NASA West Virginia Space Grant Consortium
Graduate Research Fellowship Program
2023-2024 Application Form

These one-year Fellowships will be awarded competitively to graduate students at a member institution of the NASA West Virginia Space Grant Consortium (WVSGC) as well as undergraduate seniors who have been admitted to a graduate program in a STEM field at one of the academic affiliates of WVSGC who will be engaged in a research project either during the academic year and/or in the summer. Brief quarterly progress reports and a final report will be required. Applicants for these fellowships must be full-time students of U.S. citizenship.

Proposal due date: Wednesday, March 8, 2023, by 11:59 PM (EST)
Mentor Endorsement for student applications due Friday, March 10, 2023. (5:00 p.m. EST)
Award announcement date: Early-May 2023
Anticipated project start date: May 16, 2023

Graduate student applicants must complete the online application **here.**

Proposal: Please upload a well-written (easy to understand, with no grammatical or spelling errors) maximum three-page summary of the research plan in your own words, including a statement of the problem, methodology, significance, expected results, budget, and proposed timeline. References and appendices (if any) do not count towards the three-page limit. The document must be in PDF format and single-spaced using Times New Roman (TNR) font size 12, 1″ margin on all sides. This research plan must be reviewed and approved by the applicant's faculty mentor. Please be aware that reviewers of the proposal may not be experts within your field of study, and the proposal should be written accordingly. Proposals should be written with minimal use of jargon. Mentors may provide editorial and revision assistance for student proposals, but they must be primarily the work of student applicants. A letter of support from the faculty mentor is to be submitted separately from the student application.

Budget: A faculty member from the applicant's department, preferably student's thesis/dissertation advisor, must agree to serve as a mentor and research advisor for the described project. Each award will be up to $12,000. These awards must be supplemented by a 1:1 cost share by the applicant's home institution, and budget should cover the grant funding and cost share amount.

Graduate tuition waiver by the college/university, and documented time spent by the faculty to mentor the student may be counted toward fulfillment of the cost share requirement.

Most of the NASA funding should be used to support the student stipend and the student's department should provide the supplies needed for research activities. NASA funds may not be used for the purchase of equipment or foreign travel.

To be considered for funding, you **must** identify and one of the five NASA Mission Directorates. (Aeronautics Research, Science, Space Technology, Exploration Systems Development, or Space Operations), fully explaining the connection between your proposed research and the

directorate's aims. The full list of NASA Mission Directorates and Center Alignment can be found **here.**

The applicant will also be required to submit a short essay. In 600 words or less the applicant should address the following items:

- Applicant's research experience and career interests
- Applicant's plans for sharing research findings through participation in professional conferences and/or publication
- Acknowledgement of prior WVSGC funding and brief description of previous projects funded
- List extracurricular activities, leadership experiences and accomplishments, and academic achievements.
- Description of the relationship of the proposed project to NASA's area(s) of research (see above)

The applicant will also upload their resume and an unofficial transcript or a PDF statement of your graduate level STEM courses that you took and the grade. Optional text to include, in less than 500 characters please tell us if there is anything else you want us to know about your GPA.

The Consortium will award these grants based on the following criteria:

- Soundness and technical merit of the proposed research (60 points)
- Student's academic and extracurricular achievements (30 points)
- Budget and plans for dissemination and publicizing of the results (10 points)