

# ALABAMA SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

## Graduate Application



## Consortium Members

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

Alabama Space Grant Consortium  
The University of Alabama in Huntsville  
Materials Science Building 205  
Huntsville, AL 35899  
Phone: 256/824-6800  
FAX: 256/824-6061  
jfreasoner@matsci.uah.edu

<http://www.uah.edu/ASGC/>

# Space Grant Graduate Fellowship Program Summary

The Alabama Space Grant Consortium (ASGC), as a participant in the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program, invites applicants for NASA Space Grant Fellowships which support studies at seven member institutions in fields related to space.

Space related fields include any academic discipline or field of study (including the physical, natural, and biological sciences; engineering; education; economics; business; sociology; behavioral sciences; computer science; communications; law; international affairs; and public administration) that is concerned with or likely to improve the understanding, assessment, development and utilization of space.

A significant goal of the National Space Grant College and Fellowship program is to encourage interdisciplinary training and research, to train professionals for careers in aerospace science, technology and allied fields, and to encourage individuals from underrepresented groups to consider careers in aerospace fields.

The ASGC began awarding fellowships and scholarships in 1990 with the graduate fellowships being matched one-to-one on each member campus. This program is a major strength of the ASGC with graduate fellowship awards being comparable to the NASA Graduate Student Researcher's Program.

Fellowship awards will be based on academic excellence. Successful applicants will be individuals whose proposed research or field of study, and career interests are coincident with NASA's aerospace, science and technology programs. Successful applicants will be designated NASA Space Grant Fellows, and will follow a multidisciplinary course of study. An extramural experience at a NASA field center will be required during the fellowship year.

Individual graduate fellowships, up to \$24,000 per year, will be awarded annually and may be renewable following competitive proposal review each year, with an individual limit of 36 months. Applications for the Graduate Fellowship Program may be submitted at any point during the applicant's graduate career or prior to completion of the undergraduate degree.

All fellowship applicants must be U.S. citizens, fulltime students, and must be sponsored by a consortium member institution. Application forms are available through the campus consortium office. Individuals from underrepresented groups, specifically African Americans, Hispanics, American Indians, Pacific Islanders, Asian Americans and women who have interest in the aerospace fields, are encouraged to apply.

# General Information

## ***How Applications are Handled***

Applicants for fellowship awards under this program should submit seven copies of all materials by March 1 to the campus director where the applicant expects to undertake studies for a degree program and carry out the research program or plan of study. The names and addresses of these individuals are listed elsewhere in this instruction packet. 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 Management Team. Awards will be announced in April. Proposed starting dates for new awards will generally be expected to coincide with normal semester, quarter, or other accepted academic term starting dates.

## ***Renewal Applications***

Requests for renewal are to be submitted to the appropriate campus directors by March 1. Applicants should submit seven copies of all materials with renewal applications. Renewals are not automatic. Competitive proposal review is required for renewal of graduate fellowships for a maximum fellowship award of 36 months. In addition to the proposal requirements (cover sheet, abstract, body, target dates, budget and approvals), renewal applications should also include a brief statement outlining the progress and status of the research program or plan of study, documentation of accomplishments, any changes from the original proposed research, current original official transcript and two current letters of recommendation from faculty personnel. The starting date for renewals is on the anniversary of the most recent award.

## ***Graduate Student NASA Extramural Experience***

An extramural NASA experience is required sometime during the fellowship year. The details are to be worked out with the faculty advisor and NASA lab facility where the student plans to participate in a research activity. It is advisable that a NASA contact be found prior to submission of the fellowship proposal.

## ***Eligibility***

To be eligible to be a NASA Space Grant Fellow, the applicant must (1) be a citizen of the United States, (2) be a full-time graduate student at a consortium member university or show evidence of having met the graduate entrance requirements of the member institution in which the applicant proposes to enroll, (3) have the approval of (a) a faculty advisor from the consortium member institution, (b) the involved department chair, and (c) the graduate dean, (4) present a proposed research plan related to space research, (5) propose a multidisciplinary plan and course of study, (6) include in the research plan an extramural experience at a NASA field center during the fellowship year, (7) plan to be involved in ASGC outreach activities, (8) not receive funds from any source for work other than that defined by the students' approved 'proposed research and plan of study' for which the award is made. *[Supplements to the student's award may be made by the home university using funds from any source, provided that the amount and source are disclosed to the ASGC program office prior to the student's annual beginning date, and provided that no service or work is required of the student for this supplement, other than that pertaining to his or her approved research and study plan. Please contact the ASGC office if there are questions about this policy.]* (9) intend to pursue career interests congruent with NASA's aerospace, science and technology programs.

## ***Application***

Applications may be submitted prior to completion of the senior undergraduate year or at any time during the applicant's graduate career. Beginning graduate students must show evidence of having met the entrance requirements of the member institution in which they propose to enroll, including GRE scores. Graduate students at a member institution may apply for an award at that institution or at another member institution. Full-time graduate students from a college or university that is not a member of the consortium are eligible to apply for awards if they are able to meet the entrance requirements of the consortium member university at which the applicant proposes to study. Late submissions will not be accepted.

## ***Selection of Proposals***

NASA Space Grant Fellows will be selected by the Consortium Director, together with the individual campus directors (the Consortium Management Team). Selection will be based on (1) the academic qualifications of the applicant (GPA and GRE scores), (2) the quality of the proposed research program

or plan of study and its relevance to NASA's aerospace science and technology program, (3) the quality of the interdisciplinary approach to achieving the objectives of the proposed program, (4) the merit of the proposed utilization of a NASA Center in carrying out the objectives of the program, (5) the prospects for completion of the project within the allotted time, and (6) an assessment of the applicant's motivation toward an aerospace career.

### ***Awards***

All awards are made initially for a 12-month period and may be renewed annually for a maximum total award of 36 months. Renewals are based upon competitive proposal review and approvals by the faculty advisor and the Alabama Space Grant Consortium Program Office. Fellows will be expected to devote full time to graduate study and research during the tenure of the fellowship. Awards are subject to availability of NASA funds.

### ***Science Education Outreach***

Fellows are expected to be involved in ASGC outreach activities. Proposed activities may take advantage of local opportunities and should involve the student's transmitting his/her knowledge and enthusiasm of science, math or technology to children or general audiences. These activities will differ from campus to campus and a specific assignment will be made after consultation with the ASGC campus director.

### ***Funding***

The total Space Grant funds awarded per student will not exceed \$24,000 for 12 months. This award will include \$18,000 for student stipend and up to \$6,000 for tuition/student research/travel allowance. No foreign travel is allowed under this grant.

### ***Disposition of Unused Funds***

If a student terminates the Fellowship Program earlier than anticipated, the student stipend and other allowances are prorated and terminated. Any unused stipend and allowances must be returned to the Consortium Program Office at UAH.

### ***Obligation to the Government***

While students who receive support through the National Space Grant Fellowship Program (NSGFP) do not incur any formal obligations to the government of the United States, the objectives of the program clearly will be best served if graduates from the program intend to pursue further study or careers in aerospace science and technology fields and support areas.

### ***Equal Opportunity***

Applicants for the Graduate Fellowship Program will be considered for appointment as NASA Space Grant Fellows without regard to race, creed, color, age or handicap.

### ***Final Administrative Report***

A report on the student's academic progress must be submitted in writing by the faculty advisor to the Consortium Program Office within thirty days of completion of the student's study and research program. Information to be furnished in the report includes the degree granted, the employment or career plans of the student, and other important results of the student's experience, e.g., awards and honors, research performed, reports or articles published, thesis, etc. The report should also briefly summarize the student's NASA interaction, and his/her outreach program.

### ***Inquiries***

Questions concerning the preparation and submission of applications and the administration of this program should be addressed to the appropriate campus director listed at the front of this instruction packet or to the Space Grant Consortium Office at The University of Alabama in Huntsville.

### ***Acknowledgement***

Any written materials supported in part from this award shall acknowledge the Alabama Space Grant Consortium, NASA Training Grant NNG05GE80H.

# Content and Format of Proposals

## **General Instructions**

Proposals shall be written by students and not by faculty or professional advisors. They will be evaluated solely on the basis of material submitted with the proposal package by the stated due date. Late submissions and additional materials submitted after the due date will not be considered.

Each proposal must contain the following items:

- Cover sheet
- Abstract
- Description of Research
- Schedule
- Budget
- Personal References
- Student Resume
- Official Transcript & copy of GRE Scores

## **When and Where to Submit Proposals**

Proposals must be submitted to the Space Grant Campus Director at the applicant's home institution. Deadline for receipt of proposals is March 1. Each applicant must submit SEVEN copies. One copy must contain the cover page with original signatures.

## **Cover Sheet**

This page must be completed and signed by the student, the faculty advisor, the appropriate campus director and the Graduate Dean and may be reproduced as necessary.

## **Abstract**

The abstract, not to exceed 400 words, must describe the objectives of the proposed research program or plan of study and the methodology to be used.

## **Description of Proposed Research**

A full statement, prepared by the student, that identifies and relates the key elements of the proposed research and/or plan of study is required. The statement should describe the background, relevance and objectives of the proposed research or study. A few technical references may be included in this section. The statement should reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the studies necessary to the understanding of complex aerospace issues. An extramural, aerospace-related workstudy experience must be included.

## **Schedule of Target Dates**

The starting and completion dates for the proposed research program or plan of study, including the expected date for completion of the formal degree program, should be identified realistically. Any time expected to be spent at a NASA facility, including the required extramural experience, should be taken into consideration in establishing the target dates.

## **Budget**

A 12-month budget must be prepared and should include the following:

- The \$18,000 student stipend for 12 months
- Expenditure plan for up to \$6,000 to include tuition and/or student travel/research allowance

An expense plan for the required extramural experience must be approved by the Consortium Program Office and the costs must not exceed the expenditure limits stated above. In a request for renewal, include in the budget plan the amount of any unused funds remaining from previous awards.

## **Personal References**

The faculty advisor must provide a recommendation as to the acceptability of the student for the program, a clear statement of the advisor's willingness to supervise the student, and the nature of any past or present experience with the student. A second letter of recommendation must also be provided. The letters should be addressed to the appropriate campus director.

## **Resume**

Brief resumes of the applicant and the faculty advisor must be included with the proposal. The student's resume should include a short summary of education, training and accomplishments.

## **Transcript and GRE Scores**

One original official copy of the applicant's most current transcript and a copy of GRE scores must be attached; additional transcripts may be photocopied.

# Management and Administration

The Alabama Space Grant Consortium is composed of seven PhD-granting universities in the state of Alabama: The University of Alabama in Huntsville, Alabama A&M University, The University of Alabama, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Tuskegee University, University of South Alabama and Auburn 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:*

**Dr. John Gregory**  
**Director**

Alabama Space Grant Program Office  
The University of  
Alabama in Huntsville  
MSB 205, Huntsville, AL 35899  
Phone: 256/824-6028; 6800  
FAX: 256/824-6061  
E-mail: jcgregory@matsci.uah.edu

**Ms. Jackie Reasoner**  
**Assistant Director**

Phone: 256/824-6800  
FAX: 256/824-6061  
E-mail: jfreasoner@matsci.uah.edu

<http://www.uah.edu/ASGC/>

---

## Campus Directors:

**Alabama A&M University**

Dr. Daryush Ila  
Physics Department  
Howard J. Foster Center  
Normal, AL 35762  
Phone: 256/372-8703  
FAX: 256/372-8708  
E-mail: ila@cim.aamu.edu

**Auburn University**

Dr. J.-M. Wersinger  
Physics Department  
208 Allison Lab  
Auburn, AL 36849-5311  
Phone: 334/844-4223  
FAX: 334/844-4613  
E-mail: wersing@physics.auburn.edu

**The University of Alabama**

Dr. John Baker  
Mechanical Engineering  
Box 870228  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0228  
Phone: 205/348-4997  
FAX: 205/348-6419  
E-mail: john.baker@coe.eng.ua.edu

**The University of  
Alabama at Birmingham**

Dr. Yogesh K. Vohra  
Physics Department  
387 Campbell Hall  
Birmingham, AL 35294-1170  
Phone: 205/934-6662  
FAX: 205/934-8042  
E-mail: ykvohra@uab.edu

**The University of  
Alabama in Huntsville**

Dr. Gerald R. Karr  
Mechanical and Aerospace  
Engineering, THN261  
Huntsville, AL 35899  
Phone: 256/824-6330  
FAX: 256/824-5120  
E-mail: karr@eng.uah.edu

**University of South Alabama**

Dr. John Steadman  
College of Engineering, EGCB 108  
Mobile, AL 36688  
Phone: 251/460-6140  
FAX: 251/460-6343  
E-mail: jsteadman@usouthal.edu

**Tuskegee University**

Dr. Sam Giles  
Electrical Engineering  
316 Luther H. Foster Hall  
Tuskegee, AL 36088  
Phone: 334/727-8995  
FAX: 334/724-4806  
E-mail: giless@tuskegee.edu

Names and Locations  
of Field Centers of  
the National Aeronautics  
and Space Administration

**George C. Marshall  
Space Flight Center**

Mail Stop HS30  
NASA  
Huntsville, AL 35812

**Ames Research Center**

Mail Stop AHT-241-3  
NASA  
Moffett Field, CA 94035

**Goddard Space Flight Center**

NASA  
Mail Code 600  
Greenbelt, MD 20771

**Jet Propulsion Laboratory**

Mail Stop 183-900  
4800 Oak Grove Drive  
Pasadena, CA 91109

**John F. Kennedy Space Center**

NASA  
Kennedy Space Center,  
FL 32899

**Lyndon B. Johnson  
Space Center**

Mail Code AP-2  
NASA  
Houston, TX 77058

**Langley Research Center**

Mail Stop 400  
NASA  
Hampton, VA 23681-0001

**Glenn Research Center**

Mail Stop CP-1  
NASA  
2100 Brookpark Road  
Cleveland, OH 44135

**John C. Stennis Space Center**

NASA  
Stennis Space Center  
Stennis, MS 39529

*The Space Grant Scholarships  
awarded by the Alabama Space  
Grant Consortium will be  
administered by the Consortium  
Program Office through the  
Campus Director on whose  
campus the Scholar is enrolled.*

