

ALABAMA SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM

Teacher Education Scholarship Program

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PRE-SERVICE TEACHERS IN
SCIENCE and MATHEMATICS

Application Package



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

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Alabama Space Grant Consortium

Teacher Education Scholarship Program

The Alabama Space Grant Consortium

In 1988 Congress passed legislation that established the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program 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 (Auburn University, Alabama A&M University, The University of Alabama, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, The University of Alabama in Huntsville, Tuskegee University and the University of South Alabama), all with space-related research activities, six industrial affiliates and the US Space & Rocket Center. NASA Marshall Space Flight Center is an ex-officio member of the Consortium. As a participant in the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program, 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 an undergraduate scholarship program to complement its existing science and engineering-based scholarships. Up to \$15,000 will be awarded for the next academic year to deserving students at Alabama's seven Space Grant Colleges (see above) to encourage them to become teachers of science or mathematics. Funding for these awards is provided through the ASGC and is subject to availability of NASA funds.

Alabama Space Grant Teacher Education Scholarship Program

The Alabama Space Grant Consortium 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 Alabama Space Grant Consortium and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Scholarship Award Levels

Awards are one-year, non-renewable scholarships limited to a maximum \$1,000 student stipend for full-time undergraduate students (minimum of 12 credit hours) at one of the seven Alabama Space Grant Universities.

Scholarship Eligibility and Award Process

Eligibility

The scholarship is open to full-time undergraduate students who are US citizens. Students must be enrolled in a program of study at one of Alabama's seven Space Grant 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 science, mathematics or earth/space/environmental science. Successful scholarship recipients should have a grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Since an important purpose of this program is to increase the participation of underrepresented groups in science and math, the ASGC especially encourages applications from these students.

Application Review Process

Applications are due by March 1. It is anticipated that 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.

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.

Awards

Normally the student's tuition account will be credited after registration. Questions regarding awards should be directed to the appropriate Campus Director.

Disposition of Unused Funds

If the 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. Scholarship funds are not transferable.

Scholarship Application Guidelines

Applicant Information Form

This form 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. Applications will not be processed without the appropriate approval signatures. Telephone numbers and mailing addresses must be included for each signer.

Attachments

Statement of Academic Goals and Course of 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 photocopies 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.

Application Submission

Applicants should submit seven copies (one original plus six photocopies) of all materials by March 1 to the ASGC Campus Director at the applicant's intended college (see list attached). Faxed applications will not be accepted.

Inquiries

Questions concerning the preparation and submission of proposals and the administration of this program may be directed to the appropriate Campus Director or the ASGC Program Office.

Acknowledgement

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

APPLICANT INFORMATION FORM

Alabama Space Grant Consortium
Teacher Education Scholarship Program
Academic Year 2004-2005

Personal Information:

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

Place of Birth _____ INS # (if applicable) _____

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

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

E-mail Address: _____ Social Security #: _____

Please give the following information:

High School: Name & Location _____

County: _____ Completion Date: _____

Community College: Name & Location _____

Expected Completion Date: _____ GPA: _____ (If applicable)

ASGC University: Name & Location _____

Department: _____ Expected Graduation Date: _____

GPA: _____ Target Degree: _____

Faculty Advisor: _____ Department: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

FAX: _____ E-mail: _____

Demographic Information:

___ Male; ___ Female; ___ Racial Minority (if applicable, please list) _____

Certification

I certify that I am a citizen of the United States and am or will be a full-time undergraduate student at one of the seven Alabama Space Grant Colleges, and am in or will be entering a course of study leading to a pre-college teaching certificate. I will comply with ASGC Scholarship reporting requirements and other administrative requirements of this grant as detailed in the application package guidelines. I also certify that all information contained in this application package is accurate.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

For Students Currently Enrolled in a Space Grant College

I certify that 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's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Department Chair's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Campus Director's Signature: _____ Date: _____

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

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