

# Space Law and NASA - A Pilot Program Using Space Grant Consortia

## Overview of the Funding Opportunity

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Office of Education (OE) in partnership with the NASA Headquarters (HQ) Office of the General Counsel (OGC) is accepting proposals for the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program (Space Grant) Training Grant **NASA Space Law Program**. This is a funding supplement opportunity to the existing FY 2015-2018 Base Award entitled Space Grant Opportunities in NASA Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) (training grant announcement number NNH15ZHA003N). The Space Grant Program is dedicated to building, sustaining, and deploying a skilled, high-performing and diverse workforce that meets the current and emerging needs of NASA and the nation. Legal experts trained in space law enhance the effective work of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math experts by ensuring a secure and stable legal environment in which their work can thrive.

As the civil and commercial space market continues to grow and national policies are developed for remote sensing and commercial space launches for cargo and crew, there is an increasing need for education on the legal aspects of robotic and human research and development, testing and use of aerospace technologies and developing technologies, such as on-orbit servicing and active debris removal. Thus, the overarching goal of this solicitation and pilot project is to encourage the development of an integrated community of law schools in the United States that support the growing field of Space Law, which will result in the enhancement and diversification of the active and ongoing network of space law experts and practitioners that could include NASA, other Federal Government agencies, industry, and academia. For reference purposes only, information on Space Law capacity building is located, among other websites, at [www.unoosa.org/oosa/index.html](http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/index.html).

NASA recognizes the need to increase the number of students and practitioners (both in Government and private industry) in the multifaceted field of Space Law to meet the ever-changing needs of the Agency. Space Law includes but is not limited to international, contract, commercial, intellectual property, fiscal and environmental law and includes interdisciplinary work. This solicitation seeks proposals that will:

- Have a community-wide (national) impact in the field of Space Law (as opposed to a local or regional impact); and
- Achieve such an impact by measures such as promoting internships at NASA Centers' Offices of the Chief Counsel, hosting one or more Space Law Symposium or Conference at a US institution, creating Space Law online resources and offering research and writing opportunities for law students with faculty and others in academia and research.

- Please note that not all of the above-listed program elements are required; however, the internship component is required. The other program elements described are strongly desired; it is up to the discretion of submitters as to which elements it is able to implement given available funding. Submitters are also welcome to propose their own ideas for other program elements.

All proposed activities shall address one or more of the following areas:

The overarching goal of this solicitation and pilot project is to encourage the development of an integrated community of law schools in the United States that support the growing field of Space Law, which will result in the enhancement and diversification of the active and ongoing network of space law experts and practitioners that could include NASA, other Federal Government agencies, industry, and academia. Note: Throughout this document, the Space Grant Opportunities in NASA STEM solicitation is also referred to as the “Base Solicitation,” and the active FY 2015-2018 Space Grant Opportunities in NASA STEM training grant is referred to as the “Base Award.”

## Proposal Details

### **Required Sections:**

- Title pages (Should include the proposing institution and principle investigator's contact information)
- Consortium Concurrences (As needed)
- Executive Summary (1 page)
- Body of Proposal (6 pages maximum)
- Principal Investigator Curriculum Vitae (2 pages)
- Budget: Table and Narrative (As needed)
- Statements of Commitment/Letters of Support (As needed)

### **Evaluation Criteria:**

#### Intrinsic Merit (30%)

- Degree to which the proposal promotes a community-wide (national) impact in the field of Space Law (as opposed to a local or regional impact) by developing an integrated community of law schools in the United States that support the growing field of Space Law;
- Degree to which the proposal includes information about how an active and ongoing network of space law experts and practitioners (that could include NASA, other Federal Government agencies, industry, and academia) will be developed, and how after this pilot project is completed, how such a network will be sustained and furthered; and
- Degree to which the proposal includes internships at NASA Centers' Offices of the Chief Counsel (required), and other activities such as hosting a U.S. Space Law Conference, sponsoring a U.S. Space Law Writing Competition, creating Space Law online resources, offering research and writing opportunities for law students with faculty and others in academia and research and other activities that will further the goal of this opportunity;

#### Collaboration (35%)

- Degree to which the proposed plan outlines all proposal team responsibilities and contributions to the proposed activity.
- Degree to which the proposed plan connects to other Space Grant-funded programs.
- Degree to which the proposed plan provides a letter of support from each collaborator. Any collaborators shall provide letters of support for the proposal that state: the name of the proposal; the name of the institution that will collaborate, and contributions the institution will provide. Letters of support shall also provide a list of individuals and the expertise they will contribute to the proposal. Letters must be recent, written specifically for this proposal, and dated within 45 days prior to the solicitation due date.

### Feasibility (20%)

- Degree to which the proposal includes qualifications, capabilities, and experiences of the PI and members of the proposed team; including sponsored programs/research, science, law, and/or engineering, NASA content knowledge, logistics, training, and evaluation expertise;
- Degree to which the proposed effort demonstrates clear goals and objectives that are aligned with NASA, NASA's Office of Education, NASA's Office of the General Counsel, and the home organization or institution where the activity will reside;
- Degree to which the proposal presents a clearly organized and workable management plan for achieving contracting goals and objectives, and includes clear lines of communication with NASA and other members of the collaborative proposal team;
- Degree to which the proposal includes a feasible timeline per proposed activity year and milestones or benchmarks for success;

### Budget (15%)

- Budget is determined to be adequate, appropriate, reasonable and realistic for all partners;
- Indicates how the proposed budget is clearly aligned with proposal narrative. All budget line items are explained and justified;
- Includes sufficient travel funds to cover costs for the PI and other key staff to attend critical meetings. Requested travel shall include purpose, the number of trips and expected location, duration of each trip, airfare, and per diem;
- Provides a budget justification on how funds will be allocated to support project personnel, travel, student scholarships or support, research funding, and subcontracts;
- Includes a clearly defined milestone chart with proposed deliverables.

**Submission:** Fonts for text and tables should be no smaller than 11 and be in True-Type Font, which makes reading easier. The complete proposal should be in Portable Document Format (PDF) with applicable section bookmarks. The proposal should be emailed by 11:59pm EDT on the date specified (see Proposal due date) on page 5 of this solicitation to: [hq-space-grant@mail.nasa.gov](mailto:hq-space-grant@mail.nasa.gov).

**Reporting Requirements:** Combine project metrics with standard OEPM reporting; longitudinal tracking not required

### **Relevant Space Grant Base Solicitation Sections (Referenced) 2015-2018**

**Solicitation:** Section 1.1, 1.4, 1.5, 2.0, 3.1, 3.3, Appendices B-F.

## Proposal Summary

Amount of award	Up to \$250,000
Expected number of awards	One
Start date	May start at the time of award based upon NSSC notification
Duration of award	Concurrent with current Space Grant award with the same period of performance
Award type	Training Grant (Augmentation)
Solicitation release	June 4, 2018 (NOTIONAL)
Notice of Intent due	20 business days after proposal release (Optional) - July 2, 2018
Pre-proposal Conference	15 business days after proposal release - June 25, 2018
Proposal due date	45 business days from release - August 7, 2018
Anticipated award date	No earlier than 60 days from proposal receipt
Website of solicitation	<a href="https://www.nasa.gov/offices/education/programs/national/spacegrant/home/index.html">https://www.nasa.gov/offices/education/programs/national/spacegrant/home/index.html</a>
Expected proposers	Current Space Grant Consortia; 1 proposal per state
Page limit for the body of proposal	6 pages
Submission medium	Submit via email to: <a href="mailto:HQ-Space-Grant@mail.nasa.gov">HQ-Space-Grant@mail.nasa.gov</a> ; submission should be in Portable Document Format (PDF) with applicable section bookmarks
Seeking proposals that address the following:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internships at NASA Centers' Offices of the Chief Counsel (required);</li> <li>• Other activities such as hosting one or more Space Law Conferences or Symposia, creating Space Law online resources and offering research and writing opportunities for law students with faculty and others in academia and research;</li> <li>• All proposed activities shall advance the goal of developing an integrated community of law schools in the United States that support the growing field of Space Law, which will result in the cultivation of an active and ongoing network of space law experts and practitioners (that could include NASA, other Federal Government agencies, industry, and academia).</li> </ul>

<p>Proposal contacts</p>	<p>Erica J. Alston, PhD                  Space Grant Programmatic Support                  Langley Research Center                  Mail Stop 033                  Hampton, VA 23681  <a href="mailto:erica.j.alston@nasa.gov">erica.j.alston@nasa.gov</a></p> <p>OR</p> <p>Victoria H. Kauffman                  Office of the General Counsel                  NASA Headquarters                  300 E Street, Southwest                  Washington, DC 20546  <a href="mailto:victoria.h.kauffman@nasa.gov">victoria.h.kauffman@nasa.gov</a></p>
<p>Selection official</p>	<p>Joeletta O. Patrick, M.B.A.                  Acting Space Grant Manager                  NASA Headquarters                  300 E Street, Southwest                  Washington, DC 20546</p>
<p>Matching funds requirement</p>	<p>None</p>