

NEVADA SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM (NVSGC)
SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

2015-2016 Undergraduate and Graduate Annual RISE & HOP Scholarship Program



NEVADA SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM

RISE (Research In Science & Engineering) & HOP (Hands On Projects)

Announcement for undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in a full-time program at:
University of Nevada, Las Vegas; University of Nevada, Reno;
Nevada State College; College of Southern Nevada; Great Basin College;
Truckee Meadows Community College; or Western Nevada College

Submission Deadline:

Monday, October 12, 2015, 5:00 pm PST



National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
Space Grant College and Fellowship Training Program
Cooperative Agreement #: NNX15AI02H



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RISE & HOP Scholarship Opportunity

Who is eligible? NSHE students who are **U.S. citizens and full-time undergraduate or graduate students** enrolled in a program for Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 semesters. All participating students must be supervised by at least one NSHE faculty mentor; and maintain full-time enrollment status at their institution(s) throughout the program.

Potential Project Areas: Students engaged in any science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) area who are interested in teaming with a faculty mentor to do a NASA Space Grant RISE or HOP project are encouraged to apply. For a full list of potential project areas, please see the full announcement. Helpful information including a link to a list of volunteer NSHE MENTORS is provided at the bottom of this announcement.

Deadline: The deadline for application submission is 5:00 pm on Monday, October 12, 2015.

Scholarship Amount:

- 1) \$5,000 will be competitively awarded (based on a statewide review) for the 2015-2016 school year. Half of these funds will be disbursed in Fall 2015 with the balance released in Spring 2016 – pending the awardee’s maintained “good-standing” as a student at their institution and their mentor’s continued support and approval. Each awardee will be expected to use a portion of these funds to support travel costs to attend a Nevada meeting to present a poster or talk on their project or research. More information will be provided regarding meetings to those who are funded.
- 2) **Award Period:** Fall 2015 semester through Spring 2016 semester

Please read the full announcement and application instructions carefully. ONLY complete applications, received by the deadline, and that follow the required format (provided below under III. Application Guidelines) will be reviewed or funded.

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2015-2016
NVSGC RISE & HOP Scholarship
Application Instructions

This information is provided to assist you in completing the application process. Save or print these instructions before completing the application. Students will be notified at the earliest possible date as to whether or not he/she has been selected to receive a Scholarship.

I. INTRODUCTION

This opportunity is designed to support independently conceived research or hands-on-projects by NSHE undergraduate or graduate students in disciplines that will help advance the missions and goals of NASA. RISE and HOP projects should generate measurable results or advancements in Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math (STEM) research that is relevant to NASA's science and technology goals.

II. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND INSTRUCTIONS

Potential Project Areas: Students engaged in any STEM area are encouraged to apply; however, fields specifically related to unmanned aerial systems, aeronautics (including high altitude balloon projects), planetary geology, astrochemistry, astrophysics, astrobiology, biodiversity/biology, new satellite data systems, remote sensing, sustainability, agricultural science, climate change, hydrological impacts under a changing climate, and STEM education are of particular interest.

Single or Group Projects It is acceptable for applications to come from two or more students who are conducting a complementary hands-on-project or research project that contributes to a larger faculty project; however, each application must be a unique effort by the student(s) and will be reviewed on its own merit; not the merit of the faculty project.

Scholarship awardees must conduct their projects under the guidance of a mentor. For students needing assistance in finding a mentor, the NSHE Faculty Mentor webpage information is provided below in the tools and tips section and may help students identify potential mentors. Students seeking a collaborative research/project experience may opt to engage with two or more mentors from different institutions. For example: In addition to having a "home-institution" mentor, students may include Co-Mentors at DRI, UNLV, UNR as well as mentors from local STEM businesses/industry or NASA Personnel. If you are unsure of options, please contact Ms. Borene, or Ms. Ward using the contact information at the end of this document.

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III . APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Links to important application reference documents are found in the “*Tools and Tips*” section of this solicitation. For more information about the role of the mentor and student in the application process please refer to the document titled, “*The Application Process – Who Does What.*” To help you understand the evaluation criteria, please refer to “*RISE and HOP Review Process & Evaluation Criteria.*” If your project involves human subjects or vertebrate animals, please refer to the document titled “*Projects Involving Human Subjects or Vertebrate Animals*” for more information.

Application Preparation Instructions

An excellent submission will be one that:

- 1) is responsive to the information and guidelines provided in this solicitation
- 2) is well-written and succinct (Proof read your application before submission!)
- 3) demonstrates a strong academic record in STEM
- 4) relates to a NASA scientific goal and/or interest

All applications will be reviewed by a statewide review panel. For information about the review process, please refer to the document titled “*RISE and HOP Review Process and Evaluation Criteria.*”

Application Requirements:

1. **Complete the following online survey by 5:00 pm PST on Monday, October 12, 2015:** https://www.research.net/r/NASA_RISE_HOP
2. After completing the online survey form, additional materials (as outlined below) for each application must be submitted as a single PDF document to nvspacegrant@nshe.nevada.edu. It is not allowed to send application material to any other email address except for the nvspacegrant@nshe.nevada.edu address. If an applicant does not receive confirmation that their application was received by October 14, 2015, he/she should contact Alice Ward or Stephanie Borene at nvspacegrant@nshe.nevada.edu to verify receipt of proposal.
3. **Project Description (limit two pages, including any and all graphs or pictures):** The design of a proposed project may be the result of a collaborative effort by the applicant and mentor; however, the project description must be written solely by the student. It should be a concise statement including clear hypotheses to be tested or questions that will be addressed. The project description must be written so that is understandable to reviewers whose background may be outside the applicant’s specific field. The two page project description should be single-spaced with 1” margins, in 12-pt Times New Roman font and must include the following sections:
 - a. Abstract (50-100 words)
 - b. Introduction

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- c. Objectives
 - d. Research hypotheses or questions
 - e. Plans for research and/or creative work, i.e., methods or tasks to be completed
 - f. Timetable: (This must be reasonable and in keeping with either a one or two semester project.)
 - g. Plans for dissemination of results, e.g., presentation, report, journal publication
4. **References/citations:** Please provide appropriate references/citations related to the project you propose to perform. The citations are not included in the two page limit for the project description. For further information about references/citations, please refer to *“References & Faculty Mentor CV Builder”* document.
 5. **Scanned transcripts or downloaded “unofficial” pdf transcripts from University website.** Transcripts of all courses completed, including a list of courses currently enrolled in for fall 2015 must be provided.
 6. **Biographical Sketch or Curriculum Vita (CV):** The student and mentor must each provide a biographical sketch or CV, which is limited to two pages per person and are not included in the two page limit for the project description. For a sample and instructions, please refer to *“Student CV Builder”* and *“References & Faculty Mentor CV Builder”* documents.
 7. **Endorsement letters (minimum of 2):** At least one letter is to be written by the supervising faculty mentor(s) indicating their approval of the proposed project and describing their level of involvement in the project. All proposed mentors should affirm that the application is the original work of the student and that only guidance in editing and formatting the document were provided to the student applicant. Each proposed mentor must “sign-off” on the application, noting approval and affirming that they have read the student’s application and pledge to mentor the student throughout the project period. It is the obligation of each applicant to verify that all letters of recommendation have been sent and received.

IV. APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND AWARD NOTIFICATION

Submission of Applications

The online survey form is to be submitted electronically at the survey link and additional materials (including letters of reference/support) are to be submitted via e-mail as a single PDF to nvspacegrant@nshe.nevada.edu by the application deadline of Monday, October 12, 2015 at 5pm PST. **Please note that all letters of recommendation are also due at this time – but, they may be sent directly from the author to the nvspacegrant@nshe.nevada.edu . Incomplete applications will not be accepted.**

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The email subject line and the pdf application document should be specific to each applicant and follow the template below:

Last Name_First Name_NASARISEHOP2015-2016

Example: (Jones_Tom_NASARISEHOP2015-2016)

Notification

Letters of award and regret will be sent to all applicants and mentors after a statewide review has been conducted.

Obligation to the Government

Applicants for the award will be considered without regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, national origin and/or physical impairment.

TOOLS & TIPS

Contacts

Applicants with questions regarding this program are strongly encouraged to contact the Nevada Space Grant Consortium team.

NVSGC Program Coordinator Stephanie Borene 5550 W Flamingo, Ste. A2 Las Vegas, NV stephanie_borene@nshe.nevada.edu 702-522-7081	NV NASA Project Administrator Alice Ward 5550 W Flamingo, Ste. A2 Las Vegas, NV alice_ward@nshe.nevada.edu 702-522-7078	NV NASA Project Director Dr. Lynn Fenstermaker lynn.fenstermaker@dri.edu
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Award Information

- Scholarship funds are awarded to encourage student engagement in STEM related research and projects relevant to NASA goals and missions.
- Because acceptance of this award may impact a student's income level to a degree that could affect eligibility for other scholarships, fellowships, and student loans, it is the student's responsibility to consult with campus financial aid advisors.
- NSHE does not provide tax advice. If you have questions about possible tax liabilities, you may refer to the IRS web sites: <http://www.irs.ustreas.gov>.

Funds Distribution

Unless otherwise agreed upon, this is a full annual scholarship for the fall and spring semesters, starting on the first day of the award period in the fall and ending on the last day of the spring semester. A one-year award should provide sufficient time for the awardee to complete the research and/or hands-on-project. For students seeking a single semester only award – the period of performance is initiated with the first day of the semester and ends with the last day of the semester. It is anticipated that the Space Grant application process may not be finalized until after student tuition and fees are due. Therefore, receipt of this award should not be relied upon to pay for student costs "up front". If awarded, these funds should be expected as a reimbursement for tuition and fees already paid out by the student.

Application Writing Workshops

NSF EPSCoR will be holding application writing workshops prior to the application deadline. More information will be made available through the NSHE listserv. It is strongly encouraged that you sign up at the following [link](#).

Helpful Links:

The following documents are available at www.nvspacegrant.org/forms:

- Mentor/ Mentee Roles During the Application Process
- Writing a CV/Biographical Sketch (for students)
- Using References/ Mentor CV Instructions
- Projects Involving Human Subjects or Vertebrate Animals
- Rise and HOP Proposal Review Process and Evaluation Criteria
- RISE and HOP Program Guidelines

