to discuss requirements for and evaluation of Inclusion Plans in ROSES-2024 at 3 p.m. EST Feb. 20. Inclusion is a core NASA value and SMD has been piloting the addition of Inclusion Plans for some program elements in Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Sciences (ROSES). At

their core, Inclusion Plans raise awareness of barriers to creating and sustaining positive, inclusive working environments and to get proposers actively thinking about ways to foster diverse and inclusive practices for their research and mission teams. The webinar will:

- Discuss the motivation and goals of Inclusion Plans
- Describe Inclusion Plan requirements and how they differ from previous years
- Discuss how Inclusion Plans will be evaluated.

For more information about inclusion plans, visit [Inclusion Plan](#).

Faculty Opportunities

Opening for NASA Program Scientist IPA Astrophysics Division

Application Deadline: Feb. 9

Selection: Expected April 2024

NASA seeks visiting PhD-level scientists to serve as visiting Program Scientists in the Astrophysics Division at NASA Headquarters in Washington, DC. With an annual budget of over \$1 billion, the Division is responsible for the nation's space-based astrophysics program. These visiting appointments, which last two years with renewals up to six years, are an opportunity to gain insight into federal astrophysics policy and programs, to better understand the proposal review process, and to run scientific programs with multimillion-dollar budgets.

NASA Program Scientists have broad responsibility for:

- Developing and maintaining scientific research grants programs
- Serving as the Headquarters science lead for one or more missions
- Actualizing the Science Mission Directorate's core value of inclusion
- Implementing NASA's strategic investments for the next decade, guided by the 2020 Decadal Survey

The position requires onsite work at least periodically at NASA's Headquarters. Applicants should email a curriculum vitae and cover letter as a single PDF file to hq-astrophysics-ipasearch@mail.nasa.gov. For more information, email [Dr. Valerie Connaughton](#).

Biosignatures IDEAS Lab

NASA's Astrobiology Program invites scientists at US Institutions to apply for a Biosignatures IDEAS lab, a hybrid workshop to develop new and innovative grant proposals through real-time peer review. The workshop will include several virtual pre-meetings, three days of in-person sessions from Feb. 6-8, and three full-day virtual sessions (Feb. 16, 23 and March 1).

For more information and to apply for this workshop, visit the [NASA Biosignatures Ideas Lab](#).

Share How You Empower New Innovators For A Chance To Receive Prizes

Information Site: [NASA Space Tech Catalyst Prize](#)

Registration Deadline: Feb. 8

Competition Entry Deadline: 5 p.m. EST Feb. 22

Awardee Prize: \$25,000 each for up to 20 individuals and/or teams

NASA's [Space Tech Catalyst Prize](#) needs your help identifying individuals or organizations that contribute to the growth and development of underrepresented and diverse innovators,

researchers, technologists, and entrepreneurs in space technology.

- Who do you know that might be a great **candidate** for this competition? (No prior relationship with NASA needed).
- Would you be willing to be an **ambassador**? Ambassadors will connect with their networks and communities to share information about the challenge and to help us build relationships with ongoing activities within STMD/ESIP. (Time commitment is a few hours between now and February).
- Would you be willing to be a **judge**? Judges evaluate and score applications during the last week of February. (Time commitment is about five hours.)

For more information, visit [NASA Space Tech Catalyst Prize](#).

2024 ImaginAviation Showcase

On Feb. 27-29, ARMD Transformative Aeronautics Concepts Program will be conducting its annual aviation showcase event, [imaginAviation 2024](#).

[Register your school](#) to host a watch party on campus. Registrants will receive an information package to help with event planning.

Requirements for Watch Party Preparation:

- Reserve a room with a large screen, internet connection, audio speakers, and chairs
 - Advertise the event through email lists, newsletters, event calendars, and social media
 - Use our ideas, or yours, to draw students/community to your event
-

NASA TechLeap

NASA seeks innovators to solve the challenges in rapidly testing technology payloads across a wide range of commercial flight vehicles and test environments.

Register by 5 p.m. EST Feb. 1.

NASA is making increased use of commercial suborbital vehicles, spacecraft, and lunar landers to help advance new capabilities. However, the process to ensure payloads can properly interface with a host vehicle is complex, time-consuming, and varies from vehicle to vehicle. The [NASA TechLeap Prize's Universal Payload Interface Challenge](#) invites applicants to propose an optimized "system of systems" to enable easy integration of diverse technology payloads onto various commercial suborbital vehicles, orbital platforms, and planetary landers. The proposed universal payload interfaces should adapt a wide range of small-space payloads for flight testing.

Student Opportunities

MITTIC Innovation Pitch Competition Opens Jan. 3

Information Site: [Spring 2024 MITTIC](#)

Application Deadline: March 13

Apply: [MITTIC Application](#)

Award: First Place, \$20,000/Second Place, \$10,000

Information Sessions: [1 p.m. EDT Mondays and Thursdays](#) (on Teams)

Applications for the [Spring 2024 Minority University Research and Education Project Innovation and Tech Transfer Idea Competition \(MITTIC\)](#) will open Jan. 3. MITTIC is a spinoff challenge to develop new ideas for commercialization open to multi-disciplinary student teams attending-

Minority Serving Institutions. Teams choose any NASA intellectual property as the basis of their concept and submit proposals using MITTIC challenge guidelines. Top teams are invited to pitch their ideas in the Space Tank as part of a three-day on-site experience at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. Space Tank winners will receive \$20,000 for first place and \$10,000 for second place. The top team will receive a VIP trip to the NASA Ames Experience in Silicon Valley, California. For more information about this innovation competition, visit [MITTIC](#). Inquiries can be sent to HQ-MITTIC@mail.nasa.gov.

\$100K Prizes in MSI Incubator Wildlife Tech Challenge

Deadline: 8 p.m. EST Feb. 2

Registration: [Register here](#)

Prize: up to three \$100,000 prizes

[NASA's Wildfire Climate Tech Challenge](#), part of the MSI Incubator initiative, seeks innovative solutions for wildfire prevention and climate technology. The application deadline is 8 p.m. Feb. 2. Submission requirements include a five-page white paper and a two-to-three-minute video.

NASA invites students and employees of Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) to address the escalating issues caused by wildfires exacerbated by climate change. Successful participants will have the opportunity to join a startup incubator program and compete for a prize of \$100,000. Also, this initiative offers a platform for participants to present their ideas to venture capitalists and NASA experts, furthering the development of technology in the fields of wildfire prevention and climate change, while promoting inclusivity and diversity. For more information, visit the [Wildfire Climate Tech Challenge](#) page.

EUROPA ICONS Summer Internship Opportunities

Deadline: Feb. 2

Stipend: \$12,000

The new Inspiring Clipper: Opportunities for Next-generation Scientists (ICONS) internships will bring members of the Europa Clipper mission team together with undergraduate students for 10-week programs that give students the opportunity to conduct original scientific research. Interns will receive a \$12,000 stipend and may be eligible for travel, housing, and relocation allowances, depending on the location of their research activities. Internships may be in-person at the mentor's institution, virtual, or hybrid, depending on the research project and needs of the mentor and intern. Near the end of the 10 weeks, students and mentors will convene for a two-day conference.

Here are the Europa ICONS internships:

- [Europa ICONS: Ice Fragmentation on Europa – \(Laurel MD, in-person\)](#)
- [Europa ICONS: Small-scale surface properties on Europa – \(JPL, hybrid in-person lab & data analysis remote\)](#)
- [Europa ICONS: Enhancing MASPEX science with AI – \(UA-Tuscaloosa, in-person preferred can be virtual.\)](#)
- [Europa ICONS: Characterizing Hydrothermal Activity at Europa – \(Arizona State University–Tempe, in-person\)](#)
- [Europa ICONS: SUDA Flight Unit Data Analysis – \(University of Colorado-Boulder, in-person or virtual, in-person preferred\)](#)

For more information, email Amanda Nahm at HQ-EuropalCONS@mail.nasa.gov.

Apply for a Summer Internship at a NASA Center

Students who are interested in a summer internship are encouraged to **submit an application by Feb. 2** for rolling decisions. NASA's Office of STEM Engagement (OSTEM) paid internships allow students age 16 and up to contribute to agency projects under the guidance of a NASA mentor. Requirements include U.S. Citizenship and a minimum 3.0 GPA. One application has the possibility of being viewed by a mentor at any NASA Center. Prior experience is not required. For more information, visit the [NASA Internships Programs](#). To apply, visit [NASA Internships \(NASA STEM Gateway\)](#).

NASA Pathways Internship Opens in February

The [NASA Pathways Internship](#) application will be opening soon in February for opportunities in the fall. The application opens twice a year: Spring and Fall. Individuals are encouraged to complete their federal resume prior to the applying for Pathways because they will only be open for one week. Pathway Internship vacancies will be announced on [USAJOBS](#). Applications will require a federal resume, which is not a typical one-pager. The resumes should be narrative and use either the CAR (Challenge, Action, Result) or STAR (Situation, Task, Action, Result) method. For additional tips visit the following pages:

- [NASA Pathways Internship](#)
 - [NASA Pathways Internship Applicant Guide](#)
 - [Upcoming USA JOBS Workshops](#)
 - [DOL Tips for Writing a Federal Resume](#)
 - [SEC Federal Resume Template](#)
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Paid 10-Week Summer Research Experience at NASA Wallops Flight Facility

Deadline: March 18

Stipend: \$6,000

Dates: June 3-Aug. 9

Project Descriptions: [STEM Takes Flight](#)

The Virginia Space Grant Consortium is partnering with NASA Langley Research Center to offer community college students in Virginia hands-on research experience at the NASA Wallops Flight Facility. During summer, students will spend 10 weeks working alongside NASA research advisors to learn more about project work, communication, teamwork, and exposure to various STEM careers. For more information, visit [NASA Research Experiences - STEM Takes Flight](#).

Summer Internship Opportunity for Graduate Students

Information Site: [Exploration Science Summer Intern Program](#)

Application Deadline: Jan. 22

Stipend: \$7,050, plus up to \$1,000 travel reimbursement

Contact: explorationintern@lpi.usra.edu

Applications are now being accepted for the 2024 Exploration Science Summer Intern Program. The application deadline is Jan. 22. This 10-week program runs from May 28 through Aug. 2 and is open to graduate students in geology, planetary science, planetary astronomy, and related topics. Students will be involved in activities that support Artemis missions to the Moon that utilize the

Orion crew vehicle, the Deep Space Gateway, the Human Landing System, and robotic assets on the lunar surface. For more information, visit [Exploration Science Summer Intern Program](#).

RockOn 2024 Workshop Accepting Applications

Deadline: 5 p.m. EST March 4

Website: [RockOn](#)

YouTube Video: [RockOn! 2019](#)

Workshop: June 14-19

RockOn! is a hands-on workshop teaching participants how to create a sounding rocket experiment from scratch from June 14-19 and then launching it into space on June 20. The backup launch date is June 21. This is a team experience and takes place at Goddard Space Flight Center Wallops Flight Facility on the Eastern Shore in Virginia.

The workshop is designed for college students and faculty. There are no prerequisites for participants. Anything needed to be successful at the workshop will be taught at the workshop. Team size is three people: Two students and one faculty member. Each team builds one RockOn experiment. All experiments will fly on the rocket and into space. Teams must sign-up as a community college or university team; no individual registrations will be accepted. For more information, visit [RockOn](#) or email wff-rocksatprogram@mail.nasa.gov.

Apply: NASA Student Airborne Science Program Summer Internships

Deadline: Jan. 31

Application: [SARP 2024 Application](#)

Apply for NASA's Early Career Research Student Airborne Research Program (SARP) summer internship. SARP is a unique opportunity for undergraduate students to engage in all aspects of a scientific campaign, including airborne science, and to work closely with NASA Earth scientists to create a thriving world driven by trusted, actionable Earth science. For more information, visit the [SARP website](#) or email nasasarp@gmail.com.

NASA Seeks Student Proposals for Inflatable Systems for Lunar Operations

Award Amount: Between \$50,000 and \$150,000

Audience: Undergraduate and/or graduate students at accredited U.S.-based colleges and universities officially affiliated with their state's Space Grant Consortium

Information Site: [BIG Idea Challenge site](#)

Proposal Deadline: Feb. 1

Contact: bigidea@ninet.org

The 2024 BIG (Breakthrough, Innovative, and Game-changing) Idea Challenge invites teams of students and their advisors to submit proposals demonstrating inflatable technologies, structures, and systems for lunar operations. Finalists will spend nine months designing, developing, building, and testing their concepts, which will be presented to a panel of judges at a Forum Nov. 5-7. The challenge is open to teams comprised of up to 25 undergraduate and/or graduate students at accredited U.S.-based colleges and universities officially affiliated with their state's Space Grant Consortium. Institutions that are not affiliated with a Space Grant may partner with an affiliated academic institution, which will take a primary role on the project.

University Student Research Challenge Proposals

Proposals Deadline: Feb. 22

Contact: HQ-USRC@mail.nasa.gov

NASA's Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate seeks to challenge students to propose new ideas or concepts relevant to NASA aeronautics through the [University Student Research Challenge \(USRC\)](#).

Call for NASA Jack Eddy Postdoctoral Fellowship Class of 2024

Application Deadline: Jan. 26

The UCAR Cooperative Programs for the Advancement of Earth System Science (CPAESS) is accepting applications for the NASA Jack Eddy Postdoctoral Fellowship Program. Sponsored by the NASA Living With a Star (LWS) program, this fellowship is designed to train the next generation of researchers in the field of Heliophysics, which embraces all science aspects of the Sun-Solar System, and includes many of the basic physical processes found in our solar system, laboratory, and throughout the universe.

LWS is designed to develop the scientific understanding required for the nation to address aspects of the Sun-Earth system that affect life and society. Two major topics of focus are the science of space weather and of the Sun-climate connection. Preference will be given to applicants whose proposed research addresses one of these two foci.

Applicants must select a host scientist, who is different from the candidate's PhD advisor (preferably at a different institution), and coordinate a joint application with the potential host scientist and institution. [See the Jack Eddy Fellowship flyer](#). For more information, visit the [Jack Eddy Postdoctoral Fellowships](#) page and [apply here](#).

NASA's 2024 Gateways to Blue Skies Competition: Advancing Aviation for Natural Disasters

Audience: Undergraduate and graduate students

Information Site: [Blue Skies site](#)

Information Session: 3:30 p.m. EST Jan. 25

Proposal Deadline: Feb. 27

Contact: BlueSkies@nianet.org

The Gateways to Blue Skies Competition encourages collegiate students to engage with climate change via aviation-related future capabilities. In the [2024 Gateways to Blue Skies Competition](#), student teams will conceptualize, in terms of feasibility and viability, aviation-related system(s) that can be applied to one phase of management for a chosen type of natural disaster by 2035. Based on a review of a proposal and video submissions by a panel of NASA and industry subject matter experts, up to eight finalist teams will be selected to receive an \$8,000 stipend to further develop their concept and facilitate full participation in the Gateways to Blue Skies Competition Forum, in May at NASA's Ames Research Center in Mountain View, California.

2024 NASA Heliophysics Summer School

Deadline: Feb. 29

Open to: PhD students and first and second year postdoctoral researchers

Summer School: Aug. 14-21

Website: [2024 Heliophysics Summer School](#)

University Cooperation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) Cooperative Programs for the Advancement of Earth System Science (CPAESS) is accepting applications for the 2024 Heliophysics Summer School in Boulder, CO. The focus will be on the physics of space weather events that start at the Sun and influence atmospheres, ionospheres, and magnetospheres throughout the solar system. Participants will explore how similar concepts and principles of heliophysics apply under different conditions. The summer school will focus on universal processes in heliophysics such as dynamos, plasma flows, magnetic reconnection, and particle acceleration. Examples of these processes in action will include the dynamics and evolution of the Sun and other stars, solar and stellar atmospheres and winds, and planetary magnetospheres and ionospheres. The implications for planetary atmospheres and climate, planetary evolution, and exoplanetary habitability will be considered. Submit applications [here](#). For more information, email [Kate Rodd](#) or [Cindy Bruyère](#).

Human Lander Challenge (HuLC)

Audience: Full-time or Part-Time Students

Information Site: [HuLC Page](#)

Proposal Deadline: March 4

Contact: hulc@nianet.org

NASA's 2024 HuLC competition seeks near-term, innovative solutions for Human Landing System (HLS) challenge areas that can help NASA understand, mitigate, and manage the impacts of lunar Plume-Surface Interaction (PSI). Up to 12 teams will be selected to receive \$7,000 to continue developing their proposed concepts and compete at a Forum in Huntsville, Alabama in June. There is \$18,000 in cash prizes available. Proposal categories include (but are not limited to): Trade Studies on Landing Trajectories that Minimize PSI; Reduction/Mitigation of Erosion (Cratering) and Ejecta during Descent, Landing, and Ascent; Development of PSI Flight Instrumentation/Measurement Methods and Concepts; Tracking Dust During Descent, Landing, and Ascent; Instrumentation Performance Through the Dust Cloud During Landing; HLS Asset Safety (ejecta damage, excessive lander heating, etc.); and PSI Modeling and Validation.

NOW OPEN: Call for Proposals for NASA's 2024 RASC-AL Competition

Audience: Undergraduate and graduate students attending accredited U.S.-based colleges and universities

Information Site: [RASC-AL site](#)

Proposal Deadline: March 7

Contact: rascal@nianet.org

The [2024 RASC-AL Competition](#) is seeking undergraduate and graduate teams to develop new concepts that leverage innovation to improve our ability to operate on the Moon, Mars and beyond. This year's themes range from developing large-scale lunar surface architectures enabling long-term off-world habitation, to designing new systems that leverage in-situ resources for in-space travel and exploration. Teams are invited to design and propose innovative solutions with supporting original engineering and analysis in response to one of the following four themes: Long Duration Mars Simulation at the Moon, Sustained Lunar Evolution, AI-Powered Self-Replicating Probes – an Evolutionary Approach, and Large-Scale Lunar Crater Prospector. Based on a review of proposal and video submissions, up to 14 finalist teams will be selected to receive a monetary award to further develop their concept and facilitate full participation in the RASC-AL Competition

Forum in June at Cocoa Beach, Florida.

Engaging MSIs with NASA

Solar Eclipse Through the Eyes of NASA Webinar

Webinar: 12 p.m. EST Jan. 23

Registration: [NASA RSVP](#)

Eclipse Information: [Total Solar Eclipse](#)

Event Flyer: [April 8 Eclipse PDF](#)

Experiencing an eclipse is one way that students and the public can participate in NASA Science while witnessing a rare eclipse event. On April 8, a total solar eclipse will cross North America, passing over Mexico, the United States, and Canada.

Join NASA's Science Mission Directorate, Office of Communications, and Office of STEM Engagement for an informational webinar at 12 p.m. EST Jan. 23. In this webinar, you will learn about:

- The science behind solar eclipses
- Connections to NASA's study of the Sun
- How to view eclipses safely
- NASA's latest plan for public and student engagement

Here is some general [eclipse-related safety](#) tips.

Science Mission Directorate Quarterly Community Town Hall January 31

Date: Jan. 31

Time: 1 p.m. EST

Location: [WebEx](#) [If prompted, use event number 2760 893 2496, followed by event password xpNXRAA@674 (97697221 from phones).]

Live Stream: [NASA Science YouTube](#)

NASA's Science Mission Directorate (SMD) will hold a quarterly community town hall meeting with Associate Administrator for Science Nicky Fox and her leadership team at 1 p.m. EST Jan. 31. Participants are invited to [submit questions and/or vote up questions already posted](#). Members of SMD, the science community, academia, the media, and the public are invited to participate by joining WebEx.

Users must provide their first and last name and organization and can submit their own questions or vote up questions submitted by others. The meeting leaders will try to answer as many of the submitted questions as possible. Presentation materials will be available for download and a recording will be available later that day at: <https://science.nasa.gov/researchers/virtual-townhall>. Anyone unable to join WebEx, can view the livestream from the [NASA Science YouTube](#) channel.

Become a NASA Partner Eclipse Ambassador

In April, a solar eclipse will cross the US. In an exciting NASA partnership, undergraduate students and eclipse enthusiasts will be partnered to prepare their local communities for the awe and wonder of this unique celestial alignment. Training, partnerships, resources, and connections with local underserved partners are provided. Outreach

can be done before the eclipse - there's no commitment when the shadows arrive. Undergraduates will also receive a stipend, plus opportunities to further their involvement in NASA programs. [Apply today](#) or find someone near you on our [Eclipse Ambassador Map!](#)

New NASA Course Builds Open, Inclusive Science Community

NASA's groundbreaking Open Science 101 (OS101) curriculum is now open for enrollment. Developed through NASA's Transform to Open Science (TOPS) initiative, OS101 is a comprehensive training program designed to empower students and researchers, particularly those from underrepresented communities, with the tools and knowledge needed to excel in today's scientific landscape. The curriculum's initial goal is to train 20,000 scientists and researchers over the next five years, enabling them to embrace open science practices and maximize the impact of their work. By enrolling in OS101, students have a unique opportunity to access essential resources and gain proficiency in open science practices. Moreover, this curriculum prepares participants to apply for NASA grant funding by teaching them to create an Open Science and Data Management plan, aligning with Space Policy Directive 41.a. For more information or to enroll in a course, visit the [Open Science 101](#) page and be a part of shaping the future of research.

Provide Feedback to Improve Usability of ROSES Funding Opportunities

The Improving the Usability of ROSES RFI seeks information from proposers at all levels of experience, sponsored research offices, and others who may assist the preparation of NASA's Science Mission Directorate (SMD) proposals. **The deadline to provide feedback is Jan. 24.**

No information is sought about the award processes managed by the NASA Shared Services Center (NSSC) or the peer review processes used by SMD. NASA does not intend to award a contract or assistance (i.e., grant or cooperative agreement) funding as a result of responses to this RFI. The long-term objective of this RFI is to identify and reduce the barriers to proposing relevant research to one of NASA SMD's research programs. The structure and content of the currently open ROSES omnibus solicitation ROSES-2023 (NNH23ZDA001N) will not be affected by the RFI. For more information, visit [NSPIRES ROSES-RFI](#).

More NASA Resources to Explore

Earthrise: A new e-newsletter with Earth and Climate Science Resources

Earthrise will leverage NASA's digital community of practice for educators, and a broad network of learners associated with NASA's federal partners, to provide K-12 educators and learners with a focused, monthly collection of Earth and climate science resources from across the federal enterprise. Educators are invited to register for this monthly engagement, which is focused around access to Earth and climate resources for the K-12 community. This initiative began with intent to move the needle on educating our nation's children and increasing their understanding of Earth and climate science, and the importance of protecting our home planet.

Check out these Earthrise resources:

- [Earthrise data collections](#)
- [Earthrise YouTube Video](#)
- [Subscribe to Earthrise Newsletter](#)

For more information, visit [Earthrise](#).

Stay Up To Date With These Opportunities and More

- **[NSPIRES](#)**: Create an and sign up to be a proposal reviewer or get a jumpstart on applying for future funding opportunities. For assistance setting up an account, email nspires-help@nasaprs.com.
- **[NASA CONNECTS](#)**: Offers users a chance to connect and collaborate with educators and NASA scientists, engineers, and other experts nationwide.
- **[NASA TechPort](#)**: If you are looking for information about NASA-developed technologies that can be used or built-upon, or to see where there may be gaps to fill.
- **[SMD Bridge Program Community Workshop Report Available](#)**: Key takeaways from a group of community leaders to understand the community needs and wants from a bridge program with NASA's Science Mission Directorate. [NASA Science Mission Directorate Report from the Bridge Program Workshop Organizing Committee](#).
- **[Grant Information Circular \(GIC\) 23-07](#)**: Implements revisions to the NASA "[Grant and Cooperative Agreement Manual](#)" section 3.3, "Conflicts of Interest Policy", and establishes "D39: Conflict of Interest Policy Requirements." For more information, email Christopher.e.murguia@nasa.gov.

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We hope you enjoyed this week's update from your MSI Engagement Team. Stay engaged through our trainings and events, invite your STEM faculty and grants and contracts administrators to [subscribe to our newsletter](#), create an [NSPIRES account](#) to propose to opportunities and sign up to be a reviewer, and send your capability statement to NASA-MSIExchange@mail.nasa.gov to get the ball rolling!

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