

ALABAMA SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM

Teacher Education Scholarship Program

Scholarships for Pre-Service Teachers in Science & Mathematics

Application Package



Consortium Members:
Alabama A&M University
Auburn University
The University of Alabama
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
The University of Alabama in Huntsville
The University of South Alabama
Tuskegee University

Alabama Space Grant Consortium Program Office:

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Program Summary

In 1998, Congress passed legislation that established the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program (NSGCFP) to address scientific and technological workforce needs and the national decline in scholastic achievement, especially in math and science. There are now 52 Space Grant Consortia in all states, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico with over 500 participating institutions. They are united by the common goals of developing the educational and economic benefits of aerospace research and exploration.

The Alabama Space Grant Consortium (ASGC) includes seven Ph.D. granting universities (Alabama A&M University, Auburn University, The University of Alabama, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, The University of Alabama in Huntsville, The University of South Alabama and Tuskegee University), all with space-related research activities, six industrial affiliates and the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. NASA Marshall Space Flight Center is an ex-officio member of the Consortium. As a participant in the NSGCFP, the ASGC promotes America's preeminence in aerospace into the next century. The ASGC is housed in Huntsville, home to NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, making available NASA's technology to all Alabama institutions of higher education. The ASGC promotes institutional cooperation and expands capabilities, rather than directly supporting technical research. The ASGC, established in 1989, leverages its NASA funds by more than 2 to 1. A major goal of the ASGC is to develop programs that will help improve the science and mathematics education of all students, and thereby provide a more scientifically literate population.

To this end the nation needs an increased supply of students, well-prepared individuals who are fully qualified to teach mathematics and science in our elementary and secondary schools. It is important for college students to understand that teachers are central to any effort to effect reform in science and mathematics and, for that reason, undergraduates must be encouraged to enter the teaching field.

To encourage talented individuals to pursue studies leading to teaching certification in the sciences and mathematics, the ASGC has established a competitive, undergraduate teacher education scholarship program to complement its existing science and engineering-based scholarships. Funding for these awards is provided through the ASGC and is subject to availability of NASA funds.

Program Goals

The ASGC provides a competitive Teacher Education Scholarship for Alabama's Space Grant colleges with the goals of:

- Encouraging students to pursue degrees leading to becoming teachers of the sciences and mathematics, especially earth, space and environmental science.
- Recognizing high academic achievement and promise.
- Increasing participation of underrepresented minorities, females and disabled students in these fields.
- Implementing the goals of the ASGC and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

General Information

Eligibility

Applicants must be full-time, undergraduate students (minimum of 12 credit hours) who are U.S. citizens and must be currently enrolled in a program of study at one of the seven ASGC universities when they actually receive the award. Since this award is intended to encourage students to enter teaching, students may also apply during their senior year in high school or in their sophomore year in a community college, with the award contingent on their matriculation at a Space Grant college and entrance into a teacher certification program. Students currently enrolled in a Space Grant college can apply when they declare their intent to enter the teacher certification program.

Students eligible for support must be on a track that would qualify them to teach in a pre-college setting. Priority will be given to those majoring in the sciences and mathematics, especially earth, space and environmental science. Applicants must have a minimum grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

Application Submission

Applicants should submit seven packets (one original plus six copies) of all materials (cover sheet and attachments) by the deadline of March 2nd to the appropriate ASGC campus director where the applicant expects to undertake a degree program or plan of study. After preliminary screening by the campus director, applications for final consideration will be forwarded by the campus director to the Consortium Director for review by the ASGC Management Team. Successful applications will be announced in mid-April. Proposed starting dates for new awards will generally be expected to coincide with normal academic term starting dates. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Awards

Awards are one-year, non-renewable scholarships limited to a maximum of \$1,000 student stipend. Awards will be announced in mid-April, with funding provided to students through the universities for the next academic year. Awards may be applied to the summer session before or after the academic year. Normally the student's tuition account will be credited after registration. Awards are subject to availability of NASA funding.

Cover Sheet

A cover sheet (attached) must be filled out, signed by the student and submitted with each copy of the application package. For students already enrolled in a Space Grant college, additional review signatures are required from a) the faculty advisor; b) the department or division chair; c) the university campus director. This cover sheet may be reproduced as necessary. Applications will not be processed without the appropriate approval signatures.

Attachments

Statement of Academic Goals and Course Study

A full statement (1-2 pages) written by the student must relate the reasons for their desire to enter the teaching profession, specifically the fields of science or math education. The applicant must submit a course of study outlining intended course work for the remainder of the undergraduate program.

Letters of Recommendation

The applicant shall submit two letters of recommendation. At least one of the two must be from a science or math teacher who knows of the student's desire to enter the teaching profession. Letters of recommendation should assess the student's potential as a teacher as well as their progress and achievements in the specific science or math discipline being studied.

Personnel and Transcript

The applicant should submit a short resume of education, significant accomplishments and any other relevant information (e.g., tutoring or other teaching experience, relevant community service, etc.). One certified original official plus six copies of the student's most current transcript available at the time of application must be submitted. Unofficial grade reports for the Fall semester are acceptable if followed by a certified official transcript as soon as it is available.

Reporting and Administrative Requirements

At the completion of the award period, the student must submit a brief, written report on their experience as an Alabama Space Grant Teacher Education Scholar. This report may be either a summary description prepared as part of a student's academic experience, a report on a student teaching or mentoring process, or a report on another project specifically developed to fulfill the requirement of this award.

Information to be furnished in this report includes the degree granted (if applicable), significant results of the student's experience (e.g., a list of presentations made, awards and honors), and employment or future educational plans as appropriate. A letter assessing the student's academic progress during the award period and an assessment of the student's potential as an educator must also be submitted by the faculty advisor.

Students awarded scholarships will be required to provide biographical information upon selection, to inform the Consortium of changes of address, to respond to academic and employment follow-up surveys for Space Grant Teacher Education Scholars, and may also be asked to discuss their studies in public forums.

Disposition of Unused Funds

If a student is unable to complete their academic program in the year of the award, a prorated share of scholarship funds must be returned to the ASGC Program Office at UAH and their scholarship will be terminated. Scholarship funds are not transferable.

Inquiries

Questions concerning the preparation and submission of proposals, awards, and the administration of this program may be directed to the appropriate campus director or the ASGC Program office.

Equal Opportunity

Applicants for the Teacher Education Scholarship Program will be considered for appointment as NASA Space Grant Scholars without regard to race, creed, color, age or handicap.

Acknowledgement

Any written materials supported in part from this award shall acknowledge the ASGC NASA Training Grant #NNG05GE80H.



NASA Space Grant Teacher Scholarship Program Undergraduate Cover Sheet

Application Due by March 2nd • For U.S. Citizens Only • Submit to Appropriate Campus Director

Personal Information:

Student Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
(Last) (First) (MI)

Place of Birth: _____ INS # (if applicable): _____

Local Address: _____ Phone: _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Perm. Address: _____ Phone: _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Email Address: _____ Social Security #: _____

Educational Information:

High School Name & Location: _____

County: _____ Completion Date: _____

Community College Name & Location (if applicable): _____

Expected Completion Date: _____ GPA (4.0 Scale): _____ (if applicable)

Consortium Campus of Application Submission (check only one block):

- Alabama A&M University The University of Alabama at Birmingham The University of South Alabama
- Auburn University The University of Alabama in Huntsville Tuskegee University
- The University of Alabama

Department: _____ Expected Graduation Date: _____

GPA (4.0 Scale): _____ Target Degree: _____

Faculty Advisor: _____ Department: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

Demographic Information (Voluntary):

In order to determine the degree to which members of the diverse segments of the population are reached by this announcement, so that all persons are afforded an equal opportunity for consideration, ASGC requests that you check the appropriate blocks:

- Sex: Male Female Disability: No Yes
- Ethnicity: African American American Indian Asian Hispanic/Latino Caucasian Other _____

Certifications: I certify I am a U.S. citizen and am/will be a full-time undergraduate student at one of the seven ASGC universities, and am in/will be entering a course of study leading to a pre-college teaching certificate. I will comply with ASGC scholarship reporting and administrative requirements. I also certify that all information contained in this application package is accurate.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

For Students Currently Enrolled in a Space Grant College: I certify I will serve as this student's advisor. I will supervise the student's plan of study and will comply with the ASGC scholarship reporting and administrative requirements.

Advisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Department Chair Signature: _____ Date: _____

Campus Director Signature: _____ Date: _____

Management and Administration

The Alabama Space Grant Consortium is composed of seven Ph.D. granting universities in the state of Alabama: Alabama A&M University, Auburn University, The University of Alabama, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, The University of Alabama in Huntsville, The University of South Alabama and Tuskegee University. The Alabama Space Grant Program is administered by The University of Alabama in Huntsville, a Space Grant College.

The Consortium Director and a Campus Director on each of the seven campuses constitute the Consortium Management Team. The names, addresses, and phone numbers are as follows:

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Director

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