NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA)
Office of STEM Engagement

Fiscal Year 2024

Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR)

Research Announcement

NASA Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: NNH24ZHA001C

ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER: 43.008

ANNOUNCEMENT TYPE:
Initial Announcement

DATE ISSUED: October 09, 2023

KEY DATES

Release Date:	October 09, 2023
Proposals Due:	January 22, 2024

OMB Control Number: 2700-0092 (Expires 10/31/2025)

Contents

A. Program Description

The NASA Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1993, Public Law 102-588, and the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) Reauthorization Act of 2017, Public Law 114-32 authorized the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to initiate NASA EPSCoR to strengthen the research capability of jurisdictions that have not historically participated equably in competitive aerospace research activities. The goal of NASA EPSCoR is to provide seed funding that will enable jurisdictions to develop an academic research enterprise directed toward long-term, self-sustaining, nationally competitive capabilities in aerospace and aerospace-related research. This capability will, in turn, contribute to the jurisdiction's economic viability and expand the nation's base for aerospace research and development.

Based on the availability of funding, NASA will continue to help jurisdictions achieve these goals through NASA EPSCoR. Funded jurisdictions' proposals shall be selected through a merit-based, peer-review competition and presented for review to a NASA HQ Mission Directorate Review Panel.

The following are the specific objectives of NASA EPSCoR:

- Contribute to and promote the development of research capability in NASA EPSCoR jurisdictions in areas of strategic importance to NASA's mission;
- Improve the capabilities of the NASA EPSCoR jurisdictions to gain support from sources outside the NASA EPSCoR programs;
- Develop partnerships among NASA research assets, academic institutions, and industry; and
- Contribute to the overall research infrastructure and economic development of the jurisdiction.

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) solicits proposals that are expected to establish research activities that will make significant contributions to NASA's strategic research and technology development priorities and contribute to the overall research infrastructure, science and technology capabilities of higher education, as well as the economic development of the jurisdiction receiving funding. Each funded NASA EPSCoR proposer shall work closely with a NASA researcher to focus on developing competitive research and technology for the solution of scientific and technical issues of importance to the NASA Mission Directorates and Centers as listed in the Appendix-A, NASA Mission Directorates and Center Alignment. This will allow EPSCoR researchers to work alongside NASA and commercial partners and is intended to strengthen the bonds among NASA EPSCoR jurisdictions, NASA, commercial partners, and other entities.

NASA will designate a Technical Monitor (TM) for every cooperative agreement award. The TM's role will encompass monitoring research progress and ensuring ongoing alignment with the established project objectives. Each recipient of an award is required to furnish an annual report detailing research advancement. These reports will encompass anticipated performance goals, key indicators, target outcomes, baseline data, data collection methods, and other resulting insights. Following evaluation by the TM, these reports will be subject to approval by the NASA EPSCoR Project Manager. Moreover, they will be disseminated among the NASA Mission Directorates, NASA Centers, and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) for broader awareness and visibility.

Jurisdictions shall submit electronic progress reports to the NSSC at NSSC-Grant-

Report@mail.nasa.gov and the technical officer at agency-epscor@mail.nasa.gov. The reporting requirements for awards made through this NOFO shall be consistent with the NASA Grant and Cooperative Agreement Manual (GCAM), (https://www.nasa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/grant-and-cooperative-agreement-manual-oct.-2022-0.pdf), Appendix D, Award Terms and Conditions (page 76). Recipients also shall comply with performance report requirements (page 55), and Financial Reporting (page 15). Additionally, if the federal share of any award issued under this NOFO is more than $500,000 over the total award's period of performance, additional reporting requirements shall apply. See 2 CFR § 200 Appendix XII, — Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters (https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200/appendix-Appendix%20XII%20to%20Part%20200).

The program parameters are:

- Jurisdictions responding to this NOFO may submit only one proposal each in accordance with Section C, Eligibility Information of this NOFO. Proposals will be selected from this solicitation for FY 2024 funding.
- The maximum funding request per proposal is $750,000. This amount is to be expended over a three-year period.
- In the proposal title, please include the section number and Mission Directorate/Center, listed in Appendix A.
- Cost-sharing by proposers is required at a level of at least 50% of the requested NASA funds. Also, in-kind cost-sharing is allowable. Limitations regarding acceptable cost-sharing are further discussed below in Section C2, of this NOFO.
- It is anticipated that ten to 15 awards may be made under this NOFO in accordance with the rules and policies set forth in Title 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200?toc=1), as adopted and supplemented by NASA through Title 2 CFR Part 1800: Grants and Agreements (https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200?toc=1), and in the NASA GCAM.
- The Government's obligation to make an award is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds from which payment can be made.
- This NOFO is available in electronic form through the NASA Solicitation and Proposal Integrated Review and Evaluation System (NSPIRES) and Grants.gov. However, all proposals shall be submitted through NSPIRES.

To access this NOFO through NSPIRES, go to http://nspires.nasaprs.com and click on Solicitations.

To access this NOFO through Grants.gov, go to https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html and select the link for NASA under Agency.

B. Federal Award Information

1. Available Funding for this NOFO: $11,000,000

2. **Projected Number of Awards: Between ten and 15 awards of up to $750,000 each.**

3. **Maximum Award Amount: $750,000**

4. **Anticipated Period of Performance:**

   NASA EPSCoR awards will support cooperative agreements, each with a three year period of performance (PoP). It is anticipated that this PoP will enable the researchers to achieve the performance task objectives of the proposal and/or as included in any amendments submitted with the recipient's annual progress reports and accepted by the NASA EPSCoR project office.

5. **Projected Period of Performance Start Date(s):**

   For planning purposes, PIs should assume that the award start date will be approximately six months after the proposal deadline date. The project start date may be negotiated with the NASA Shared Services Center (NSSC) Grant Officer.

6. **Projected Period of Performance End Date(s):**

   The PoP end date will be three years from the PoP start date.

7. **Funding Instrument Type(s): Cooperative Agreement**

   NASA will assign a TM to each award. Cooperative Agreements have substantial government involvement to support the recipient's performance of the project. Therefore, the TM will monitor the progress of the research and collaborate as required to keep the research aligned with the approved project's objective(s). Each recipient shall provide an annual report on the progress of the research; this report shall be reviewed by the TM and approved in writing by the NASA EPSCoR Project Manager. These reports shall be shared with the NASA Mission Directorates, NASA Centers, and JPL.

C. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants

The National Science Foundation (NSF) determines overall jurisdiction eligibility for NASA EPSCoR. The latest available NSF eligibility tables are used to determine overall jurisdiction eligibility for NASA EPSCoR. The NSF 2023 eligibility table is available at: https://nsf-gov-resources.nsf.gov/2022-06/EPSCoR%20Eligibility%20Table%20Fiscal%20Year%202023.pdf.

The following jurisdictions are eligible to submit a proposal in response to this NOFO: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, US Virgin Islands, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

While proposals can be accepted only from institutions for which the NASA EPSCoR Directors are serving currently, all institutions of higher education within the jurisdiction shall be given the opportunity to propose by making them aware of this NOFO. Only one proposal per jurisdiction shall be accepted, which must be submitted by the NASA EPSCoR Jurisdiction Director (or their designee). The list of NASA EPSCoR jurisdiction directors can be found at:

https://www.nasa.gov/stem/epscor/home/EPSCoR_Directors.html.

All proposals submitted in response to this NOFO shall be submitted electronically via NSPIRES (http://nspires.nasaprs.com). Hard copy proposals will not be accepted. Electronic proposals must be submitted in their entirety by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time on January 22, 2024.

Proposers without access to the internet or who experience difficulty using the NSPIRES proposal site (http://nspires.nasaprs.com) may contact the **Help Desk at** nspires-help@nasaprs.com **or call 202-479-9376 between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (EDT), Monday through Friday, except on Federal Government holidays.** Proposals received after the due date may be returned without review and not considered for award. If a late proposal is returned, it is entirely at the proposer's discretion whether to resubmit it in response to a subsequent opportunity.

All EPSCoR institutions in eligible jurisdictions shall be made aware of this solicitation. *All proposals shall be submitted through the jurisdiction's NASA EPSCoR Director's office*. Existing EPSCoR awards that already demonstrate partnerships or cooperative arrangements among academia, government agencies, business and industry, private research foundations, jurisdiction agencies, and local agencies shall not be submitted. No requests for renewals or extensions of previous projects will be accepted in response to this NOFO.

2. Cost Sharing or Matching

The maximum funding that a jurisdiction can request from NASA is $750,000 per proposal. This amount is to be spent in accordance with the budget details and budget narrative in the approved proposal.

Cost-sharing is required at a level of at least 50% of the requested NASA funds. Although the method of cost-sharing is flexible, NASA encourages the EPSCoR jurisdiction committees to consider methods that would add value to the jurisdiction's existing research capabilities. All contributions, including cash or in-kind, shall meet the criteria set forth in 2 CFR 200.306, Cost sharing or matching (https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200/subpart-D/section-200.306).

NASA-funded and/or in-kind services provided by Mission Directorates, NASA Centers, or JPL shall be identified as "NASA responsibilities" in the proposals and shall not be included in the 50% cost matching requirement.

Statements of commitment and letters of support are important components of the proposal. However, NASA does not solicit or evaluate letters of endorsement. Review the *NASA Proposer's Guide (https://www.nasa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/2023-nasa-proposers-guide-final.pdf)* for the distinctions among statements of commitment, letters of support, and letters of endorsement.

Pre-award costs are those incurred prior to the effective date of an award directly pursuant to the negotiation and in anticipation of the award where such costs are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the scope of work. Such costs are not allowed under this NOFO.

3. **Other Eligibility Criteria**
   None

4. **NASA's Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion**
   NASA recognizes and supports the benefits of having diverse and inclusive scientific, engineering, and technology communities and fully expects the reflection of such values in the composition of all panels and teams, including peer review panels, proposal teams, science definition teams, and mission and instrument teams. Per Federal statutes and NASA policy, no eligible applicant shall experience exclusion from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving financial assistance from NASA on the grounds of their race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, or disability. NASA welcomes proposals from all qualified and eligible sources, and strongly encourages proposals from Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), small-disadvantaged businesses (SDBs), veteran-owned small businesses, service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSB), HUBZone small businesses, and women-owned small businesses (WOSBs), as eligibility requirements apply. Note that all proposals must be approved and submitted by the NASA EPSCoR Jurisdiction Director.

5. **Ineligibility of Proposals That Include Participation of China or Chinese-Owned Companies**

   Proposals involving bilateral participation, collaboration, or coordination in any way with China or any Chinese-owned company or entity, whether funded or performed under a no-exchange-of-funds basis, shall be ineligible for award.

D. Application and Submission Information

1. **Address to Request Application Package**
   All proposals submitted in response to this NOFO shall be submitted electronically via NSPIRES (http://nspires.nasaprs.com). Hard copy proposals will not be accepted.

2. **Content and Form of Application Submission**

   Required elements of the proposal are described below and shall be submitted as one or more PDF documents that are uploaded for proposal submission. Please refer to Section 2 of the *NASA Proposer's* Guide https://www.nasa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/2023-nasa-proposers-guide-final.pdf) for more information on Proposal Preparation and Organization. The table below lists the sections required in the proposal. All compliant proposals shall not exceed 15 pages, which does not include budget, biographies, letters of support, or certifications.

   Proposal Title: In the Proposal Title, it is imperative to indicate the specific Mission Directorate (such as ARMD, ESDMD, SMD, STMD, SOMD, etc.) / Center (ARC, AFRC, GRC, GSFC, JPL, JSC, KSC, LaRC, MSFC, SSC) within the title, following this format: For instance, SMD: proposal title, GSFC: proposal title.

REQUIRED SECTIONS OF THE PROPOSAL (in order of assembly)	**PAGE / Characters LIMIT**
Proposal Cover Page	NSPIRES proposal cover page that is available at http://nspires.nasaprs.com/
Proposal Summary (abstract)	4,000 characters including spaces
Data Management Plan	4,000 characters, including spaces
Table of Contents	As needed
Scientific/Technical Plan	15*
Management Plan	As needed (not included in 2-3 page limit)
References and Citations	As needed
Biographical Sketches for:	
The Principal Investigator the Science Investigator (Sc-I)	2 (per PI) 2 (per Sci-I)
each Co-Investigator (Co-I)	1 (per Co-I)
Current and Pending Support	As needed
Statements of Commitment and Letters of Support	As needed
Budget Justification: Narrative and Details	As needed
• *Includes proposed budget, itemized list detailing expenses within major budget categories, detailed subawards and summary of personnel (NASA Guidebook for Proposers, Appendix C, Required Budget Details, https://www.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/2021_ed._nasa_guidebook_for_proposers.pdf).*	
• *For grants/cooperative agreements, the table of personnel and work effort shall immediately follow the proposal budget and is not included in the budget.*	
Facilities and Equipment	As needed
Special Notifications and/or Certifications	As needed
** includes all illustrations, tables, and figures, where each "n-page" fold-out counts as n-pages and each side of a sheet containing text or an illustration counts as one page.*	

3. Data Management Plan (DMP)

All proposals submitted under this NOFO are required to submit a Data Management Plan (DMP) in accordance with the *NASA Plan for Increasing Access to the Results of Scientific Research* located at http://www.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/files/NASA_Data_Plan.pdf.

In keeping with the *NASA Plan for Increasing Access to the Results of Scientific Research*, new terms and conditions, consistent with the Rights in Data clause in the award, information about making manuscripts and data publicly accessible may be included in each award document. As a general rule, proposals are required to provide a DMP or proposers shall provide an explanation as to why a DMP is not necessary given the nature of the work proposed. *The DMP shall be submitted by responding to the NSPIRES cover page question about the DMP (limited to 4000 characters)*. Any research project for which a DMP is not necessary shall provide an explanation in the DMP block. Example explanations are as follows:

- *This is a development effort for flight technology that will not generate any data that the proposer/recipient can release, so a DMP is not necessary;*
- *The data that the proposer/recipient will generate will be subject to ITAR; or*
- *The proposer/recipient may explain why its project is not going to generate data.*

- The proposal type that requires a DMP is described in the *NASA Plan for Increasing Access to the Results of Scientific Research* (see above link). The DMP shall contain the following elements, as appropriate to the project:
- A description of data types, volume, formats, and (where relevant) standards;
- A description of the schedule for data archiving and sharing;
- A description of the intended repositories for archived data, including mechanisms for public access and distribution;
- A discussion of how the plan enables long-term preservation of data; and
- A discussion of roles and responsibilities of team members in accomplishing the DMP. (If funds are required for data management activities, these should be included in the budget and budget justification sections of the proposal).

Proposers that include a plan to archive data should allocate suitable time for this task. Unless otherwise stated, this requirement supersedes the data sharing plan mentioned in the *NASA Guidebook for Proposers*.

In addition, researchers submitting NASA-funded articles in peer-reviewed journals or papers from conferences shall make their work accessible to the public through NASA's *PubSpace* at https://sti.nasa.gov/submit-to-pubspace/#.YD5lRJNKhTY.

See NASA's Scientific and Technical Information Program's DMP FAQ at https://sti.nasa.gov/faq/ and the Science Mission Directorate's DMP FAQ at http://science.nasa.gov/researchers/sara/faqs/dmp-faq-roses/ for more information.

4. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and System for Award Management (SAM)

Each applicant for NASA funding (unless the applicant is an individual or is excluded per 2 CFR 25.110) is required to:

- Be registered in SAM before submitting a proposal;
- Maintain an active SAM registration with current information, including information on a recipient's immediate and highest-level owner and subsidiaries, as well as on all predecessors that have been awarded a Federal contract or grant within the last three years, if applicable, for all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by NASA; and
- Provide its UEI in each application or plan it submits to NASA. UEIs may be obtained by registering in SAM.gov
- Each individual team member (e.g., PI, co-investigators), including all personnel named on the proposal's electronic cover page, shall be individually registered in NSPIRES.

NASA may not issue an award or financial modification to an existing award to an applicant or recipient entity until the entity has complied with the requirements to provide a valid UEI and maintain an active SAM registration with current information. At the time of issuing an award, if the intended recipient has not complied with the UEI or SAM requirements, NASA may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award and use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

5. Submission Method, Dates and Times

Submission Method

All proposals submitted in response to this NOFO shall be submitted electronically via NSPIRES (http://nspires.nasaprs.com). Hard copy proposals will not be accepted. Electronic proposals must be submitted in their entirety by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time on January 22, 2024. Proposers without access to the Web or who experience difficulty using the NSPIRES proposal site (http://nspires.nasaprs.com) may contact the **Help Desk at** nspires-help@nasaprs.com **or call 202-479-9376 between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (EDT), Monday through Friday, except on Federal Government holidays.** Proposals received after the due date may be returned without review. If a late proposal is returned, it is entirely at the proposer's discretion whether to resubmit it in response to a subsequent appropriate solicitation.

Proposal Submission Deadline
01/22/2024 at 11:59 PM ET

All proposals **must** be received by the established deadline.

NASA will not review proposals that are received after the deadline or consider these late applications for funding. However, NASA may extend the application deadline upon the request of any applicant that can demonstrate good cause exists to justify extending the deadline. Good cause for an extension may include technical problems outside of the applicant's control that prevented submission of the proposal by the deadline or other exigent or emergency circumstances.

Applicants experiencing technical problems outside of their control must notify NASA as soon as possible and before the application deadline. Failure to notify NASA in a timely manner of the issue that prevented the on-time submission of the proposal may prevent the proposal from being considered for award.

While every effort is made to ensure the reliability and accessibility of the NSPIRES site and to maintain a help center via e-mail and telephone, difficulty may arise at any point on the internet, including with the user's own equipment. Prospective proposers are strongly urged to familiarize themselves with the NSPIRES site and to submit the required proposal materials well in advance of the proposal submission deadline. Difficulty in registering with or using NSPIRES is not, in and of itself, a sufficient reason for NASA to consider a proposal that is submitted after the proposal due date.

6. Funding Restrictions

All costs charged to awards covered by this NOFO must comply with the Uniform Administrative Requirements in 2 CFR 200 and 2 CFR 1800, unless otherwise indicated in the NOFO, the terms and conditions of the award, and the NASA GCAM. Additionally, the following restrictions apply:

1. All proposed funds must be allowable, allocable, and reasonable. Funds may only be used for the proposed project. All activities charged under indirect costs must be allowed under 2 CFR 200 cost principles.
2. Grants and cooperative agreements shall not provide for the payment of fee or profit to the recipient.
3. Proposals must not include bilateral participation, collaboration, or coordination with China or any Chinese-owned company or entity, whether funded or performed under a no-exchange-of-funds basis.
4. Any funds used for cost sharing or matching must be allowable under 2 CFR 200.
5. The non-Federal entity must use one of the methods of procurement as prescribed in 2 CFR 200.320, Methods of procurement to be followed (https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200/subpart-D/subject-group-ECFR45ddd4419ad436d/section-200.320).
6. Funds may not be used to fund research carried out by non-U.S. institutions. However, U.S. research award recipients may directly purchase supplies and/or services that do not constitute research from non-U.S. sources. Subject to export control restrictions, a foreign national may receive payment through a NASA award for the conduct of research while employed either full- or part-time by a U.S. institution. For additional guidance on foreign participation in awards, see Section 3.2 of the *NASA Guidebook for Proposers* and the NASA FAR Supplement (NFS) Part 1835.016-70 (https://www.acquisition.gov/nfs/1835.016-70-foreign-participation-under-broad-agency-announcements-baas).
7. Subject to export control restrictions, a foreign national may receive payment through a NASA award for the conduct of research while employed either full- or part-time by a U.S. institution. For additional guidance on foreign participation, see Appendix A of the *NASA Guidebook for Proposers* and the NASA FAR Supplement (NFS) Part 1835.016-70.
8. EPSCoR support shall be acknowledged by the EPSCoR research project number in written reports and publications. Note that there is no limit for domestic travel, defined as travel that does not require a U.S. passport, and shall be appropriate and reasonable to conduct the proposed research.
9. NASA EPSCoR funding shall not be used to purchase general purpose equipment, e.g. desktop workstations, office furnishings, reproduction, and printing equipment as a direct charge. However, special purpose equipment purchases (i.e., equipment that is used only for research, scientific, and technical activities directly related to the proposed research activities) are allowed and shall be reflected as a direct charge as per cost principles cited in the GCAM, Appendix D9, Equipment and Other Property. In addition, proposers shall comply with 2 CFR 200.216: Prohibition on certain telecommunication and video surveillance services or equipment. Equipment and other capital expenditures, special purchase equipment items with a unit cost of $5,000 or more must have the prior written approval of the Federal awarding agency (i.e., the NASA Grant Officer).
10. NASA EPSCoR funding shall not be used to support NASA employees' (full-

time equivalent or FTE) participation in a research project unless that funding is provided through a separate funding instrument between the jurisdiction and NASA Center, such as a Space Act Agreement or other reimbursable agreement. NASA EPSCoR will not set aside award funding to send to a NASA Center for FTE support, including travel.

11. NASA EPSCoR funds shall be spent on NASA EPSCoR institutions. If a Co-Investigator (Sc-I/Co-I) with NASA EPSCoR award transfers to a non-EPSCoR institution, the EPSCoR funding amount, or the amount that remains unobligated at the time of the Sc-I/Co-I transfer, shall not be transferred to the non-EPSCoR institution.
12. This NOFO is not for the renewal or augmentation of existing projects, which are not eligible to compete against proposals submitted in response to this NOFO. Thus, only new proposals will be considered for awards.
13. Procurement contracts shall not be awarded as a result this NOFO.
14. Pre-award costs are those incurred prior to the effective date of an award directly pursuant to the negotiation and in anticipation of the award where such costs are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the scope of work. Such costs are not allowed under this NOFO.
15. Domestic travel, defined as travel that does not require a U.S. passport, does not have a funding limit and shall be appropriate and reasonable to conduct the proposed research.

Direct Costs Limitations

Travel, including foreign travel, is allowed for the meaningful completion of the proposed investigation, as well as for reporting results at appropriate professional meetings. Foreign travel to meetings and conferences in support of the jurisdiction's NASA EPSCoR research project is an acceptable use of NASA EPSCoR funds, with a limit of $3,000 per trip for up to two separate years of a jurisdiction's proposal (i.e., the maximum amount the jurisdiction can request for foreign travel is $3,000 total in any one year and a limit of $6,000 total for each research proposal). NASA EPSCoR support shall be acknowledged by the NASA EPSCoR research project number in written reports and publications.

Pre-Award Costs

Pre-award costs are those incurred prior to the effective date of an award that are directly pursuant to the negotiation and in anticipation of the award where such costs are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the scope of work. Per 2 CFR §1800.210, Pre-award costs, NASA waives the requirement for applicants to obtain prior approval for pre-award costs incurred 90 days or less before an award's PoP start date. Pre-award costs more than 90 days prior to an award's PoP start date are not allowable under this NOFO. Any costs that the applicant incurs in anticipation of an award is at the applicant's risk and will be subject to the rules described in 2 CFR §1800.210 and the "Pre-award Costs" section of the GCAM, currently section 5.0.

Indirect Facilities & Administrative (F&A) Costs

Unless otherwise directed in 2 CFR § 200, for changes to the negotiated indirect cost rate that occur throughout the project period, the proposer/recipient shall apply the rate negotiated for that year, regardless of whether it is higher or lower than at the time the proposal (including the submitted budget) was awarded.

7. Other Submission Requirements

The use of NASA EPSCoR funds for support of research assistants is allowable and encouraged and shall be detailed in the budget justification and described in the narrative and evaluation sections of the proposal.

Proposals that include flight activities (not normal passenger travel) such as aircraft or helicopter flight services, including Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)/Drone operations or the acquisition or construction of such flight vehicles, must comply with NASA Policy Directive 7900.4 (https://nodis3.gsfc.nasa.gov/displayDir.cfm?t=NPD&c=7900&s=4E). Questions concerning flight compliance requirements may be addressed to Norman Schweizer (norman.s.schweizer@nasa.gov) ACMO or Grant Watson (grant.m.watson@nasa.gov) ISMD, or Richard Schlatter (Richard.schlatter-1@nasa.gov) ISMD.

8. Collection of Demographic Information

NASA is implementing a process to collect demographic data from grant applicants for the purpose of analyzing demographic differences associated with its award processes. Information collected will include name, gender, race, ethnicity, disability status, and citizenship status. Submission of the information is voluntary and is not a precondition of award.

Therefore, NASA requests additional demographic data to ensure its compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq., Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq., Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 701 et seq. and NASA's implementing regulations at 14 CFR 1250, 1251, and 1253. Submission of the requested information on NASA Form 1839 is purely voluntary and will not affect the organization's eligibility for an award.

E. Application Review Information

Successful research proposals shall provide sound contributions to both immediate and long-term scientific and technical needs of NASA as explicitly expressed in current NASA documents and communications, as well as contribute to the overall research infrastructure, science, and technology capabilities of higher education, and economic development of the jurisdiction.

Successful proposals shall also include pragmatic plans for generation of sustained non-EPSCoR support.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria for award: Intrinsic Merit, Project Management, and Budget Justification. The bulleted lists after each criterion below should not be construed as any indication of priority or relative weighting. Rather, the bullets are provided for clarity and facilitation of proposal development. **Note:** Each proposer shall provide specific information on how it determined the relevance of the proposed effort to NASA and the jurisdiction.

1. Application Evaluation Criteria

Intrinsic Merit (35% of overall score)

- Proposed research shall have clear goals and objectives; address the expectations described in the announcement; and be consistent with the budget, effectively utilize the program management, and demonstrate a high probability for successful implementation.

- Proposals shall provide a narrative of the proposed research activity, including the scientific and/or technical merit of the proposed research, unique and innovative methods, approaches, concepts, or advanced technologies, and the potential impact of the proposed research on its field.
- Existing research proposals shall provide baseline information about current research activities within the jurisdiction in the proposed research area, including projects currently funded under NASA EPSCoR.
- If the proposed research represents a new direction for the jurisdiction, the technical team's ability to conduct the research shall be explained. Other relevant research and technology development programs within the jurisdiction shall also be included

NASA Alignment and Partnerships (35% of overall score)

- Proposals shall discuss the value of the proposed research to NASA and to the jurisdiction's research priorities.
- Proposals shall describe the use of NASA content, people, or facilities in the execution of the research activities.
- Proposals shall describe current and/or previous interactions, partnerships, and meetings with NASA researchers, engineers, and scientists in the area of the proposed research, and discuss how future partnerships will be fostered between or among the institution's researchers and personnel at the Mission Directorates, NASA Centers, and/or JPL.
- The name(s) and title(s) of NASA researchers with whom the proposers will partner shall be included. NASA shall consider the utilization of NASA venues for recipients to publish their accomplishments.
- Proposals shall clearly articulate how the proposed research activities build capacity in the jurisdiction.
- In particular, proposers shall explain how the proposed research is related to the strategic plan for NASA EPSCoR-related research in the jurisdiction.
- Proposals shall state how they plan to develop research competitiveness both in the jurisdiction and nationally.

Proposals shall delineate mechanisms for building partnerships with universities, industry, and/or other government agencies to enhance the ability of the jurisdiction to achieve its objectives, to obtain and leverage sources of additional funding, and/or to obtain essential services not otherwise available.

Management and Evaluation (15% of overall score)

NOTE: The following information shall be included in the proposal with page limits as required; the content of this section does not count toward the 15-page limit for the Scientific, Technical, or Management section.

- Personnel: The proposal shall include a list of the personnel participating in this research program, including the Principal Investigator (PI), Science-Investigator (Science-I), and all Co-Investigators (Co-I), Research Associates, Post-Doctoral Fellows, Research Assistants, and other research participants. The credentials of the researchers are important; however, one of the goals of EPSCoR is to encourage and help new researchers.
- Research Project Management: A description shall be included of the Science-I's management structure of the proposed research project, and the extent to which the project's management and research team will lead to a well-coordinated, efficiently managed, and productive effort.
- Multi-Jurisdiction Projects: If the proposed research is a collaboration between or among more than one NASA EPSCoR jurisdiction, one jurisdiction shall be identified as the lead with additional partners identified as sub-awardees. The proposal shall detail the inter-jurisdiction management structure of the proposed research project, including a list of the participating jurisdictions, and the participating universities and agencies within each jurisdiction. Multi-jurisdictional proposals shall not exceed the $750,000 per award limit.
- Project Evaluation: Each proposal shall document the intended outcomes and offer metrics to demonstrate progress toward and achievements of these outcomes. The proposal shall discuss metrics to be used for tracking and evaluating project progress. Milestones and timetables for achievement of specific objectives during the award period shall be presented. The proposal also shall describe an appropriate evaluation plan/process to document outcomes and demonstrate progress toward achieving objectives of proposed project elements. The evaluation methodology shall be based upon reputable models and techniques appropriate to the content and scale of the project. Projects shall implement improvements throughout the entire period of performance based on ongoing evaluation evidence.
- Results of Prior NASA EPSCoR Research Support: Examples of accomplishments commensurate with the managerial and administrative expectations of the award shall be provided. The EPSCoR Director will not be assessed on their expertise in the specific proposed research area since the Science-PI is tasked with managing the scientific/technical development progress. However, the following information shall be provided: the NASA EPSCoR award number(s), the title of the projects(s); and period(s) of performance; primary outcomes resulting from the NASA EPSCoR award, including a summary discussion of accomplishments compared to the proposed outcomes from the original proposal; coordination with the research and technical development priorities of NASA, and contribution(s) to the overall research capacity of the jurisdiction.

Budget Justification: Narrative and Details (15% of overall score)

- The proposed budget shall be adequate, appropriate, reasonable, and realistic, and demonstrate the effective use of funds that align with the project as set forth in the proposal. Preparation guidelines for the budget can be found in the *NASA Guidebook for*

Proposers, Section 3.18, and Appendix C of that document.

- A detailed budget, including both NASA-provided and cost-shared funds, is required. This section shall include detailed budgets for each of the three years of the award period and a summary budget for all three years. All sources of cost-sharing shall be thoroughly described and documented.
- The budget will be evaluated based upon the clarity and reasonableness of the funding request. A budget narrative shall be included that discusses relevant budgetary issues such as the extent and level of jurisdiction, industrial, and institutional commitment and financial support, including resources (e.g., staff, facilities, laboratories, indirect support, waiver of indirect costs).

2. Review and Selection Process

Review of proposals submitted in response to this NOFO shall be consistent with the general policies and provisions contained in the *NASA Guidebook for Proposers*, Appendix D. Selection procedures will be consistent with the provisions of the *NASA Guidebook for Proposers*, Section 5. However, the evaluation criteria described in this NOFO in Section E.1, Proposal Evaluation, takes precedence over the evaluation criteria described in Section 5 of the *NASA Guidebook for Proposers*.

Evaluation by peer review will be used to assess each proposal's overall merit. The evaluation criteria are: Intrinsic Merit, NASA Alignment and Partnerships, Management and Evaluation, and Budget Justification: Narrative and Details. See Section 5.0 of this NOFO, Proposal Evaluation Criteria. A NASA Headquarters Mission Directorate panel will use the results of the peer evaluation to make funding recommendations to the Selecting Official. The Selecting Official for this NOFO is the NASA EPSCoR Project Manager or their appointed representative.

Successful research proposals are likely to be those that provide sound contributions to both immediate and long-term scientific and technical needs of NASA as explicitly expressed in current NASA documents and communications. Also, successful proposals are likely to contribute to the overall research infrastructure and economic development of the proposing jurisdiction.

3. Risk Analysis

NASA Grant Officers will conduct a pre-award review of risk associated with the proposer as required by 2 CFR 200.206, Federal awarding agency review of risk posed by applicants. For all proposals selected for award, the Grant Officer will review the submitting organization's information available through multiple government-wide repositories such as the System for Award Management (SAM.gov), the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS), the Contractor Performance and Assessment Reporting System (CPARS), the Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC), USAspending.gov, and GrantSolutions Recipient Insight.

Risk Review

For any federal award, if NASA anticipates that the total federal share of funds provided to the recipient will be greater than the simplified acquisition threshold (SAT) (currently $250,000) during the award's PoP:

- Prior to making a federal award with a total amount of Federal share greater than the SAT, NASA is required to review and consider any information about the applicant that is in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (see 41 U.S.C. §2313);

- An applicant, at its option, may review information in the designated integrity and performance systems accessible through SAM and comment on any information about itself that a Federal awarding agency previously entered and is currently in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM;

- NASA will consider any comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in the designated integrity and performance system, in making a judgment about the applicant's integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards when completing the review of risk posed by applicants as set forth in 2 CFR 200.206.

4. Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates

Open Application Period:	October 9, 2023, to January 22, 2024
Application Period Closes:	January 22, 2024, 11:59 PM ET
Anticipated Award Announcement date:	July 2024
Federal Award Date:	Prior to September 30, 2024

F. Federal Award Administration Information

1. Notice of Award

NASA’s stated goal is to announce selections as soon as possible. However, NASA does not usually announce new selections until the funds needed for those awards are approved through the federal budget process. Therefore, a delay in NASA’s budget process may result in a delay of the selection date(s). Additional delays may be caused by:

- The need for additional materials from the proposer (e.g., revised budgets and/or budget details) before NASA may legally obligate Federal funds; and
- A delay in NASA receiving its appropriation from Congress for the current fiscal year.

After 180 days past the proposal’s submitted date, proposers may contact the NASA EPSCoR Project Manager for a status.

NASA will notify successful grant recipients of funding via a Notice of Award (NASA Form 1687) signed by the Grant Officer. This Notice of Award is the authorizing document and will be sent to the business office of the proposer’s institution via email and NSPIRES]. All expenses incurred related to grant activities prior to the PoP start date listed on the Notice of Award are the sole responsibility of the proposer/recipient until the Notice of Award is received and the PoP commences.

NASA’s goal is to issue Notices of Award as soon as possible after selections are announced (anticipated in the June 2024 timeframe) to the proposers. However, delays may be caused by:

- The need for additional materials from the proposer (e.g., revised budgets and/or budget details) before NASA may legally obligate federal funds; and/or
- A delay in NASA receiving its appropriation from Congress for the current fiscal year.

A proposer has the right to be informed of the major factor(s) that led to the acceptance or rejection of its proposal. Debriefings will be available upon written request. Again, it is emphasized to proposers that proposals of nominally high intrinsic and programmatic merits may be declined for reasons entirely unrelated to any scientific or technical weaknesses.

2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

In addition to the requirements in this section and in this NOFO, NASA may incorporate specific terms and conditions into individual awards in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200. Specifically, recipients of NASA grant funding shall adhere to requirements set forth in 2 CFR 200, 2 CFR 1800, 2 CFR 170, 2 CFR 175, 2 CFR 182, and 2 CFR 183, and the NASA GCAM. These are available at: https://www.nasa.gov/offices/ocfo/gpc/regulations_and_guidance.

Research Terms and Conditions

Awards from this funding announcement that are issued under 2 CFR 1800 are subject to the Federal Research Terms and Conditions (RTC) located at http://www.nsf.gov/awards/managing/rtc.jsp. In addition to the RTC and NASA-specific guidance, three companion resources can also be found on the website: Appendix A— Prior Approval Matrix, Appendix B—Subaward Requirements Matrix, and Appendix C—National Policy Requirements Matrix.

Environmental Statement

Awards of proposals related to this NOFO must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); thus, proposers are encouraged to plan and budget for any anticipated environmental impacts. While most research awards will not trigger action specific NEPA review, some activities (including international actions) will.

The majority of grant-related activities are categorically excluded as research and development (R&D) projects that do not pose any adverse environmental impact. A blanket NASA Grants Record of Environmental Consideration (REC) provides NEPA coverage for these anticipated activities. The NSPIRES award application cover page includes questions to determine whether a specific proposal falls within the Grants REC and must be completed as part of the proposal submission process. Activities outside of the bounding conditions of the Grants REC will require additional NEPA analysis. Examples of actions that will likely require NEPA analysis include but are not limited to: suborbital-class flights not conducted by a NASA Program Office, activities involving ground-breaking construction/fieldwork, and certain payload activities such as the use of dropsondes.

Questions concerning environmental compliance may be addressed to the NASA NEPA Manager via the NASA program official listed in this NOFO.

3. Reporting

Federal Financial Reporting

Recipients of NASA funding must submit quarterly financial reports. Financial reports must be submitted via the Payment Management System (PMS):

- Quarterly Federal Cash Transaction Reports (FCTR) are due no later than 30 days past the reporting period end date.
- Final Financial Status Reports/Final Federal Financial Report (FSR/FFR) are due no later than 120 days after the end of the award's PoP.

Performance Reporting

Recipients of NASA awards are required to submit both annual and final performance reports. These annual reports should be submitted to NASA no later than 60 days before the award's anniversary date, unless the award is in its final year or if the award's performance period is less than a year. In such cases, only final performance reports need to be submitted for awards in their final year or with a performance period of less than a year. Descriptions of reporting requirements are below:

Annual Performance Report – Used to describe a grant's scientific progress, identify significant changes, report on personnel, and describe plans for the subsequent reporting period.

Due: 60 days prior to the anniversary date of the award (PoP- start date)

Final Performance Report – Used as part of the grant closeout process to submit project outcomes in addition to the information submitted on the annual Performance Report.

Due: within 120 days after the end of the award's PoP (PoP end date)

For all NASA awards, recipients must utilize the Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR) format. The RPPR is not a template or form but rather a set of standard data elements against which award recipients will report. The RPPR is not available as a template or form from NASA. All performance reports must contain the mandatory data elements and reporting category required for RPPRs.

All reports **shall** include the following data elements on the report's cover page:

- Federal agency (i.e., NASA) and program office to which the report is submitted.
- Award number.
- Project title
- Principal Investigator (PI) name, title, and contact information (e-mail address and phone number).
- Name of submitting official, title, and contact information (e-mail address and phone number), if other than PI.
- Submission date.
- Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number and EIN number.
- Recipient organization name and address.
- Recipient identifying number or account number, if any.
- PoP start and end date.
- Reporting period end date.
- Report term or frequency (annual, semi-annual, quarterly, other).

- Final Report? Indicate "Yes" or "No"
- Signature of submitting official (either handwritten or electronic)

In addition to the data elements above, all NASA performance reports **shall** report on one mandatory reporting category, "accomplishments."

Accomplishments data elements are:

1. What were the major goals and objectives of this project?
2. What was accomplished under these goals?
3. What opportunities for training and professional development has the project provided?
4. How were the results disseminated to communities of interest?
5. What do you plan to do during the next reporting period to accomplish the goals and objectives?

Recipients shall submit a report to the NASA Grant Officer at the NSSC at NSSC-Grant-Report@mail.nasa.gov with copies to the EPSCoR Technical Officer (TO) at agency-epscor@mail.nasa.gov, and to the supported organization on the results pertaining to this award no later than 120 days after the project's end date. The EPSCoR Project Office Program Coordinator shall notify the Jurisdiction PI in advance and in writing when a report is coming due and provide specific formats and data entry forms. The Program Manager shall also provide a Research Project Progress/Performance Reporting Outline, which is a template of the required data. This will be followed by notification from the NSSC that the report is due. The reporting requirements for awards made through this NOFO will be consistent with the reporting requirements outlined in the GCAM, Section 7.3.

The NASA Technical Monitor ™ shall evaluate accomplishments toward project goals by reference to indicators such as, but not limited to, the metrics outlined above. NASA may approve no-cost extensions in writing when requested by the recipient and in accordance with the GCAM, Appendix D5, Extensions.

The EPSCoR TO shall review the final report for completeness. A recipient's failure to provide a final report with Invention Disclosures shall delay or preclude the participation of the respective jurisdiction in other funding opportunities related to NASA EPSCoR.

For further details on reporting project performance, please refer to the Post-Award Phase section of the GCAM.

Access to Research

Awards issued under this NOFO must comply with the provision set forth in the NASA Plan for Increasing Access to the Results of Scientific Research (http://www.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/files/NASA_Data_Plan.pdf) including the responsibility for:

- Submitting as-accepted peer-reviewed manuscripts and metadata to a designated repository; and
- Reporting publications with the annual and final performance reports.

Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters

Awards under this solicitation that are $500,000 or more may be subject to post-award reporting requirements reflected in [2 CFR 200 Appendix XII](#).

FFATA Reporting Requirements
Per 2 CFR 170, Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information, award recipients that issue first-tier subawards above $30,000 shall report those subawards in the Federal Award Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) Subaward Reporting System (FSRS). The regulation at 2 CFR 170 provides detailed information regarding what information needs to be reported in these systems and the deadlines for submitting this information. Recipient information that is reported to FSRS is ultimately transferred to USAspending.gov, where such information is publicly available.

4. Suspension and Debarment Disclosure

This reporting requirement pertains to disclosing information related to government-wide suspension and debarment requirements. Before a recipient enters into a grant award with NASA, the recipient must notify NASA if it knows if it or any of the recipient's principals under the award fall under one or more of the four criteria listed at 2 CFR Part 180.335, What are the causes for debarment?, as follows:

- Are presently excluded or disqualified;
- Have been convicted within the preceding three years of any of the offenses listed in 2 CFR 180.800(a) or had a civil judgment rendered against it or any of the recipient's principals for one of those offenses within that time period;
- Are presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any of the offenses listed in 2 CFR 180.800(a); or
- Have had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated within the preceding three years for cause or default.

At any time after accepting the award, if the recipient learns that it or any of its principalsfalls under one or more of the criteria listed at 2 CFR 180.335, the recipient must provide immediate written notice to NASA in accordance with 2 CFR 180.350.

5. Additional Reporting Requirements

NASA recipients must conform to all reporting requirements outlined in the Required Publications and Reports section of the GCAM (https://www.nasa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/grant-and-cooperative-agreement-manual-oct.-2022-0.pdf), Appendix F (page 115).

G. NASA Contact Information

1. Contact

Program Office Contact
Technical and scientific questions about this NOFO may be directed to:

EPSCoR

Kathleen B. Loftin, Ph.D.
Project Manager, NASA EPSCoR
NASA Kennedy Space Center
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899-0001
E-mail: 603-kathleen.b.loftin@nasa.gov
Telephone: (321) 603-9971

Inquiries regarding the submission of proposals via NSPIRES may be addressed to:

Althia Harris
NASA Research and Education Support Services (NRESS)
2345 Crystal Drive, Suite 500
Arlington, VA 22202-4816
E-mail: aharris@nasaprs.com
Telephone: (202) 479-9030 x310
Fax: (202) 479-0511

Questions concerning environmental compliance may be addressed to:

NASA EPA Manager
Tina Norwood
E-mail: tina.norwood-1@nasa.gov
Telephone: (202)358-7323

2. Systems Information

NASA Solicitation and Proposal Integrated Review and Evaluation System (NSPIRES)
NSPIRES is a web-based system that supports the entire lifecycle of NASA research solicitation and selection, from the release of solicitation announcements through proposal submission, the peer review process, and the award decision. Applicants may search for and apply for funding opportunities available at NASA through NSPIRES. For technical assistance with NSPIRES, please contact the NSPIRES Help Desk at nspires-help@nasaprs.com or (202) 479-9376, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM ET, except on Federal Government holidays.

Grants.gov
Grants.gov is the government-wide electronic grants portal and interested parties can search for grant opportunities on this site. For technical assistance with Grants.gov, call the customer support hotline 24 hours per day, seven days per week (except on Federal Government holidays) at (800) 518-4726 or e-mail support@grants.gov.

H. Other Information

1. Cancellation of Program Announcement

NASA HQ OSTEM reserves the right to not make any awards under this NOFO and to cancel this NOFO at any time. NASA assumes no liability (including bid and proposal costs) for cancelling this NOFO or for any entity's failure to receive such notice of cancellation.

2. Intellectual Property

Data Rights: NASA encourages the widest practicable dissemination of research results at any time during the investigation. The award will contain the Rights in Data clause in the GCAM, Appendix D, Award Terms and Conditions. This clause allows a recipient to assert copyright in any work that is subject to copyright and was developed, or for which ownership was acquired, under the NASA award.

NASA will reserve a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the work for Government purposes, and to authorize others to do so, in any such copyrighted work. Note that the Grant Officer may revise the language under the Rights in Data clause to modify each party's rights based on the circumstances of the program and/or the recipient's need to protect specific proprietary information.

Patent Rights: Recipients will be allowed to elect to retain title to any inventions made under the award. Awards will include the provisions of 37 CFR 401.3(a), which requires use of the standard clause set forth at 37 CFR 401.14 "Patent Rights (Small Business Firms and Nonprofit Organizations)," and the NASA GCAM, Appendix D, Award Terms and Conditions, the clause titled "Patent Rights."

3. Announcement and Updates/Amendments to Solicitation

This NOFO will be announced via NSPIRES and Grants.gov, but proposals shall be submitted on-time and electronically only via NSPIRES (http://nspires.nasaprs.com). Proposers shall carefully note the information described in the paragraph below for submission of an electronic proposal via NSPIRES. Instructions for submission of proposals are also detailed in the NASA Guidebook for Proposers, Section 3.

While every effort is made to ensure the reliability and accessibility of the web site and to maintain a help center via e-mail and telephone, difficulty may arise at any point on the internet, including with the user's own equipment. Therefore, proposers are strongly urged to familiarize themselves with the NSPIRES site and to submit the required proposal materials well in advance of the proposal submission deadline. Difficulty in registering with or using NSPIRES is not, in and of itself, a sufficient reason for NASA to consider a proposal that is submitted after the proposal due date. Additional programmatic information for this NOFO may become available before the proposal due date. If so, such information shall be added as a formal amendment to this NOFO and posted on its homepage at http://nspires.nasaprs.com.

It is the proposer's responsibility to regularly check this NOFO's homepage for updates.

4. Access to NASA Facilities/Systems

All recipients shall work with NASA project/program staff to ensure proper credentialing for any individuals who need access to NASA facilities and/or systems. Such individuals include U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents (green card holders), and foreign nationals (those who are neither U.S. citizens nor permanent residents). Please note that foreign nationals (individuals who are neither U.S. citizens nor permanent residents) are normally not allowed access to NASA facilities. Foreign nationals from "designated" countries, i.e., countries designated by the U.S. State Department and listed by NASA as being sponsors of terrorism, cannot be allowed on any NASA facilities unless they are green card holders.

5. Limited Release of Proposers' Confidential Business Information

- For proposal evaluation and other related administrative processing actions (i.e., funding actions), NASA may find it necessary to release information submitted by the proposer to individuals not employed by NASA (e.g., agency support contractor or subcontractor employees). Business information that would ordinarily be entitled to confidential treatment may be included in the information released to these individuals. Accordingly, by submission of this proposal the proposer hereby consents to a limited release of its confidential business information (CBI).
- Except where otherwise provided by law, NASA will permit the limited release of CBI only pursuant to non-disclosure agreements signed by the support contractor and/or subcontractor, and their individual employees who may require access to the CBI in order to perform the support contract or subcontract.

I. Appendices

Appendix A: NASA Mission Directorates and Center Alignment
NASA's Mission to drive advances in science, technology, aeronautics, and space exploration to enhance knowledge, education, innovation, economic vitality, and stewardship of Earth, draws support from four Mission Directorates, nine NASA Centers, and JPL, each with a specific responsibility and research requirements.

A.1 Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate (ARMD)
Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate (ARMD) conducts high-quality, cutting-edge research and flight tests that generate innovative concepts, tools, and technologies to enable revolutionary advances in our Nation's future aircraft, as well as in the airspace in which they will fly.

NASA Aeronautics is partnering with industry and academia to accomplish the aviation community's aggressive carbon reduction goals. Through collective work in three areas -- advanced vehicle technologies, efficient airline operations and sustainable aviation fuels – NASA is committed to supporting the U.S. climate goal of achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions from the aviation sector by 2050.

ARMD's current major missions include:
- Sustainable Aviation
- High Speed Commercial Flight
- Advanced Air Mobility
- Future Airspace
- Transformative Tools

Additional information on the Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate (ARMD) can be found at: https://www.nasa.gov/aeroresearch and in ARMD's Strategic Implementation plan that can be found at: https://www.nasa.gov/aeroresearch/strategy.

Areas of Interest - POC: Dave Berger, dave.e.berger@nasa.gov

Proposers are directed to the following:
- ARMD Programs: https://www.nasa.gov/aeroresearch/programs
- The ARMD current year version of the NASA Research Announcement (NRA) entitled, "Research Opportunities in Aeronautics (ROA)" is posted on the NSPIRES web site at http://nspires.nasaprs.com (*Key word:* Aeronautics). This solicitation provides a complete range of ARMD research interests.

A.2 Space Operations Mission Directorate (SOMD)

https://www.nasa.gov/directorates/space-operations-mission-directorate

POC: Marc Timm, marc.g.timm@nasa.gov

Warren Ruemmele, warren.p.ruemmele@nasa.gov

Commercial Space Capabilities (CSC)

The SOMD Commercial Space Division (CSD)'s Commercial Crew and Commercial Low Earth Orbit (LEO) Development Programs encompass Crew and Cargo Transportation to and from, and in-space Destinations and operations in, LEO. The purpose of this CSC focus area is to harness the capabilities of the U.S. research community to mature theoretical concepts that are of interest to U.S. commercial spaceflight companies into initial practice. The goal is that such companies can then apply and further evolve that initial practice to improve state-of-art of current capabilities, or to create new capabilities to benefit the growth of a robust near Earth orbit US economy. Such advances might also have eventual benefits to commercial operations on Moon or even Mars.

U.S. commercial spaceflight industry interests vary by company and change over time, so Researchers are encouraged to directly engage with industry to determine relevant interests. Before submitting proposals in this area, the Proposer is encouraged to contact the NASA CSC POCs to discuss the intended proposal. Some current high level interests include:

- Low consumable environmental control and life support (ECLS), crew hygiene, and/or clothes washing. (Closed loop or nearly so. Includes waste product repurposing.)
- Small cargo return, Destination resupply systems, and related technologies
- In-Space Welding
- Materials and Processes Improvements for Chemical Propulsion State of Art
- Materials and Processes Improvements for Electric Propulsion State of Art
- Improvements to Space Solar Power State of Art (SoA)
- Other topics in this area that have demonstrable need and support from a U.S. company(ies)

A.3 Exploration Systems Development Mission Directorate (ESDMD)

https://www.nasa.gov/directorates/exploration-systems-development

POC: Matt Simon, matthew.a.simon@nasa.gov

The Exploration Systems Development Mission Directorate (ESDMD) provides the Agency with leadership and management of NASA space operations related to human exploration in and beyond low-Earth orbit. Through the Artemis missions, NASA will land the first woman and first person of color on the Moon, using innovative technologies to explore more of the lunar surface than ever before. NASA is collaborating with commercial and international partners to establish the first long-term human-robotic presence on and around the Moon. Then, we will use what we learn on and at the Moon to take the next giant leap: sending the first astronauts to Mars.

The Exploration Systems Development Mission Directorate (ESDMD) defines and manages systems development for programs critical to the NASA's Artemis program and planning for NASA's Moon to Mars exploration approach in an integrated manner. ESDMD manages the human exploration system development for lunar orbital, lunar surface, and Mars exploration. ESDMD leads the human aspects of the Artemis activities as well as the integration of science into the human system elements. ESDMD is responsible for development of the lunar and Mars architectures. Programs in the mission directorate include Orion, Space Launch System, Exploration Ground Systems, Gateway, Human Landing System, and Extravehicular Activity (xEVA) and Human Surface Mobility. Additional information about the Exploration Systems Development Mission Directorate can be found at:

https://www.nasa.gov/directorates/exploration-systems-development.

Engineering Research

- Spacecraft: Guidance, navigation, and control; thermal; electrical; structures; software; avionics; displays; high speed re-entry; modeling; power systems; interoperability/ commonality; advanced spacecraft materials; crew/vehicle health monitoring; life support.
- Propulsion: Propulsion methods that will utilize materials found on the moon or Mars, "green" propellants, on-orbit propellant storage, motors, testing, fuels, manufacturing, soft landing, throttle-able propellants, high performance, and descent.
- Robotic Systems for Lunar Precursor Missions: Precision landing and hazard avoidance hardware and software; high-bandwidth communication; in-situ resource utilization (ISRU) and prospecting; navigation systems; robotics (specifically environmental scouting prior to human arrival, and to assist astronaut with surface exploration); environmental analysis, radiation protection; small payloads to accomplish science and research objectives, as well as for risk reduction for human-rated systems.
- Data and Visualization Systems for Exploration: Area focus on turning precursor mission data into meaningful engineering knowledge for system design and mission planning of lunar and Mars surfaces; visualization and data display; interactive data manipulation and sharing; modeling of lighting and thermal environments; simulation of environmental interactions for pressurized and unpressurized vehicles.
- Research and technology development areas in ESDMD support exploration systems development including in-space vehicles, space communications, commercial space, and the International Space Station. Examples of research and technology development areas (and the associated lead NASA Center) with great potential include:

- Research and technology development areas in ESDMD support exploration systems development including in-space vehicles, space communications, commercial space, and the International Space Station. Examples of research and technology development areas (and the associated lead NASA Center) with great potential include:
    - Processing *and Operations*
        - Crew Health and Safety Including Medical Operations, Johnson Space Center (JSC)
        - Non-invasive diagnostic aides that work in a communication delay setting (JSC)
        - In-helmet Speech Audio Systems and Technologies (JSC)
        - Vehicle Integration and Ground Processing, Kennedy Space Center (KSC)
        - Mission Operations (JSC)
        - Portable Life Support Systems (JSC)
        - Pressure Garments and Gloves (JSC)
        - Air Revitalization Technologies (ARC)
        - In-Space Waste Processing Technologies (JSC)
        - Cryogenic Fluids Management Systems (MSFC)
    - *Space Communications and Navigation*
        - Coding, Modulation, and Compression, Goddard Spaceflight Center (GSFC)
        - Precision Spacecraft & Lunar/Planetary Surface Navigation and Tracking (GSFC)
        - Communication for Space-Based Range (GSFC)
        - Antenna Technology, Glenn Research Center (GRC)
        - Reconfigurable/Reprogrammable Communication Systems (GRC)
        - Miniaturized Digital EVA Radio (JSC)

        - Transformational Communications Technology (GRC)
        - Long Range Optical Telecommunications, Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL)
        - Long Range Space RF Telecommunications (JPL)
        - Surface Networks and Orbit Access Links (GRC)
        - Software for Space Communications Infrastructure Operations (JPL)
        - TDRS transponders for launch vehicle applications that support space communication and launch services (GRC)
    - *Space Transportation*
        - Optical Tracking and Image Analysis (KSC and GSFC)
        - Space Transportation Propulsion System and Test Facility Requirements and Instrumentation (Stennis Space Center (SSC)
        - Automated Collection and Transfer of Launch Range Surveillance/Intrusion Data (KSC)
        - Technology tools to assess secondary payload capability with launch vehicles (KSC)
        - Spacecraft Charging/Plasma Interactions (Environment definition & arcing mitigation), Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC)
    - *Commercial Space Capabilities*
        - The goal of this area is to support research, development, and commercial adoption of technologies of interest to the U.S. spaceflight industry to further their space-related capabilities. (KSC)
        - These include capabilities for Moon, Mars, and Earth orbit. Such efforts are in pursuit of the goals of the National Space Policy and NASA's strategic plans, to foster developments that will lead to education and job growth in science and engineering, and spur economic growth as capabilities for new space markets are created. (KSC)
        - U.S. commercial spaceflight industry interests naturally vary by company. Proposers are encouraged to determine what those interests are by engagement with such companies in various ways, and such interests may also be reflected in the efforts of various NASA partnerships. (KSC)
        - Proposals should discuss how the effort aligns with U.S. commercial spaceflight company interest(s) and identify potential alignments with NASA interests. (KSC)

A.4 Human Research Program

Space Operations Mission Directorate (SOMD)

https://www.nasa.gov/directorates/space-operations-mission-directorate

The Human Research Program (HRP) is focused on investigating and mitigating the highest risks to human health and performance to enable safe, reliable, and productive human space exploration. The HRP budget enables NASA to resolve health risks for humans to safely live and work on missions in the inner solar system. HRP conducts research, develops countermeasures, and undertakes technology development to address human health risks in space and ensure compliance with NASA's health, medical, human performance, and environmental standards.

A.4.1 Office of Chief Health and Medical Officer (OCHMO)

POC: Dr. Victor Schneider, vschneider@nasa.gov P: (202) 258-3645
Dr. James D. Polk, james.d.polk@nasa.gov P: (202) 358-1959

Areas of Research Interest:

- Development and elaboration of Functional aids and testing paradigms to measure activity for use by parastronauts during spaceflight. This may include egressing and exiting space capsules and donning and doffing spacesuits and other aids for parastronauts. The European Space Agency is establishing a parastronaut feasibility project. Since NASA offers its international partners access to NASA supported spacecraft and the International Space Station, NASA wants to establish appropriate functional testing measures to determine the time it takes fit astronaut-like subjects compared to fit parastronaut subjects to egress and exit simulated space capsules and simulated donning and doffing spacesuit. Research proposals are sought to establish appropriate functional testing.

- Evaluation space capsule and spacesuit activity in stable and fit lower or upper extremity amputees and compare their responses to non-amputee fit individuals. The European Space Agency is establishing a parastronaut feasibility project. Since NASA offers its international partners access to NASA supported spacecraft and the International Space Station, NASA wants to obtain research data measuring the time it takes fit astronaut-like subjects compared to fit parastronaut subject to egress and exit simulated space capsules and simulated donning and doffing spacesuit. Research proposals are sought to obtain data measuring the functional testing indicated

A.4.2 Human Research Program/Space Radiation Element

POC: Dr. Robin Elgart, shona.elgart@nasa.gov, P: (281) 244-0596

Research Overview:

Space radiation exposure is one of numerous hazards astronauts encounter during spaceflight that impact human health. High priority health outcomes associated with space radiation exposure are carcinogenesis, cardiovascular disease (CVD), and central nervous sytem (CNS) changes that impact astronaut health and performance.

Areas of Research Interest:

1. Research proposals are sought to **accelerate risk characterization for high priority radiation health risks and inform mitigation strategies the NASA Human Research Program (HRP) Space Radiation Element (SRE) by sharing animal tissue samples and data.** The proposed work should focus is on translational studies that support priority risk characterization (cancer, CVD, CNS), development of relative biological effectiveness (RBE) values, identification of actionable biomarkers, and evaluation of dose thresholds for relevant radiation-associated disease endpoints. Cross-species comparative analyses of rodent data/samples with higher order species (including human archival data and tissue banks) are highly encouraged.
    - Data can include but is not limited to behavioral tasks, tumor data, physiological measurements, imaging, omics', etc. that has already been, or is in the process of being, collected.

    - Tissue samples can include, but are not limited to, samples that have already been, or are in the process of, being collected and stored as well as tissues from other external archived banks (e.g., http://janus.northwestern.edu/janus2/index.php).
    - Relevant tissue samples and data from other externally funded (e.g., non-NASA) programs and tissue repositories/archives for comparison with high linear energy transfer (LET), medical proton, neutron and other exposures can be proposed.
    - A more detailed list of samples and tissues available from SRE can be found at our tissue sharing websites:
        - https://lsda.jsc.nasa.gov/Document/doc_detail/Doc13726
        - https://lsda.jsc.nasa.gov/Document/doc_detail/Doc13766
        - https://lsda.jsc.nasa.gov/Biospecimen by searching "NASA Space Radiation Laboratory (NSRL)" in the payloads field.
        - Instructions for accessing the tissue sharing information are posted at: https://spaceradiation.jsc.nasa.gov/tissue-sharing/.

2. Research proposals are sought to define the mechanisms underlying sexual dimorphism following exposure to space radiation. Research should focus on translational biomarkers relevant to changes in cognitive and/or behavioral performance, cardiovascular function, and the development of carcinogenesis **in non-sex-specific organs**. Due to limited time and budget, researchers are encouraged to utilize radiation sources located at home institutions at space relevant doses (0-5 Gy of photons or proton irradiation). A successful proposal will not necessitate the use of the NASA Space Radiation Laboratory (NSRL) at Brookhaven National Laboratory at this phase. Collaborations between investigators and institutions for the sharing of data and tissue samples are highly encouraged. Samples available for use by SRE, can be found at https://lsda.jsc.nasa.gov/Biospecimen by searching "NASA Space Radiation Laboratory (NSRL)" in the payloads field (SRE approval required). Instructions for accessing the tissue sharing information are posted at: https://spaceradiation.jsc.nasa.gov/tissue-sharing/. Other topics include:
    - Individual sensitivity
    - Early disease detection (Cancer, CVD, neurological/behavioral conditions)
    - Biomarker identification
    - High-throughput countermeasure screening
    - Sex-specific risk assessment
    - Radiation quality and/or dose-rate effects

3. Research proposals are sought to establish screening techniques for compound-based countermeasures to assess their efficacy in modulating biological responses to radiation exposure relevant to the high priority health risks of cancer, CVD, and/or CNS**.** Techniques that can be translated into high-throughput screening protocols are highly desired, however high-content protocols will also be considered responsive.

4. Research proposals are sought to evaluate the role of the inflammasome in the pathogenesis of radiation-associated cardiovascular disease (CVD), carcinogenesis, and/or central nervous system changes that impact behavioral and cognitive function. Although innate inflammatory immune responses are necessary for survival from infections and injury, dysregulated and persistent inflammation is thought to contribute to the pathogenesis of various acute and chronic conditions in humans, including CVD. A main contributor to the development of inflammatory

diseases involves activation of inflammasomes. Recently, inflammasome activation has been increasingly linked to an increased risk and greater severity of CVD. Characterization of the role of inflammasome-mediated pathogenesis of disease after space-like chronic radiation exposure can provide evidence to better quantify space radiation risks as well as identify high value for countermeasure development.

A.4.3 Human Research Program/ Exploration Medical Capability(ExMC) Element

POC: Moriah Thompson: moriah.s.thompson@nasa.gov P: (713) 437-2500

Title: Non-Invasive Behavioral Health Diagnostic Capabilities for Mars
Description: Missions to Mars will involve increased stressors such as isolation, confinement, interpersonal issues, etc. The risk of behavioral health issues increases with such missions. Current behavioral health diagnostic and treatment techniques rely on real-time communication. Non-invasive diagnostic aides that work in a communication delay setting are needed to improve behavioral health support for exploration missions to Mars.

A.5 Science Mission Directorate (SMD)

SMD POC: Lin Chambers lin.h.chambers@nasa.gov

Science Mission Directorate (SMD) leads the Agency in five areas of research: Biological and Physical Sciences (BPS), Heliophysics, Earth Science, Planetary Science, and Astrophysics. SMD, using the vantage point of space to achieve with the science community and our partners a deep scientific understanding of our planet, other planets and solar system bodies, the interplanetary environment, the Sun and its effects on the solar system, and the universe beyond. In so doing, we lay the intellectual foundation for the robotic and human expeditions of the future while meeting today's needs for scientific information to address national concerns, such as climate change and space weather. SMD's high-level strategic objectives are presented in the 2022 NASA Strategic Plan. Detailed plans by science area corresponding to the science divisions of SMD: Heliophysics, Earth Science, Planetary Science, Biological and Physical Science, and Astrophysics appear in *SCIENCE 2020-2024: A Vision for Scientific Excellence Updated*", which is available at http://science.nasa.gov/about-us/science-strategy/. The best expression of specific research topics of interest to each Division within SMD are represented in by the topics listed in SMD's "ROSES" research solicitation, see ROSES 2023 and the text in the Division research overviews of ROSES. By perusing the tables of contents from this year at https://solicitation.nasaprs.com/ROSES2023table3 and last year at https://solicitation.nasaprs.com/ROSES2022table3, proposers can view all of the topics that are of interest, even if a given topic is not solicited in any given year.

Additional information about the SMD may be found at: https://science.nasa.gov/

A.5.1 Biological and Physical Sciences (BPS)

POC: Douglas Gruendel, Douglas.J.Gruendel@nasa.gov
Dr. Francis Chiaramonte francis.p.chiaramonte@nasa.gov

The mission of BPS is two-pronged:

- Pioneer scientific discovery in and beyond low Earth orbit to drive advances in science, technology, and enhance knowledge, education, innovation, and economic vitality
- Enable human spaceflight exploration to expand the frontiers of knowledge, capability, and opportunity in space

Execution of this mission requires both scientific research and technology development.

BPS administers NASA's:

- Space Biology Program, which solicits and conducts research to use the space environment to advance our knowledge of how gravity affects the design and function of living organisms, and to understand how biological systems accommodate to spaceflight environments
- Physical Sciences Program, which solicits and conducts research using the space environment as a tool to provide transformational insights in physics and engineering science, and to understand how physical systems respond to spaceflight environments, particularly weightlessness and the partial gravity of planetary bodies
- Commercially Enabled Rapid Space Science project (CERISS), which will develop transformative research capabilities with commercial space industry to dramatically increase the pace of research

BPS partners with the research community and a wide range of organizations to accomplish its mission. Grants to academic, commercial and government laboratories are the core of BPS's research and technology development efforts.

Additional information on BPS can be found at: https://science.nasa.gov/biological-physical

A.5.1.1 Space Biology Program

The Space Biology Program within NASA's Biological and Physical Sciences Division focuses on pioneering scientific discovery and enabling human spaceflight exploration. Research in space biology has the following goals:

- To understand how radiation, altered gravity, and the other characteristics of the space environment alter fundamental biological processes;
- To develop the scientific and technological foundations for a safe, productive human presence in space for extended periods and in preparation for exploration; and
- To apply this knowledge and technology to improve our nation's competitiveness, education, and the quality of life on Earth.

Research proposals for this opportunity are being solicited on the following topic:

- Mammalian Biology – biological and physiological responses of rodents to ionizing radiation and other spaceflight-relevant stressors such as altered gravity (*i.e.,* through hindlimb unloading or partial weightbearing, etc.).
  - Proposals must be for ground-based studies.
  - All proposals for rodent studies must address the five points outlined in the Vertebrate Animal and Higher Order Cephalopod Section (VACS) instructional document which can be found here. This response should be included as part of the research plan and should be limited to two pages. A sample VACS is provided in the VACS instructional document posted on NSPIRES alongside this document
  - Ionizing radiation and altered gravity regimes (partial gravity and microgravity) are a hallmark of the deep space environment. These stressors may cause direct physiological changes in the organisms or result in indirect effects such as loss of sleep in some organisms. Studies shall effectively delineate the biological effects of these factors, separately and/or in combination where possible.
  - The proposed use of other spaceflight stressors, including altered atmospheric pressures, altered levels of CO2, altered light spectra/durations, etc., in lieu of altered gravity is acceptable, however, all proposed studies must include the use of ionizing radiation as the primary stressor.
  - While all rodent studies involving radiation in combination with another spaceflight stressors will be considered responsive to this topic, Space Biology is particularly interested in studies that utilize rats as the model system to be investigated.
  - Proposed investigators should focus on understanding the mechanistic bases of the changes induced by these stressor, preferably from a systems biology perspective, and could include genetic, cellular, or molecular biological effects. Further information for the Space Biology program are available at https://science.nasa.gov/biological-physical/programs/space-biology, and at https://science.nasa.gov/biological-physical/documents.
  - Investigators are encouraged to propose experiments that use the radiation facilities at the NASA Space Radiation Laboratory (NSRL) located at the Brookhaven National Lab, however Space Biology cannot not directly pay the cost of their use. Proposers planning to use these facilities must contact NSRL (https://www.bnl.gov/nsrl/) for cost estimates and necessary logistical information and must appropriately account for the cost of beam-time and facility use in their budget

If a Space Biology research topic is proposed, other than Mammalian Biology research noted above, please reach out to the Space Biology POC listed above at spacebiology@nasaprs.com to discuss proposed research for consideration.

Investigators receiving awards from this opportunity for a proposal submitted to a Space Biology Focus Area will be required to upload all relevant data produced by their funded project in the GeneLab Data Systems (https://genelab.nasa.gov). They must also make the source code of any computational simulations developed via awards under this proposal available in an open source repository. Furthermore, articles published in peer-reviewed scholarly journals and papers published in peer-reviewed conference proceedings, should be made publicly accessible via NASA's PubSpace website

(Submit to PubSpace - Scientific and Technical Information Program (nasa.gov)). Proposers submitting application that are responsive to this focus are will therefore be expected to address these requirements in their proposal's data management plan.

Further information for the Space Biology program are available at:
https://science.nasa.gov/biological-physical/programs/space-biology
https://science.nasa.gov/biological-physical/documents

A.5.1.2 Physical Science Program

The Physical Science Research Program conducts fundamental and applied research to advance scientific knowledge, to improve space systems, and to advance technologies that may produce new products offering benefits on Earth. Space offers unique advantages for experimental research in the physical sciences. NASA supports research that uses the space environment to make significant scientific advances.   Many of NASA's experiments in the physical sciences reveal how physical systems respond to the near absence of gravity. Forces that on Earth are small compared to gravity can dominate system behavior in space. Understanding the consequences is a critical aspect of space system design. Research in physical sciences includes both basic and applied research in the areas of combustion science, fluid physics, materials science, soft matter physics and fundamental physics.

A.5.1.3 Combustion Science

The goal of the microgravity combustion science research program is to advance understanding of combustion processes, leading to added benefits to human health, comfort, and safety on both Earth and during crewed exploration missions. NASA's microgravity combustion science research focuses on effects that can be studied in the absence of buoyancy-driven flows caused by Earth's gravity. Research conducted without the interference of buoyant flows can lead to an improvement in combustion efficiency, producing a considerable economic and environmental impact. Combustion science is also relevant to a range of challenges for long-term human exploration of space that involve reacting systems in reduced and micro gravity. These challenges include: spacecraft fire prevention; fire detection and suppression; thermal processing of regolith for oxygen and water production; thermal processing of the Martian atmosphere for fuel and oxidizer production; and processing of waste and other organic matter for stabilization and recovery of water, oxygen and carbon. Substantial progress in any of these areas will be accelerated significantly by an active reduced- gravity combustion research program.

The research area of combustion science includes the following themes:

Spacecraft fire safety
Droplets
Gaseous – premixed and non-premixed
High pressure – transcritical combustion and supercritical reacting fluids

A.5.1.4 Fluid Physics

The goal of the microgravity fluid physics program is to understand fluid behavior of physical systems in space, providing a foundation for predicting, controlling, and improving a vast range of technological processes. Specifically, in reduced gravity, the absence of buoyancy and the stronger influence of capillary forces can have a dramatic effect on fluid behavior. For example, capillary flows in space can pump fluids to higher levels than those achieved on Earth. In the case of systems where phase-change heat transfer is required, experimental results demonstrate that bubbles will not rise under pool boiling conditions in microgravity, resulting in a change in the heat transfer rate at the heater surface. The microgravity experimental data can be used to verify computational fluid dynamics models. These improved models can then be utilized by future spacecraft designers to predict the performance of fluid conditions in space exploration systems such as air revitalization, solid waste management, water recovery, thermal control, cryogenic storage and transfer, energy conversion systems, and liquid propulsion systems.

The research area of fluid physics includes the following themes:
Adiabatic two-phase flow
Boiling and condensation
Capillary flow
Interfacial phenomena
Cryogenic propellant storage and transfer

A.5.1.5 Materials Science

The goal of the microgravity materials science program is to improve the understanding of materials properties that will enable the development of higher-performing materials and processes for use both in space and on Earth. The program takes advantage of the unique features of the microgravity environment, where gravity-driven phenomena, such as sedimentation and thermosolutal convection, are nearly negligible. On Earth, natural convection leads to dendrite deformation and clustering, whereas in microgravity, in the absence of buoyant flow, the dendritic structure is nearly uniform. Major types of research that can be investigated include solidification effects and the resulting morphology, as well as accurate and precise measurement of thermophysical property data. These data can be used to develop computational models. The ability to predict microstructures accurately is a promising computational tool for advancing materials science and manufacturing.

The research area of materials science includes the following themes:

Glasses and ceramics
Granular materials
Metals
Polymers and organics
Semiconductors

A.5.1.6 Soft Matter Physics

Granular material is one of the key focus areas of research areas in the field of soft matter. The fundamental understanding of physics of granular materials under different gravity condition is of key importance for deep space exploration and long-term habitation to sample collection from asteroids to improving the understanding of granular material handling on earth. Also, fundamental understanding of granular materials can help us understand motions in large bodies on earth (e.g.- landslides) that can help us save lives in case of natural emergencies. This research topic focuses on developing fundamental knowledge base in the field of-

- Rheology of granular materials (both wet and dry)
    - Impact of anisotropy and structure
    - Impact of electrostatic charging
- In depth understanding of stress distribution in granular materials
- Dynamics of interparticle interaction and short range forces in granular materials

Both experimental and theoretical/numerical work will be in scope.

A.5.1.7 Fundamental Physics

Quantum mechanics is one of the most successful theories in physics. It describes the very small, such as atoms and their formation into the complex molecules necessary for life, to structures as large as cosmic strings. The behavior of exotic matter such as superfluids and neutron stars is explained by quantum mechanics, as are everyday phenomena such as the transmission of electricity and heat by metals. The frontline of modern quantum science involves cross-cutting fundamental and applied research. For example, world-wide efforts concentrate on harnessing quantum coherence and entanglement for applications such as the enhanced sensing of electromagnetic fields, secure communications, and the exponential speed-up of quantum computing. This area is tightly coupled to research on the foundations of quantum mechanics, which involves exotica such as many-worlds theory and the interface between classical and quantum behavior. Another frontier encompasses understanding how novel quantum matter—such as high-temperature superconductivity and topological states—emerges from the interactions between many quantum particles. Quantum science is also central to the field of precision measurement, which seeks to expand our knowledge of the underlying principles and symmetries of the universe by testing ideas such as the equivalence between gravitational and inertial mass.

Quantum physics is a cornerstone of our understanding of the universe. The importance of quantum mechanics is extraordinarily wide ranging, from explaining emergent phenomena such as superconductivity, to underpinning next-generation technologies such as quantum computers, quantum communication networks, and sensor technologies. Laser-cooled cold atoms are a versatile platform for quantum physics on Earth, and one that can greatly benefit from space-based research. The virtual elimination of gravity in the reference frame of a free-flying space vehicle enables cold atom experiments to achieve longer observation times and colder temperatures than are possible on Earth. The NASA Fundamental Physics program plans to support research in quantum physics that will lead to transformational outcomes, such as the discovery of phenomena at the intersection of quantum mechanics and general relativity that inform a unified theory, the direct detection of dark matter via atom interferometry or atomic clocks, and the creation of exotic quantum matter than cannot exist on Earth.

Proposals are sought for ground-based theory and experimental research that may help to develop concepts for future flight experiments. Research in field effects in quantum superposition and entanglement are of particular interest.

For any Physical Sciences proposal selected for award, all data must be deposited in the Physical Sciences Informatics Database starting one year after award completion. They must also make the source code of any computational simulations developed via awards under this proposal available in an open-source repository.

The two NASA GRC drop towers described below are also available to augment research investigations. These facilities are typically used to conduct combustion or fluid physics experiments. Please go to link for further information. The Points of Contact for each research area are:
Fluid Physics: John McQuillen, john.b.mcquillen@nasa.gov
Combustion Science: Dan Dietrich, daniel.l.dietrich@nasa.gov

Since there is a cost involved to use these drop towers, please contact the appropriate POC for cost estimates for your proposal.

2.2 s tower : https://www1.grc.nasa.gov/facilities/drop/

The 2.2 Second Drop Tower has been used for nearly 50 years by researchers from around the world to study the effects of microgravity on physical phenomena such as combustion and fluid dynamics and to develop technology for future space missions. It provides rapid turnaround testing (up to 12 drops/day) of 2.2 seconds in duration.

5.2 s tower : https://www1.grc.nasa.gov/facilities/zero-g/

The Zero Gravity Research Facility is NASA's premier facility for ground based microgravity research, and the largest facility of its kind in the world. It provides researchers with a near weightless environment for a duration of 5.18 seconds. It has been primarily used for combustion and fluid physics investigations.

Implementing Centers: NASA's Physical Sciences Research Program is carried out at the Glenn Research Center (GRC), Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) and Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC). Further information on physical sciences research is available at: https://science.nasa.gov/biological-physical/programs/physical-sciences

A.5.1.8 Commercially Enabled Rapid Space Science Project (CERISS)

The Commercially Enabled Rapid Space Science initiative (CERISS) will develop transformative research capabilities with commercial space industry to dramatically increase the pace of research. Long-range goals include conducting scientist astronaut missions on the International Space Station and commercial low-earth orbit (LEO) destinations and develop automated hardware for experiments beyond low Earth orbit, such as to the lunar surface.

The benefits will include a 10-to-100-fold faster pace of research for a wide range of research sponsored by Biological and Physical Sciences Division, the NASA Human Research Program, other government agencies, and industry. Another benefit will be the increased demand for research and development in low earth orbit, facilitating growth of the commercial space industry.

Area of particular interest include:

Sample preparation Characterization of materials (e.g. differential scanning calorimetry, x-ray diffraction, Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy, etc.) Analysis of samples (e.g. fluorescent activated cell sorting, protein and -omics, imaging, etc.)

Further information on CERISS is available at: https://science.nasa.gov/biological-physical/commercial

A.5.2 Heliophysics Division

POC: Patrick Koehn, Ph.D. NASA HQ patrick.koehn@nasa.gov
Madhulika Guhathakurta, Ph.D. NASA HQ madhulika.guhathakurta@nasa.gov

Heliophysics encompasses science that improves our understanding of fundamental physical processes throughout the solar system, and enables us to understand how the Sun, as the major driver of the energy throughout the solar system, impacts our technological society. The scope of heliophysics is vast, spanning from the Sun's interior to Earth's upper atmosphere, throughout interplanetary space, to the edges of the heliosphere, where the solar wind interacts with the local interstellar medium. Heliophysics incorporates studies of the interconnected elements in a single system that produces dynamic space weather and that evolves in response to solar, planetary, and interstellar conditions.

In this framework, the Heliophysics Research Program is guided by *Science 2020-2024: A Vision for Scientific Excellence* and any more up to date versions of the Science Plan (available at https://science.nasa.gov/about-us/science-strategy) and by the *2013 National Research Council Decadal Strategy for Solar and Space Physics report, Solar and Space Physics: A Science for a Technological Society* (www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=13060).
The decadal survey articulates the scientific challenges for this field of study and recommends a slate of design reference missions to meet them, to culminate in the achievement of a predictive capability to aid human endeavors on Earth and in space. The fundamental science questions are:

- What causes the Sun to vary?
- How do the geospace, planetary space environments and the heliosphere respond?
- What are the impacts on humanity?

To answer these questions, the Heliophysics Division implements a program to achieve three overarching objectives:

- Explore and characterize the physical processes in the space environment from the Sun to the heliopause and throughout the universe
- Advance our understanding of the Sun's activity, and the connections between solar variability and Earth and planetary space environments, the outer reaches of our solar system, and the interstellar medium
- Develop the knowledge and capability to detect and predict extreme conditions in space to protect life and society and to safeguard human and robotic explorers beyond Earth.

The program supports theory, modeling, and data analysis utilizing remote sensing and in situ measurements from a fleet of missions; the Heliophysics System Observatory (HSO). Frequent

CubeSats, suborbital rockets, balloons, and ground-based instruments add to the observational base. Investigations that develop new observables and technologies for heliophysics science are sought.

Supported research activities include projects that address understanding of the Sun and planetary space environments, including the origin, evolution, and interactions of space plasmas and electromagnetic fields throughout the heliosphere. The program seeks to characterize these phenomena on a broad range of spatial and temporal scales, to understand the fundamental processes that drive them, to understand how these processes combine to create space weather events, and to enable a capability for predicting future space weather events.

The program supports investigations of the Sun, including processes taking place throughout the solar interior and atmosphere and the evolution and cyclic activity of the Sun. It supports investigations of the origin and behavior of the solar wind, energetic particles, and magnetic fields in the heliosphere and their interaction with the Earth and other planets, as well as with the interstellar medium. The program also supports investigations of the physics of magnetospheres, including their formation and fundamental interactions with plasmas, fields, and particles and the physics of the terrestrial mesosphere, thermosphere, ionosphere, and auroras, including the coupling of these phenomena to the lower atmosphere and magnetosphere. Proposers may also review the information in the ROSES-23 Heliophysics Research Program Overview for further information about the Heliophysics Research Program.

A.5.3 Earth Science Division

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The overarching goal of NASA's Earth Science program is to develop a scientific understanding of Earth as a system. The Earth Science Division of the Science Mission Directorate (https://science.nasa.gov/earth-science) contributes to NASA's mission, in particular, Strategic Objective 1.1: Understanding The Sun, Earth, Solar System, And Universe. This strategic objective is motivated by the following key questions:

- How is the global Earth system changing?
- What causes these changes in the Earth system?
- How will the Earth system change in the future?
- How can Earth system science provide societal benefit?

These science questions translate into seven overarching science goals to guide the Earth Science Division’s selection of investigations and other programmatic decisions:

- Advance the understanding of changes in the Earth’s radiation balance, air quality, and the ozone layer that result from changes in atmospheric composition (Atmospheric Composition)
- Improve the capability to predict weather and extreme weather events (Weather)
- Detect and predict changes in Earth’s ecosystems and biogeochemical cycles, including land cover, biodiversity, and the global carbon cycle (Carbon Cycle and Ecosystems)
- Enable better assessment and management of water quality and quantity to accurately predict how the global water cycle evolves in response to climate change (Water and Energy Cycle)

- Improve the ability to predict climate changes by better understanding the roles and interactions of the ocean, atmosphere, land and ice in the climate system (Climate Variability and Change)
- Characterize the dynamics of Earth's surface and interior, improving the capability to assess and respond to natural hazards and extreme events (Earth Surface and Interior)
- Further the use of Earth system science research to inform decisions and provide benefits to society

In applied sciences, the ESD encourages the use of data from NASA's Earth-observing satellites and airborne missions to tackle tough challenges and develop solutions that improve our daily lives. Specific areas of interest include efforts that help institutions and individuals make better decisions about our environment, food, water, health, and safety (see http://appliedsciences.nasa.gov). In technological research, the ESD aims to foster the creation and infusion of new technologies – such as data processing, interoperability, visualization, and analysis as well as autonomy, modeling, and mission architecture design – in order to enable new scientific measurements of the Earth system or reduce the cost of current observations (see http://esto.nasa.gov). The ESD also promotes innovative development in computing and information science and engineering of direct relevance to ESD. NASA makes Earth observation data and information widely available through the Earth Science Data System program, which is responsible for the stewardship, archival and distribution of open data for all users

The Earth Science Division (ESD) places particular emphasis on the investigators' ability to promote and increase the use of space-based remote sensing through the proposed research. Proposals with objectives connected to needs identified in most recent Decadal Survey (2017-2027) from the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine, *Thriving on our Changing Planet: A Decadal Strategy for Earth Observation from Space* are welcomed. (see https://www.nap.edu/catalog/24938/thriving-on-our-changing-planet-a-decadal-strategy-for-earth).

NASA's ability to view the Earth from a global perspective enables it to provide a broad, integrated set of uniformly high-quality data covering all parts of the planet. NASA shares this unique knowledge with the global community, including members of the science, government, industry, education, and policy-maker communities.

A.5.4 Planetary Science Division

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Manager, Planetary Exploration Science Technology Office (PESTO)
Planetary Science Division

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Planetary Science Division

The Planetary Science Research Program, managed by the Planetary Science Division, sponsors research that addresses the broad strategic objective to "Ascertain the content, origin, and evolution of the Solar System and the potential for life elsewhere." To pursue this objective, the Planetary Science Division has strategic goals and objectives that guide the focus of the division's science research and technology development activities. As described in the NASA 2022 Science Strategic Plan (https://science.nasa.gov/about-us/science-strategy), these are:

Discover:

- Expand human knowledge through new scientific discoveries
    - 1.2: Understand the Sun, solar system, and universe

Explore:

- Extend human presence to the Moon and on towards Mars for sustainable long-term exploration, development, and utilization
    - 2.1: Explore the surface of the Moon and deep space

Innovate:

- Catalyze economic growth and drive innovation to address national challenges
    - 3.1: Innovate and advance transformational space technologies

The NASA Planetary Science strategic objective is to advance scientific knowledge of the origin and history of the solar system, the potential for life elsewhere, and the hazards and resources present as humans explore space.

In order to address these goals and objective spl, the Planetary Research Program invites a wide range of planetary science and astrobiology investigations. Example topics include, but are not limited to:

- Investigations aimed at understanding the formation and evolution of the Solar System and (exo) planetary systems in general, and of the planetary bodies, satellites, and small bodies in these systems;
- Investigations aimed at understanding materials present, and processes occurring, in the early stages of Solar System history, including the protoplanetary disk;
- Investigations aimed at understanding planetary differentiation processes;
- Investigations of extraterrestrial materials, including meteorites, cosmic dust, presolar grains, and samples returned by the Apollo, Stardust, Genesis, and Hayabusa missions;
- Investigations of the properties of planets, satellites (including the Moon), satellite and ring systems, and smaller Solar System bodies such as asteroids and comets;
- Investigations of the coupling of a planetary body's intrinsic magnetic field, atmosphere, surface, and interior with each other, with other planetary bodies, and with the local plasma environment;
- Investigations into the origins, evolution, and properties of the atmospheres of planetary bodies (including satellites, small bodies, and exoplanets);
- Investigations that use knowledge of the history of the Earth and the life upon it as a guide for determining the processes and conditions that create and maintain habitable environments and to search for ancient and contemporary habitable environments and explore the possibility of extant life beyond the Earth;
- Investigations into the origin and early evolution of life, the potential of life to adapt to different environments, and the implications for life elsewhere;
- Investigations that provide the fundamental research and analysis necessary to characterize exoplanetary systems;
- Investigations related to understanding the chemistry, astrobiology, dynamics, and energetics of exoplanetary systems;
- Astronomical observations of our Solar System that contribute to the understanding of the nature and evolution of the Solar System and its individual constituents;
- Investigations to inventory and characterize the population of Near Earth Objects (NEOs) or mitigate the risk of NEOs impacting the Earth;

- Investigations into the potential for both forward and backward contamination during planetary exploration, methods to minimize such contamination, and standards in these areas for spacecraft preparation and operating procedures;
- Investigations which enhance the scientific return of NASA Planetary Science Division missions through the analysis of data collected by those missions;
- Advancement of laboratory- or spacecraft-based (including small satellites, e.g., CubeSats) instrument technology that shows promise for use in scientific investigations on future planetary missions; and
- Analog studies, laboratory experiments, or fieldwork to increase our understanding of Solar System bodies or processes and/or to prepare for future missions.

Additional information on technologies needed to support NASA Planetary Science Division missions may be found on the Planetary Exploration Science Technology Office website.

Proposers may also review the information in the ROSES-2023 Planetary Science Research Program Overview for further information about the Planetary Science Research Program. The use of NASA Research Facilities is available to supported investigators (see section IVe Demonstration of Access to Required Facility). If their use is anticipated, this use must be discussed and justified in the submitted proposals and include a letter of support from the facility (or resource) confirming that it is available for the proposed use during the proposed period.

A.5.5 Astrophysics Division

Science Mission Directorate (SMD)

Dr. Hashima Hasan, hhasan@nasa.gov NASA Headquarters (HQ)
Dr. Mario Perez, mario.perez@nasa.gov NASA HQ

NASA's strategic objective in astrophysics is to discover how the universe works, explore how it began and evolved, and search for life on planets around other stars. Three broad scientific questions flow from this objective:

- How does the universe work?
- How did we get here?
- Are we alone?

Each of these questions is accompanied by a science goal that shapes the Astrophysics Division's efforts towards fulfilling NASA's strategic objective:

- Probe the origin and destiny of our universe, including the nature of black holes, dark energy, dark matter and gravity
- Explore the origin and evolution of the galaxies, stars and planets that make up our universe
- Discover and study planets around other stars, and explore whether they could harbor life

To address these Astrophysics goals, the Astrophysics Research Analysis and Technology Program invites a wide range of astrophysics science investigations from space that can be broadly placed in the following categories.

- The development of new technology covering all wavelengths and fundamental particles, that can be applied to future space flight missions. This includes, but is not limited to, detector development, and optical components such as primary or secondary mirrors, coatings, gratings, filters, and spectrographs.
- New technologies and techniques that may be tested by flying them on suborbital platforms such as rockets and balloons that are developed and launched by commercial suborbital flight providers or from NASA's launch range facilities, or by flying them on small and innovative orbital platforms such as cubesats.
- Studies in laboratory astrophysics. Examples of these studies could include atomic and molecular data and properties of plasmas explored under conditions approximating those of astrophysical environments.
- Theoretical studies and simulations that advance the goals of the astrophysics program
- Analysis of data that could lead to original discoveries from space astrophysics missions. This could include the compilations of catalogs, statistical studies, algorithms and pattern recognition, artificial intelligence applications, development of data pipelines, etc.

Citizen Science programs, which are a form of open collaboration in which individuals or organizations participate voluntarily in the scientific process, are also invited. The current SMD Policy (https://smd-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/science-red/s3fs-public/atoms/files/SPD%2033%20Citizen%20Science.pdf) on citizen science describes standards for evaluating proposed and funded SMD citizen science projects. For more information see the https://science.nasa.gov/citizenscience webpage, that provides information about existing SMD-funded projects.

Proposals should address the goals of the Science Mission Directorate's (SMD) Astrophysics Research Program, defined in SMD's Science 2020-2024: A Vision for Scientific Excellence (available at http://science.nasa.gov/about-us/science-strategy). Proposers are encouraged to read this NASA Science Plan, the Astrophysics Roadmap (available at https://science.nasa.gov/astrophysics/documents/astrophysics-roadmap), and the report of National Academy of Sciences Decadal Survey on Astronomy and Astrophysics 2020, Pathways to Discovery in Astronomy and Astrophysics for the 2020s,(available at https://www.nap.edu/catalog/26141/pathways- to-discovery-in-astronomy-and-astrophysics for-the-2020s).

Investigations submitted to this program element should explicitly support past, present, or future NASA astrophysics missions. These investigations can include theory, simulation, data analysis, and technology development. Information on the Astrophysics research program and missions are available at https://science.nasa.gov/astrophysics.

A.6 Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)

POC: Damian Taylor, Damian.Taylor@nasa.gov

The Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD) is where technology drives exploration and the space economy; and, aims to transform future missions while ensuring American leadership in aerospace.

STMD rapidly develops, demonstrates, and infuses revolutionary, high-payoff technologies through transparent, collaborative partnerships, expanding the boundaries of the aerospace enterprise. STMD employs a merit-based competition model with a portfolio approach, spanning a range of discipline areas and technology readiness levels. By investing in bold, broadly applicable, disruptive technology that industry cannot tackle today, STMD seeks to mature the technology required for NASA's future missions in science and exploration while proving the capabilities and lowering the cost for other government agencies and commercial space activities.

Research and technology development takes place within NASA Centers, at JPL, in academia and industry, and leverages partnerships with other government agencies and international partners. STMD engages and inspires thousands of technologists and innovators creating a community of our best and brightest working on the nation's toughest challenges. By pushing the boundaries of technology and innovation, STMD allows NASA and our nation to remain at the cutting edge. Additional information on STMD can be found at: http://www.nasa.gov/directorates/spacetech/about_us/index.html.

STMD looks to engage new and diverse partners to garner different perspectives and approaches to our biggest technology challenges. An overarching principle guiding STMD's work is our commitment to inspiring and developing a diverse and powerful US aerospace technology community. As part of our strategic approach, STMD is committed to empowering innovators by expanding our work with and support for underrepresented communities. Furthermore, we are focused on demonstrating engaging practices for underserved and underrepresented communities through the R&D process that strengthens and supports economic growth for a diverse technology community. This is paramount to our ***Lead*** strategic thrust through which ***Go***, ***Land***, ***Live*** and ***Explore*** thrusts are realized.

STMD plans future investments to support our strategic thrusts as follows:

Lead: *Ensuring American global leadership in Space Technology*

- Advance US space technology innovation and competitiveness in a global context
- Encourage technology driven economic growth with an emphasis on the expanding space economy
- Inspire and develop a diverse and powerful US aerospace technology community

- ***Go***: *Rapid, Safe, & Efficient Space Transportation*
  - Develop nuclear technologies enabling fast in-space transits.
  - Develop cryogenic storage, transport, and fluid management technologies for surface and in-space applications.
  - Develop advanced propulsion technologies that enable future science/exploration missions.

- ***Land***: *Expanded Access to Diverse Surface Destinations*
  - Enable Lunar/Mars global access with ~20t payloads to support human missions.
  - Enable science missions entering/transiting planetary atmospheres and landing on planetary bodies.

- Develop technologies to land payloads within 50 meters accuracy and avoid landing hazards.

- ***Live***: *Sustainable Living and Working Farther from Earth*
  - Develop exploration technologies and enable a vibrant space economy with supporting utilities and commodities.
    - Sustainable power sources and other surface utilities to enable continuous lunar and Mars surface operations.
    - Scalable ISRU production/utilization capabilities including sustainable commodities on the lunar & Mars surface.
    - Technologies that enable surviving the extreme lunar and Mars environments.
    - Autonomous excavation, construction & outfitting capabilities targeting landing pads/structures/habitable buildings utilizing in situ resources.
  - Enable long duration human exploration missions with Advanced Habitation System technologies. [Low TRL STMD: Mid-High TRL SOMD/ESDMD]

- ***Explore***: *Transformative Missions and Discoveries*
  - Develop next generation high performance computing, communications, and navigation.
  - Develop advanced robotics and spacecraft autonomy technologies to enable and augment science/exploration missions.
  - Develop technologies supporting emerging space industries including: Satellite Servicing & Assembly, In Space/Surface Manufacturing, and Small Spacecraft technologies.
  - Develop vehicle platform technologies supporting new discoveries.
  - Develop technologies for science instrumentation supporting new discoveries. [Low TRL STMD/Mid-High TRL SMD. SMD funds mission specific instrumentation (TRL 1-9)]
  - Develop transformative technologies that enable future NASA or commercial missions and discoveries.

Furthermore, the above strategic thrusts describe the STMD investment priority strategy and are further detailed in the Strategic Technology Architecture Roundtable (STAR) Process: https://techport.nasa.gov/framework.

STMD's Principal Technologists and System Capability Leads are available for consultation with proposers regarding the state-of-the-art, on-going activities and investments, and strategic needs in their respective areas of expertise. Proposers are encouraged to consult with the appropriate PT or SCLT early in the proposal process.

POC	Technology Area	NASA Email
Andrew Abercromby	ECLSS	andrew.f.abercromby@nasa.gov
Danette Allen	Autonomous Systems	danette.allen@nasa.gov
Jim Broyan	ECLSS Lead	james.l.broyan@nasa.gov
John Carson	EDL Precision Landing	john.m.carson@nasa.gov
John Dankanich	In Space Transportation	john.dankanich@nasa.gov
Bernie Edwards	Communications & Navigation	bernard.l.edwards@nasa.gov

Mark Hilburger	Structures/Materials; Excavation, Construction and Outfitting	mark.w.hilburger@nasa.gov
Kristen John	Dust Mitigation	kristen.k.john@nasa.gov
Julie Kleinhenz	In Situ Resource Utilization	julie.e.kleinhenz@nasa.gov
Angela Krenn	Thermal and Surface Systems	angela.g.krenn@nasa.gov
Ron Litchford	Propulsion Systems	ron.litchford@nasa.gov
Josh Mehling	Robotics	joshua.s.mehling@nasa.gov
Jason Mitchell	Communications & Navigation	jason.w.mitchell@nasa.gov
Michelle Munk	Entry, Descent and Landing (EDL)	michelle.m.munk@nasa.gov
Bo Naasz	Rendezvous & Capture	bo.j.naasz@nasa.gov
Denise Podolski	Sensors/Radiation/Quantum	denise.a.podolski@nasa.gov
Wes Powell	Avionics	wesley.a.powell@nasa.gov
Jerry Sanders	In Situ Resource Utilization	gerald.b.sanders@nasa.gov
John Scott	Space Power & Energy Storage	john.h.scott@nasa.gov
John Vickers	Advanced Manufacturing	john.h.vickers@nasa.gov
Arthur Werkheiser	Cryo Fluid Management	arthur.werkheiser@nasa.gov
Mike Wright	Entry, Descent and Landing (EDL)	michael.j.wright@nasa.gov

In recognition of NASA's leadership in developing advanced technologies for the benefit of all, research topics related to advancing national capabilities in the following climate-related and addressing orbital debris technology areas are of interest:

- Clean Energy and Emissions Technologies: Clean energy and emissions mitigation technology projects focusing on the research and development, demonstration, or deployment of systems, processes, best practices, and sources that reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emitted to, or concentrated in, the atmosphere.

- U.S. Climate Change Research Program: Earth-observing capabilities to support breakthrough science and National efforts to address climate change.
  - Specific topic areas could include:
    - Reductions in greenhouse gas emissions (including CO2, CH4, N2O, HFCs)
      - Fuel Cells
      - Batteries and Energy Storage
      - Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage
      - Processes that enhance industrial efficiency and reduce emissions
      - Production of clean energy including solar, hydrogen, nuclear, or other clean energy sources
    - Enabling platforms and early-stage instruments for climate-relevant science observations

- Addressing Orbital Debris: Control the long-term growth of debris population.

- POCs for additional information:
  - Clean energy: John Scott (john.h.scott@nasa.gov)
  - Nuclear systems: Anthony Calomino (anthony.m.calomino@nasa.gov)

- Hydrogen: Jerry Sanders (gerald.b.sanders@nasa.gov)
- Earth-observing capabilities: Chris Baker (christopher.e.baker@nasa.gov), Justin Treptow (justin.treptow@nasa.gov)
- Carbon capture and utilization: James Broyan (james.l.broyan@nasa.gov)
- Harnessing data for improved visualization: Lawrence Friedl (SMD) (lfriedl@nasa.gov)
- Addressing Orbital Debris: Bo Naasz (Bo.j.naasz@nasa.gov)

Applicants are strongly encouraged to familiarize themselves with the 2020 NASA Technology Taxonomy (replaced the 2015 NASA Technology Roadmaps) and the NASA Strategic Technology Framework that most closely aligns with their space technology interests. The 2020 NASA Technology Taxonomy may be downloaded at the following link: https://www.nasa.gov/offices/oct/taxonomy/index.html. The NASA Strategic Technology Framework, including presentations describing the Envisioned Future and strategy for addressing each of the STMD capability areas and outcomes, can be found at: https://techport.nasa.gov/framework.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD) current year version of the NASA Research Announcement (NRA) entitled, "Space Technology Research, Development, Demonstration, and Infusion" has been posted on the NSPIRES web site at: http://nspires.nasaprs.com (select "Solicitations" and then "Open Solicitations"). The NRA provides detailed information on specific proposals being sought across STMD programs. Specifically, STMD supports research from universities through a number of other solicitations from early stage programs such as NASA's Innovation Corps Pilot, NASA Innovative Concepts, Space Technology Research Grants, Small Business Technology Transfer, and Lunar Surface Innovation Consortium. Additionally, here's a link to other STMD program opportunities that potentially could benefit from university research ideas.

A.7 NASA Centers Areas of Interest

"Engagement with Center Chief Technologists and the Agency Capability Leadership Teams is critical to value of the research and selection of proposals." Examples of Center research interest areas include these specific areas from the following Centers. If no POC is listed in the Center write-up and contact information is needed, please contact the POC listed in Appendix D for that Center and request contacts for the research area of interest.

A.7.1 Ames Research Center (ARC)

POC: Harry Partridge, harry.partridge@nasa.gov

- Entry systems: Safely delivering spacecraft to Earth & other celestial bodies
- Advanced Computing & IT Systems: Enabling NASA's advanced modeling and simulation
    - Supercomputing
    - Quantum computing, quantum sensors and quantum algorithms
    - Applied physics and Computational materials
- **Aero sciences**:
    - Wind Tunnels: Testing on the ground before you take to the sky
- **Air Traffic Management**:
    - NextGen air transportation: Transforming the way we fly
    - Airborne science: Examining our own world & beyond from the sky
    - Airspace Systems, Unmanned aerial Systems
- **Astrobiology and Life Science**: Understanding life on Earth - and in space
    - Biology & Astrobiology
    - Space radiation health risks
    - Biotechnology, Synthetic biology
    - Instruments
- Cost-Effective Space Missions: Enabling high value science to low Earth orbit & the moon
    - Small Satellites, Cube satellites
- **Intelligent/Adaptive Systems**: Complementing humans in space
    - Autonomy & Robotics: Enabling complex air and space missions, and complementing humans in space
    - Human Systems Integration: Advancing human-technology interaction for NASA missions
    - Nanotechnology-electronics and sensors, flexible electronics
- **Space and Earth Science:** *Understanding our planet, our solar system and everything beyond*
    - **Exoplanets**: Finding worlds beyond our own
    - **Airborne Science**: Examining our own world & beyond from the sky
    - Lunar Sciences: Rediscovering our moon, searching for water

A.7.2 Armstrong Flight Research Center (AFRC)

POC: Timothy Risch, timothy.k.risch@nasa.gov

POC	Technology Area	Email
Sean Clarke	Hybrid Electric Propulsion	sean.clarke@nasa.gov
Ed Hearing	Supersonic Research (Boom mitigation and measurement)	edward.a.haering@nasa.gov
Dan Banks	Supersonic Research (Laminar Flow)	daniel.w.banks@nasa.gov
Larry Hudson	Hypersonic Structures & Sensors	larry.d.hudson@nasa.gov
Matt Boucher Jeff Ouellette	Control of Flexible Structures, Modeling, System Identification, Advanced Sensors	matthew.j.boucher@nasa.gov jeffrey.a.ouellette@nasa.gov
Nelson Brown	Autonomy (Collision Avoidance, Perception, and Runtime Assurance)	nelson.brown@nasa.gov
Curt Hanson	Urban Air Mobility (UAM) Vehicle Handling and Ride Qualities	curtis.e.hanson@nasa.gov
Shawn McWherter	Urban Air Mobility (UAM) Envelope Protection	shaun.c.mcwherter@nasa.gov
Peter Suh Kurt Kloesel	Aircraft Electrical Powertrain Modeling	peter.m.suh@nasa.gov kurt.j.kloesel@nasa.gov
Bruce Cogan	Un-crewed Aerial Platforms for Earth and Planetary Science Missions	bruce.r.cogan@nasa.gov

A.7.3 Glenn Research Center (GRC)

POC: Kurt Sacksteder, kurt.sacksteder@nasa.gov

- **Power and Energy Storage Systems for Aviation and Space Applications:** sustainable, reduced- and zero-carbon emission approaches, substantial mass and efficiency improvements, and operability in challenging environments
- **Power System Architectures, Networks, and Systems Management and Integration Approaches:** including microgrids and power conversion and management electronics
- **Breakthrough Concepts in Photovoltaics, Electrochemistry, Photocatalysis, Photo/Thermal Energy Conversion:** including enabling manufacturing approaches and integration
- **Electronics for Extreme Temperature Environments:** devices, components, and subsystems
- **Microwave, Optical, and Cognitive Communications Devices, Components, and Systems:** expanded bandwidth and reductions in size and power consumption

- **Quantum Sensors, Communications, and Networks:** devices and simulations
- **Communication Architectures, Networks, and Systems:** integration and simulation
- **Intelligent and Autonomous Systems:** smart sensors, extreme environment instruments
- **Advanced Concepts in Systems Engineering for Aeronautical and Space Systems:** physics-based models, machine learning, and artificial intelligence applications
- **Electrified Aircraft:** architectures, components, systems, and system-level simulations
- **Space-Based Electric Propulsion:** advanced materials, components, and systems
- **Cryogenic Fluid Systems:** components, systems, and cryofluid management simulations
- **Thermal Management Systems:** propulsion and/or power systems for aviation and space
- **Acoustic Emission Mitigation:** aviation and space propulsion applications
- **Aircraft Icing:** prevention, mitigation, and simulation
- **Aviation Safety:** simulation, system concepts, architectures
- **Advanced Computational Fluid Dynamics and Systems Engineering** related to aviation propulsion systems including internal and external aerodynamics, aero-thermochemistry
- **Multi-Functional Materials:** concepts, components, and simulations engaging mechanical, structural, electrical, thermal, energy, communications, or propulsion features, especially including applications enabled by advanced manufacturing processes
- **Shape Memory Alloy Utilization:** actuation, harsh environments, high-strain applications
- **Advanced Metallic Alloy, Ceramic, Macromolecular, and Composite Materials and Coatings:** for extreme environments, especially where enabled by advanced manufacturing processes
- **Nanotechnology Applications:** enhanced mechanical, thermal, electrical, chemical, electrochemical, or catalytic properties
- **Fundamentals of Fluid Physics, Combustion Phenomena, Complex Fluids, and Bioengineering** in reduced- or near-zero gravitational environments
- **Transformational Technologies** such as In-Situ Resource Utilization ((ISRU), in-Space Assembly and Manufacturing (ISAM), and Thermal Management, that are optimized for reduced-gravity environments

A.7.4 Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC)

A.7.4.1 Engineering Technology Directorate (ETD)

POC: Denise Cervantes, Ph.D. denise.cervantes@nasa.gov

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center is home to the nation's largest organization of scientists, engineers, and technologists who conceive, design and build new technology to study the solar system and universe.

The Engineering and Technology Directorate (ETD) is the engine that powers Goddard. ETD is the largest organization at Goddard and is home to approximately 1,300 engineers who provide multidisciplinary engineering expertise to NASA's many missions. Goddard has six distinctive facilities & installations. ETD has employees at the Greenbelt main campus in Maryland, Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia, and White Sands Test Facility Ground Stations in New Mexico.

ETD provides multi-disciplinary engineering expertise for the development of cutting-edge science and exploration systems and technologies in the following areas: Earth Science, Astrophysics, Solar System, Heliophysics and Exploration. In addition, ETD acquires and distributes science data worldwide. Goddard encompasses major laboratories and facilities for developing and operating unmanned scientific spacecraft.

GSFC ETD POCS:

- Code 500/GSFC ETD Workforce Development & OSTEM/Higher Education Manager, Dr. Denise Cervantes, denise.cervantes@nasa.gov
- Code 500/GSFC ETD Chief Technologist, Michael Johnson, michael.a.johnson@nasa.gov
  - Code 500/ETD Wallops Flight Facility Engineering Division
    - Associate Chief Technologist, Sarah Wright, sarah.wright@nasa.gov
  - Code 540/ETD Mechanical Systems Division
    - Associate Chief Technologist, Dr. Vivek Dwivedi, vivek.h.dwivedi@nasa.gov
  - Code 550/ETD Instrument Systems and Technology Division
    - Associate Chief Technologist, Renee Reynolds, renee.m.reynolds@nasa.gov
  - Code 560/ETD Electrical Engineering Division
    - Associate Chief Technologist, Chris Green, christopher.m.green-1@nasa.gov
  - Code 580/ETD Software Engineering Division
    - Associate Chief Technologist, Karin Blank, karin.b.blank@nasa.gov
  - Code 590/ETD Mission Engineering and Systems Analysis Division
    - Associate Chief Technologist, Cheryl Gramling, cheryl.j.gramling@nasa.gov
- Code 500/GSFC ETD New Business Leads
  - Code 500/ETD Wallops Flight Facility Engineering Division
    - WFF New Business Lead, Benjamin Cervantes, benjamin.w.cervantes@nasa.gov
  - Code 540/ETD Mechanical Systems Division
    - New Business Lead, Sharon Cooper, sharon.cooper@nasa.gov
  - Code 550/ETD Instrument Systems and Technology Division
    - New Business Lead, Dr. Aprille Ericsson, aprille.j.ericsson@nasa.gov
  - Code 560/ETD Electrical Engineering Division
    - New Business Lead, Marcellus Proctor, marcellus.proctor@nasa.gov
  - Code 580/ETD Software Engineering Division
    - New Business Lead, Steve Tompkins, steven.d.tompkins@nasa.gov
  - Code 590/ETD Mission Engineering and Systems Analysis Division
    - New Business Lead, Peter Knudtson, peter.a.knudtson@nasa.gov

ETD Research Areas:

- Advanced Manufacturing - facilitates the development, evaluation, and deployment of efficient and flexible additive manufacturing technologies. (ref: NAMII.org)
- Advanced Multi-functional Systems and Structures - novel approaches to increase spacecraft systems resource utilization
- Micro - and Nanotechnology - Based Detector Systems - research and application of these technologies to increase the efficiency of detector and optical systems
- Ultra-Miniature Spaceflight Systems and Instruments - miniaturization approaches from multiple disciplines - materials, mechanical, electrical, software, and optical - to achieve substantial resource reductions

- Systems Robust to Extreme Environments - materials and design approaches that will preserve designed system properties and operational parameters (e.g. mechanical, electrical, thermal), and enable reliable systems operations in hostile space environments.
- Spacecraft Navigation Technologies
    - Surface Localization algorithm for autonomous navigation based on sensor observation fusion
    - Spacecraft GNSS receivers, ranging crosslink transceivers, and relative navigation sensors
    - Optical navigation and satellite laser ranging
    - Deep-space autonomous navigation techniques
    - Software tools for spacecraft navigation ground operations and navigation analysis
    - Formation Flying
- Automated Rendezvous and Docking (AR&D) techniques
    - Algorithm development
    - Pose estimation for satellite servicing missions
    - Sensors (e.g., LiDARs, natural feature recognition)
    - Actuation (e.g., micro propulsion, electromagnetic formation flying)
- Mission and Trajectory Design Technologies
    - Mission design tools that will enable new mission classes (e.g., low thrust planetary missions, precision formation flying missions)
    - Mission design tools that reduce the costs and risks of current mission design methodologies
    - Trajectory design techniques that enable integrated optimal designs across multiple orbital dynamic regimes (i.e. earth orbiting, earth-moon libration point, sun-earth libration point, interplanetary)
- Spacecraft Attitude Determination and Control Technologies
    - Modeling, simulation, and advanced estimation algorithms
    - Advanced spacecraft attitude sensor technologies (e.g., MEMS IMU's, precision optical trackers)
    - Advanced spacecraft actuator technologies (e.g. modular and scalable momentum control devices, 'green' propulsion, micropropulsion, low power electric propulsion)
- CubeSats - Participating institutions will develop CubeSat/Smallsat components, technologies and systems to support NASA technology demonstration and risk reduction efforts. Student teams will develop miniature CubeSat/Smallsat systems for: power generation and distribution, navigation, communication, on-board computing, structures (fixed and deployable), orbital stabilization, pointing, and de-orbiting. These components, technologies and systems shall be made available for use by NASA for integration into NASA Cubesat/Smallsats. They may be integrated into complete off-the-shelf "CubeSat/Smallsat bus" systems, with a goal of minimizing "bus" weight/power/volume/cost and maximizing available "payload" weight/power/volume. NASA technologists will then use these components/systems to develop payloads that demonstrate key technologies to prove concepts and/or reduce risks for future Earth Science, Space Science and Exploration/Robotic Servicing missions.

- On-Orbit Multicore Computing - High performance multicore processing for advanced automation and science data processing on spacecraft. There are multiple multicore processing platforms in development that are being targeted for the next generation of science and exploration missions, but there is little work in the area of software frameworks and architectures to utilize these platforms. It is proposed that research in the areas of efficient inter-core communications, software partitioning, fault detection, isolation & recovery, memory management, core power management, scheduling algorithms, and software frameworks be done to enable a transition to these newer platforms. Participating institutions can select areas to research and work with NASA technologists to develop and prototype the resulting concepts.

- Integrated Photonic Components and Systems - Integrated photonic components and systems for Sensors, Spectrometers, Chemical/biological sensors, Microwave, Sub-millimeter and Long-Wave Infra-Red photonics, Telecom- inter and intra satellite communications.
- Quantum Sensors and Quantum Networking
- Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
    - Generative Design- leveraging an artificial intelligence-based iterative design process to optimize the design of systems.
- Radiation Effects and Analysis
    - Flight validation of advanced event rate prediction techniques
    - New approaches for testing and evaluating 3-D integrated microcircuits and other advanced microelectronic devices
    - End-to-end system (e.g., integrated component level or higher) modeling of radiation effects
    - Statistical approaches to tackle radiation hardness assurance (i.e., total dose, displacement damage, and/or single-event effects) for high-risk, low-cost missions.
- Model Based System Engineering (MBSE)

A.7.4.2 Sciences and Exploration Directorate

POC: Blanche Meeson, Blanche.W.Meeson@nasa.gov

Dr. Blanche Meeson (she/her/hers)
Chief for Higher Education and GSFC NASA Postdoctoral Program

The Sciences and Exploration Directorate at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (http://science.gsfc.nasa.gov) is the largest Earth and space science research organization in the world. Its scientists advance understanding of the Earth and its life-sustaining environment, the Sun, the solar system, and the wider universe beyond. All are engaged in the full life cycle of satellite missions and instruments from concept development to implementation, analysis and application of the scientific information, and community access and services.

- The **Earth Sciences Division** plans, organizes, evaluates, and implements a broad program of research on our planet's natural systems and processes. Major focus areas include climate change, severe weather, the atmosphere, the oceans, sea ice and glaciers, and the land surface. To study the planet from the unique perspective of space, the Earth Science Division develops and operates remote-sensing satellites and instruments. We analyze observational data from these spacecraft and make it available to the world's scientists and policy makers. The Division conducts extensive field campaigns to gather data from the surface and airborne platforms. The Division also develops, uses, and assimilates observations into models that simulate planetary processes involving the water, energy, and carbon cycles at multiple scales up to global.

POC: Eric Brown de Colstoun (eric.c.browndecolsto@nasa.gov)

- The **Astrophysics Science Division** conducts a broad program of research in astronomy, astrophysics, and fundamental physics. Individual investigations address issues such as the nature of dark matter and dark energy, which planets outside our solar system may harbor life, and the nature of space, time, and matter at the edges of black holes. Observing photons, particles, and gravitational waves enables researchers to probe astrophysical objects and processes. Researchers develop theoretical models, design experiments and hardware to test theories, and interpret and evaluate observational data.

  POC: Rita Samburna (Rita.m.Sambruna@nasa.gov).

- The **Heliophysics Science Division** conducts research on the Sun, its extended solar-system environment (the heliosphere), and interactions of Earth, other planets, small bodies, and interstellar gas with the heliosphere. Division research also encompasses Geospace, Earth's magnetosphere and its outer atmosphere, and Space Weather—the important effects that heliospheric disturbances have on spacecraft and terrestrial systems. Division scientists develop spacecraft missions and instruments, systems to manage and disseminate heliophysical data, and theoretical and computational models to interpret the data. Possible heliophysics-related research include: advanced software environments and data-mining strategies to collect, collate and analyze data relevant to the Sun and its effects on the solar system and the Earth ("space weather"); and advanced computational techniques, including but not limited to parallel architectures and the effective use of graphics processing units, for the simulation of magnetized and highly dynamic plasmas and neutral gases in the heliosphere.

  POC: Doug Rabin (*Douglas.Rabin@nasa.gov*).

- The **Solar System Exploration Division** builds science instruments and conducts theoretical and experimental research to explore the solar system and understand the formation and evolution of planetary systems. Laboratories within the division investigate areas as diverse as astrochemistry, planetary atmospheres, extrasolar planetary systems, earth science, planetary geodynamics, space geodesy, and comparative planetary studies. To study how planetary systems form and evolve, division scientists develop theoretical models and experimental research programs, as well as mission investigations and space instruments to test them. The researchers participate in planetary and Earth science missions, and collect, interpret, and evaluate measurements.

  POC: Terry Hurford (Terry.a.Hurford@nasa.gov)

- **Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Big Data Analytics:** The Data Science Group (DSG) supports science through the implementation and applications of artificial intelligence, machine learning, and big data analytics. The DSG supports all science divisions across a wide variety of applications using standard software engineering practices. The DSG is focused on accelerating science and enabling new discoveries through such activities as creation of AI/ML ready data sets, Foundation Models, uncertainty quantification, explainable AI/ML, reproducibility, and open science.

  POC: Dr. Mark Carroll *(mark.carroll@nasa.gov)*

Scientists in all four divisions and our computational and information science organization publish research results in the peer-reviewed literature, participate in the archiving and public dissemination of scientific data, and provide expert user support.

A.7.5 Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL)

POC: Dr. Tom Cwik, thomas.a.cwik@jpl.nasa.gov

• Solar System Science Planetary Atmospheres and Geology Solar System characteristics and origin of life Primitive (1) solar systems bodies Lunar (9) science Preparing for returned sample investigations • Earth Science Atmospheric composition and dynamics (Atmospheric Dynamics Land and solid earth processes (Solid Earth Processes Water and carbon cycles, Carbon Cycles, Water Cycles Ocean and ice Earth analogs to planets, Earth Analog Climate Science • Astronomy and Fundamental Physics Origin, evolution, and structure of the universe, Origin Universe, Evolution Universe, Structure Universe Gravitational astrophysics and fundamental physics Extra-solar planets: Exoplanets; Star formation; Planetary formation Solar and Space Physics Formation and evolution of galaxies; Formation Galaxies; Evolution Galaxies • In-Space Propulsion Technologies Chemical propulsion Non-chemical propulsion Advanced propulsion technologies Supporting technologies Thermal Electric Propulsion Electric Propulsion • Space Power and Energy Storage Power generation	• Human Exploration Destination Systems In situ resource utilization and Cross-cutting systems • Science Instruments, Observatories and Sensor Systems Science Mission Directorate Technology Needs Remote Sensing instruments/Remote Sensing Sensors Observatory technologies In-situ instruments, Sensor technologies Sensors In situ technologies Instrument technologies Precision frequency Precision timing • Entry, Descent and Landing Systems Aerobraking, Aerocapture and entry system; Descent; Engineered materials; Energy generation and storage; Propulsion; Electronics, devices, and sensors Nanotechnology Microtechnology Microelectronics Microdevice Orbital Mechanics Spectroscopy • Modeling, Simulation, Information Technology and Processing Flight and ground computing; Modeling; Simulation; Information processing • Materials, Structures, Mechanical Systems and Manufacturing Materials; Structures; Mechanical systems; Cross cutting • Thermal Management Systems Cryogenic systems; Thermal control

Energy storage Power management & distribution Cross-cutting technologies Solar power, Photovoltaic Tethers Radioisotope Thermoelectric • Robotics, Tele-Robotics, and Autonomous Systems Sensing (Robotic Sensing) Mobility Manipulation technology Human-systems interfaces Autonomy Autonomous rendezvous & docking Systems engineering Vision Virtual reality Telepresence Computer Aided • Communication and Navigation Optical communications & navigation technology Radio frequency communications, Radio Technologies Internetworking Position navigation and timing Integrated technologies Revolutionary concepts Communication technology Antennas Radar Remote Sensing Optoelectronics	systems (near room temperature); Thermal protection systems • Other Research Areas Small Satellite Small Satellite Technologies Balloons Radio Science MEMS Advanced High Temperature Spectroscopy Magnetosphere Plasma Physics Ionospheres Ground Data Systems Laser Drills High Energy Astrophysics Solar physics Interstellar Astrophysics Interstellar Medium Astrobiology Astro bio geochemistry Life Detection Cosmo chemistry Adaptive Optics Artificial Intelligence

A.7.6 Johnson Space Center (JSC)

Schwing, Brian M. (JSC-AA211) brian.m.schwing@nasa.gov
Goodman, William {Doug} (JSC-XT)[Jacobs Technology, Inc.] doug.goodman@nasa.gov
Linda Ham, linda.j.ham@nasa.gov
Exploration Integration and Science Directorate
https://beta.nasa.gov/johnson/frontdoor/capabilities/

Active Thermal Control

- Condensing heat exchanger coatings with robust hydrophilic, antimicrobial properties
- Development and demonstration of wax and water-based phase change material heat exchangers
- Lightweight heat exchangers and cold plates

ECLSS

- Advancements in Carbon Dioxide Reduction
- Habitation systems that minimize consumables
- Human thermal modeling
- Low toxicity hygiene and cleaning products and methods

EVA

- Portable Life Support System
- Power, Avionics and Software
- Pressure Garment

Entry, Descent, and Landing

- Innovative, Groundbreaking, and High Impact Developments in Spacecraft GN&C Technologies
- Deployable Decelerator Technologies
- High-Fidelity Parachute Fluid/Structure Interaction
- Mechanical Reefing Release Mechanism for Parachutes
- Next Generation Parachute Systems & Modeling
- Precision Landing & Hazard Avoidance Technologies
- Regolith – Rocket Plume Interaction: In-situ Measurements to Enable Multiple Landings at the Same Site
- Optical / Vision-Based Navigation for EDL Applications
- Sensors, including those embedded in thermal protection systems and proximity operations and landing
- Additive Manufacturing for Thermal Protection Systems
- Advanced Materials and Instrumentation for Thermal Protection Systems
- Predictive Material Modeling

Power Distribution and Control

- Lightweight, radiation tolerant cables and spools for Lunar/Mars surface power
- Dust tolerant electrical connectors
- Radiation hard power convertors.

Energy Storage technologies

- Batteries, Regenerative Fuel cells
- High energy, long-life fuel cell membranes

In-Situ Resource Utilization

- Lunar/Mars regolith processing and water-ice mining (Regolith collection, delivery, regolith processing, and drying; Water separation and capture, water cleanup ~~collection~~ and processing, water electrolysis)
- Mars atmosphere processing (CO_2 collection; Dust filtering; Solid Oxide CO_2 electrolysis; Sabatier; Reverse water gas shift)
- Methane/Oxygen liquefaction and storage
- ISRU regolith processing simulation and modeling

In-space propulsion technologies

- Human rated in-space propulsion systems (storable and cryogenic)

- EVA-IVA compatible miniature propulsion systems (including CubeSat)
- Propellant transfer and refueling
- Propellant gauging

Pyrotechnic device development and test

- Miniature pyrovalves
- Low energy, long duration pyrotechnic devices

Autonomy and Robotics

- Biomechanics
- Crew Exercise
- Human Robotic interface
- Autonomous Vehicle Systems/Management
- Data Mining and Fusion
- Robotics and TeleRobotics
- Simulation and modeling

Autonomous Rendezvous and Docking - Next generation In-space docking systems concepts addressing challenges of mass, environments, flight operations and including long duration missions, consider:

- New Rendezvous & Docking strategies ie;, greater vehicle reliance vs kinetic energy, addressing vehicle capabilities, sensors, etc…
- Simplification of soft capture system attenuation; less complex and lighter systems
- Docking independent LRU strategies vs Integrated vehicle solution
- Seals and sealing technology
- Consumables transfer technology (power, data, water, air, fluids)
- Maintenance

Surface Docking System Concepts addressing*:*

- System design and interfaces
- Environment's tolerance including long duration exposure

Human Research

- Behavioral health diagnostic and treatment techniques
- Non-invasive diagnostic aides that work in a communication delay setting

Inflatables and Attachments

- Inflatable Technology Archive/Database (Inflatables data from 30+ years being compiled/tech transfer)
- Advanced Material Development (Lunar/Martian Surface Protection)
- Inflatables Structural Design (hard structure Integration)
- Inflatable Attachment Technology Development (hatches, windows, handrails, floors, internal walls, grapple fixture, docking hatch, radiators, solar panels, etc.)
- Softgoods Structural Health Monitoring (Strain measurement, impact detection)
- Softgoods Folding and Packaging Testing (Cold temp folding)
- Softgoods Materials Testing (Creep test, Air barrier, Permeability)
- Sub-scale Structural Testing (Proof, Burst, Creep Testing)

- Full-scale Thermal Vacuum Testing (Chamber A environmental testing)

Spacecraft Glass & Windows

- Further the state of the art in light weight windows by advancing polymer materials as windowpanes.
    - Understand and mitigate the effects of UV/Radiation and other spaceflight environments on polymer windowpane materials and developing accurate testing techniques for environmental characterization
    - Produce accurate loads/stress modeling and correlation techniques of non-linear materials.
    - Conduct elevated temperature creep testing for polymer windowpane materials.
    - Develop mechanical material properties as a function of temperature, and optical material properties a function of wavelength for polymer windowpane materials.
    - Investigate methods of reducing flammability of polymer windowpane materials.
    - Understand storage effects of polymer window materials.
    - Develop inspection techniques correlated to residual polymer window materials.
    - Evolve the design of polymer windows to allow for long term spaceflight and enhanced viewability.
- Reduce the overhead of processing brittle material windowpanes by improving ground inspection and assessment techniques and developing on-orbit inspection techniques.

Computer Human Interfaces (CHI)

CHI - Human System Integration

- Human Computer Interaction design methods (Multi-modal and Intelligent Interaction) and apparatuses
- Human Systems Integration, Human Factors Engineering: state of the art in Usability, workload, and performance assessment methods and apparatus.
- Inclusion of Human Readiness Level into HSI
- Humans Systems Integration Inclusion in Systems Engineering
- Human-in-the-loop system data acquisition and performance modeling
- Trust computing methodology

CHI - Informatics

- Crew decision support systems
- Advanced Situation Awareness Technologies
- Intelligent Displays for Time-Critical Maneuvering of Multi-Axis Vehicles
- Intelligent Response and Interaction System
- Exploration Space Suit (xEMU) Informatics
- Graphic Displays to Facilitate Rapid Discovery, Diagnosis and Treatment of Medical Emergencies
- CHI machine learning methods and algorithms
- Imaging and information processing
- Audio system architecture for Exploration Missions

CHI - Audio

- Array Microphone Systems and processing
- Machine-learning front end audio processing
- Audio Compression algorithms implementable in FPGAs.

- COMSOL Acoustic modeling
- Front end audio noise cancellation algorithms implementable in FPGAs-example Independent Component Analysis
- Large bandwidth (audio to ultra-sonic) MEMs Microphones
- Sonification Algorithms implementable in DSPs/FPGAs
- Far-Field Speech Recognition in Noisy Environments

CHI - Imaging and Display
- Lightweight/low power/radiation tolerant displays
- OLED Technology Evaluation for Space Applications
- Radiation tolerant Graphics Processing Units (GPUs)
- Scalable complex electronics & software-implementable graphics processing unit
- Radiation-Tolerant Imagers
- Immersive Imagery capture and display
- H265 Video Compression
- Ultra High Video Compressions
- A Head Mounted Display Without Focus/Fixation Disparity
- EVA Heads-Up Display (HUD) Optics

Wearable Technology
- Tattooed Electronic Sensors
- Wearable Audio Communicator
- Wearable sensing and hands-free control
- Wearable Sensors and Controls
- Wearable digital twin/transformation sensor systems

Wireless and Communications Systems
- Computational Electromagnetics (CEM) Fast and Multi-Scale Methods/Algorithms
- EPCglobal-type RFID ICs at frequencies above 2 G
- Radiation Hardened EPCglobal Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Readers
- Radiation robust 3GPP network technologies
- Robust, Dynamic Ad hoc Wireless Mesh Communication Networks
- Wireless Energy Harvesting Sensor Technologies
- Flight and Ground communication systems

Radiation and EEE Parts
- Mitigation and Biological countermeasures
- Monitoring
- Protection systems
- Risk assessment modeling
- Space weather prediction

A.7.7 Kennedy Space Center (KSC)
POC: Tim Griffin (timothy.p.griffin@nasa.gov)

- Storage, Distribution, and Conservation of Cryogenic Fluids and Commodities

- Tools and Techniques for Control, Operation, Inspection, Analysis and Repair
- Environmental and Green Technologies
- Safety Systems for Operations
- Communication and Tracking Technologies
- Robotic, Automated, and Autonomous Systems and Operations
- Operations Support and Advanced Studies Leveraging Primary Center Role Expertise
- Payload Processing and Integration Technologies
- Logistics
- Water/Nutrient Recovery and Management
- Food Production and Waste Management
- Plant Habitats and Flight Systems
- Robotic, Automated and Autonomous Food Production
- ISRU Development Planning/Strategy to Fit Into Architecture
- Resource Acquisition - Regolith/Trash & Gases Liquids
- Consumable Production - Extract/Produce Fuel
- In Situ Construction such as, Landing Pads, Roads, and Berms
- Distribution and Storage of In Situ Resources
- Scientific Instruments
- Resource Assessment/Prospecting

A.7.8 Langley Research Center (LaRC)

POC: Neyda Abreu, neyda.m.abreu@nasa.gov

POC	Technology Area - Topics	NASA Email
Alireza Mazaheri	Topic 1: Aerosciences	ali.r.mazaheri@nasa.gov

Topic 1: Aerosciences

- Uncertainty quantification for high-fidelity multidisciplinary (e.g., aeroelastic, aeroacoustic) analysis for aircraft flight
  POC: Beth Lee-Rauch, e.lee-rausch@nasa.gov
- Multi-physics high-fidelity approaches for advanced or emerging computer architectures
  POC: Beth Lee-Rauch, e.lee-rausch@nasa.gov
- Machine learning for turbulent or transitional flow modeling
  POC: Beth Lee-Rauch, e.lee-rausch@nasa.gov
- HYBRID turbulent simulation methods and models to simulate highly separated turbulent flows POC: Luther Jenkins, luther.n.jenkins@nasa.gov
- Efficient synthetic turbulence generation methods
  POC: Luther Jenkins, luther.n.jenkins@nasa.gov
- Wall models for compressible flows
  POC: Luther Jenkins, luther.n.jenkins@nasa.gov
- High-order unstructured schemes for high-speed flows and aerothermodynamics

POC: Alireza Mazaheri, ali.r.mazaheri@nasa.gov

- Modular GPU-based chemically reacting solver with stiff integrator
  POC: Andrew Norris andrew.t.norris@nasa.gov
- Uncertainty quantification for stochastic probability density function (PDF) methods
  POC: Andrew Norris andrew.t.norris@nasa.gov
- Gas lattice methods for continuum (high density) flows
  POC: Andrew Norris andrew.t.norris@nasa.gov
- Broadband noise prediction of advanced air mobility aircraft
  POC: Mike Doty, michael.j.doty@nasa.gov
- Novel material concepts to extend the frequency range of acoustic liners
  POC: Ran Cabell, randolph.h.cabell@nasa.gov
- Novel noise reduction concepts for urban air mobility (UAM) propulsors
  POC: Ran Cabell, randolph.h.cabell@nasa.gov

Mike" Fremaux	Topic 2: Intelligent Flight Systems & Trusted Autonomy	c.m.fremaux@nasa.gov

Topic 2: Intelligent Flight Systems & Trusted Autonomy

Research in areas of advanced air mobility, increasingly automated and autonomous systems, robotics, and "smart cities" to enable current and future NASA missions and maintain U.S. aerospace preeminence. Development and validation of new architectures, technologies, and operations for increasingly complex and increasingly autonomous aerospace systems is accomplished by:

- Enabling robust control, vehicle performance, and mission management under nominal, and contingency management under off-nominal conditions.
- Ensuring robust and flexible human-machine integration and teaming.
- Advancing technologies for vehicle and system-autonomy, robotics, and flight vehicle environment awareness.
- Developing new methods and tools for the verification, validation, and safety assurance of complex and autonomous systems.
- Developing, maintaining, and utilizing experimental ground and flight test facilities and labs.

Chris Wohl	Topic 3: Advanced Materials, Manufacturing Technologies & Structural Systems	c.j.wohl@nasa.gov

Topic 3: Advanced Materials, Manufacturing Technologies & Structural Systems

- Rapid, scalable additive manufacturing
- Materials for extreme environments
- Materials manufacturing and characterization in extreme environments
- Computational modeling of the manufacturing process influence on metallic microscale and bulk properties
- Computational modeling of polymer synthesis, processing, and additive manufacturing
- Multifunctional materials supporting electric aircraft
- Composite materials supporting green aviation
- Process monitoring during composites fabrication

• Materials systems supporting Human Landing System (HLS) and Environmental Control and Life Support System (ECLSS) objectives		
"Tony" Humphreys	Topic 4: Measurement Systems - Advanced Sensors and Optical Diagnostics	william.m.humphreys@nasa.gov

Topic 4: Measurement Systems - Advanced Sensors and Optical Diagnostics

- Measurement Systems - Advanced Sensors and Optical Diagnostics
  POC: "Tony" Humphreys - william.m.humphreys@nasa.gov
- Detectors and focal planes for Low Earth Orbit observing platforms
  POC: Alan Little, a.little@nasa.gov
- Electronics for both flight platforms and ground test facilities
  POC: Arthur Bradley, arthur.t.bradley@nasa.gov
- Optical components including adaptive optics based on phase change materials
  POC: Hyun Jung Kim, hyunjung.kim@nasa.gov
- Microwave, millimeter, and sub-millimeter wave detection systems
  POC: Jay Ely, jay.j.ely@nasa.gov
- Weather sensors for Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) applications
  POC: Jay Ely, jay.j.ely@nasa.gov
- Custom laser designs (wavelengths, pulse durations, etc.) for remote sensing and ground facility test applications
  POC: Paul Danehy, paul.m.danehy@nasa.gov
- Flow visualization methods for high-speed ground test facilities (supersonic to hypersonic)
- POC: Brett Bathel, brett.f.bathel@nasa.gov
- High spatial and temporal resolution velocimetry measurements, both seeded and seedless POC: Paul Danehy, paul.m.danehy@nasa.gov
- Global surface pressure and temperature measurements
  POC: Neal Watkins, anthony.n.watkins@nasa.gov
- Cryogenic and thermal sensors for ground test facilities
  POC: Lisa Le Vie, lisa.r.levie@nasa.gov
- Non-destructive evaluation (NDE) methods for crewed vehicle structural health
- POC: Patti Howell, patricia.a.howell@nasa.gov
- Automated non-destructive evaluation (NDE) methods and systems utilizing machine learning POC: Patti Howell, patricia.a.howell@nasa.gov

Ron Merski	Topic 5: Entry, Descent & Landing	n.r.merski@nasa.gov

Topic 5: Entry, Descent & Landing

- Advanced EDL architecture approaches
- Advanced EDL vehicle concepts – small spacecraft
- EDL systems analysis (empirical performance assessment tools, packaging)
- Aero-assist technologies -- Aerocapture concepts
- Aero maneuvering technologies – trim tabs, morphing, RCS, magneto-hydrodynamics (MHD)
- Decelerator technologies – ballutes, parachutes, supersonic retro-propulsion, hypersonic inflatable aerodecelerators (HIADs)

- High end computing for EDL modeling -- GPUs
- Flight mechanics and GNC methods
- Atmospheric model development
- Computational fluid dynamics methods and modeling
- Rarefied flow computations -- DSMC
- Complex fluid dynamics characterization -- plume surface interaction, supersonic retro-propulsion, RCS
- Unsteady aerodynamics measurement approaches
- Wind tunnel (subsonic, transonic, supersonic, hypersonic) aero and aeroheating instrumentation, flow characterization methods (MDOE), and testing approaches
- Entry systems structures, composites manufacturing and testing methods
- Landing system concepts
- Ultra-precise velocity and ranging methods -- lidar
- Flight test instrumentation and low-cost data acquisition
- Flight data reconstruction
- Uncertainty quantification

Allen Larar	Topic 6: Terrestrial and Planetary Atmospheric Sciences	allen.m.larar@nasa.gov

Topic 6: Terrestrial and Planetary Atmospheric Sciences

- Atmospheric science focus areas cover a broad range of measurements and applications, including:

  - Measurements of water vapor, carbon dioxide, ozone, methane, nitrogen oxides, and other important greenhouse gases
  - Aerosol and cloud properties
  - Atmospheric winds
  - Radiation budget
  - Atmospheric chemistry and air quality
  - Climate change

Allen Larar	Topic 7: Innovative Concepts for Earth and Space Science Measurements	allen.m.larar@nasa.gov

Topic 7: Innovative Concepts for Earth and Space Science Measurements

- Advanced active and passive remote sensing and in-situ concepts & sensors for new and improved measurements, including:

  - LiDAR
  - Radiometers
  - Spectrometers
  - Interferometers

A.7.9 Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC)

POC: John Dankanich, john.dankanich@nasa.gov and https://www.nasa.gov/offices/oct/center-chief-technologists-2

These Principal Technologists and System Capability Leads are available for consultation with proposers regarding the state-of-the-art, on-going activities and investments, and strategic needs in their respective areas of expertise. Proposers are encouraged to consult with the appropriate PT or SCLT early in the proposal process.

POC	Technology Area	NASA Email
Danette Allen	Autonomous Systems	danette.allen@nasa.gov
Shaun Azimi	Robotics	shaun.m.azimi@nasa.gov
Jim Broyan	ECLSS[1] Deputy	james.l.broyan@nasa.gov
John Carson	EDL Precision Landing; HPSC	john.m.carson@nasa.gov
Scott Cryan	Rendezvous & Capture	scott.p.cryan@nasa.gov
John Dankanich	In Space Transportation	john.dankanich@nasa.gov
Terry Fong	Autonomous Systems	terry.fong@nasa.gov
Robyn Gatens	ECLSS Lead	robyn.gatens@nasa.gov
Julie Grantier	In Space Transportation	julie.a.grantier@nasa.gov
Mark Hilburger	Structures/Materials	mark.w.hilburger@nasa.gov
Michael Johansen	Dust Mitigation	michael.r.johansen@nasa.gov
Julie Kleinhenz	In Situ Resource Utilization	julie.e.kleinhenz@nasa.gov
Angela Krenn	Thermal Technologies	angela.g.krenn@nasa.gov
Ron Litchford	Propulsion Systems	ron.litchford@nasa.gov
Jason Mitchell	Communications & Navigation	jason.w.mitchell@nasa.gov
Michelle Munk	Entry, Descent and Landing (EDL)	michelle.m.munk@nasa.gov
Bo Naasz	Rendezvous & Capture	bo.j.naasz@nasa.gov
Denise Podolski	Sensors/Radiation/Comm.	denise.a.podolski@nasa.gov
Wes Powell	Avionics/Communications	wesley.a.powell@nasa.gov
Jerry Sanders	In Situ Resource Utilization	gerald.b.sanders@nasa.gov
John Scott	Space Power & Energy Storage	john.h.scott@nasa.gov
John Vickers	Advanced Manufacturing	john.h.vickers@nasa.gov
Sharada Vitalpur	Communications & Navigation	sharada.v.vitalpur@nasa.gov
Arthur Werkheiser	Cryofluid Management	arthur.wekheiser@nasa.gov
Mike Wright	Entry, Descent and Landing	michael.j.wright@nasa.gov

Propulsion Systems

- Launch Propulsion Systems, Solid & Liquid
- In Space Propulsion (Cryogenics, Green Propellants, Nuclear, Fuel Elements, Solar-Thermal, Solar Sails, Tethers)

- Propulsion Testbeds and Demonstrators (Pressure Systems)
- Combustion Physics
- Cryogenic Fluid Management
- Turbomachinery
- Rotordynamics
- Solid Propellant Chemistry
- Solid Ballistics
- Rapid Affordable Manufacturing of Propulsion Components
- Materials Research (Nano Crystalline Metallics, Diamond Film Coatings)
- Materials Compatibility
- Computational Fluid Dynamics
- Unsteady Flow Environments
- Acoustics and Stability
- Low Leakage Valves

Space Systems

- Surface Habitation
- Surface Construction and Manufacturing
- In Space Habitation (Life Support Systems and Nodes, 3D Printing)
- Mechanical Design & Fabrication
- Small Payloads (For International Space Station, Space Launch System)
- In-Space Asset Management (Automated Rendezvous & Capture, De-Orbit, Orbital Debris Mitigation, Proximity Operations)
- Radiation Shielding
- Thermal Protection
- Electromagnetic Interference
- Advanced Communications
- Small Satellite Systems (CubeSats)
- Structural Modeling and Analysis
- Spacecraft Design (CAD)

Space Transportation

- Mission and Architecture Analysis
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Space Environmental Effects and Space Weather
- Lander Systems and Technologies
- Small Spacecraft and Enabling Technologies (Nanolaunch Systems)
- 3D Printing/Additive Manufacturing/Rapid Prototyping
- Meteoroid Environment

- Friction Stir and Ultrasonic Welding
- Advanced Closed-Loop Life Support Systems
- Composites and Composites Manufacturing
- Wireless Data & Comm. Systems
- Ionic Liquids
- Guidance, Navigation and Control (Autonomous, Small Launch Vehicle)
- Systems Health Management
- Martian Navigation Architecture/Systems
- Planetary Environment Modeling
- Autonomous Systems (reconfiguration, Mission Planning)
- Digital Thread / Product Lifecycle Management (for AM and/or Composites)
- Material Failure Diagnostics

Science

- Replicated Optics
- Large Optics (IR, visible, UV, X-Ray)
- High Energy Astrophysics (X-Ray, Gamma Ray, Cosmic Ray)
- Radiation Mitigation/Shielding
- Regolith (simulants, ISRU applications, extraction)
- Gravitational Waves and their Electromagnetic Counterparts
- Solar, Magnetospheric and Ionospheric Physics
- Planetary Geology and Seismology
- Planetary Dust, Space Physics and Remote Sensing
- Surface, Atmospheres and Interior of Planetary Bodies
- Earth Science Applications
- Convective and Severe Storms Research
- Lightning Research
- Data Informatics
- Disaster Monitoring
- Energy and Water Cycle Research
- Remote Sensing of Precipitation

A.7.10 Stennis Space Center (SSC)

POC: Anne Peek anne.h.peek@nasa.gov

Intelligent Integrated System Health Management (ISHM) for Ground and Space Applications

Integrated system health management (ISHM) is a unified approach to assess the current and future state of a system. ISHM incorporates interdependencies with other systems, available resources, concepts of operations, and operational demands. Multiple sources of data are used to analyze the behavior of a system, identify trends, and estimate the remaining useful life of a system. SSC is interested in methodologies to assess the "health" of ground and space systems that enable sustainable lunar exploration and a commercial lunar economy. SSC creates and applies intelligent models of components that constitute systems. EPSCoR research could: (1) develop monitoring and diagnostic capabilities that use, or can be incorporated by, intelligent models to monitor and document the operation of the system; or (2) develop prognostics capabilities to accurately estimate the remaining useful life of a component or a system.

Autonomous Operations for Ground and Space Applications

Unprecedented levels of autonomy will be required by government and industry to enable sustainable space exploration of the Moon and Mars. Trust in these autonomous systems must be established. SSC is interested in creating robust, predictable, intelligent, hierarchical, distributed, autonomous systems to operate ground (Earth) systems, surface (Moon or Mars) systems, and space vehicles. EPSCoR research could: (1) create architectures and/or procedures to design predictable, safe autonomous systems (no black box approaches dependent on sparse training data); or (2) design and demonstrate edge-enabled autonomous operations (no connection to a cloud or off-premises/vehicle server) translatable to radiation-tolerant hardware suitable for Moon or Mars missions.

Advanced Propulsion Test Technology Development

Launch systems continue to undergo a design and manufacturing revolution. Rigorous testing mitigates design and manufacturing issues with these systems. However, as the launch industry grows dramatically, rocket propulsion testing must significantly lower the costs of testing and increase test throughput.

EPSCoR research could: (1) investigate the use of design-of-experiments techniques to optimize test operations to reduce the total number of tests required to accurately estimate the performance of a rocket engine or its components; (2) investigate options to transform the 2 design and manufacture of high-pressure (up to 15,000 psi), LOX-compatible, cryogenic tanks; (3) investigate the use of artificial intelligence and/or quantum computing to rapidly (and costeffectively) evaluate test site locations and optimize test stand configurations to meet customer needs, and generate the essential design information (preliminary design review level) for the best candidates; (4) improve capabilities and methods to accurately predict and model the transient fluid structure interaction between cryogenic fluids and immersed components to predict the dynamic loads and frequency response of facilities; and (5) improve capabilities to predict the behavior of components (valves, check valves, chokes, etc.) during the facility design process are needed. These capabilities are required for modeling components in high pressure (to 12,000 psi), with flow rates up to several thousand lb/sec, in cryogenic environments and must address two-phase flows. Challenges include accurate, efficient, thermodynamic state models; cavitation models for propellant tanks, valve flows, and run lines; reduction in solution time; improved stability; acoustic interactions; and fluid-structure interactions in internal flows

Advanced Rocket Propulsion Test Instrumentation

Rocket propulsion system development is enabled by rigorous ground testing to mitigate the propulsion system risks inherent in spaceflight. Test articles and facilities are highly instrumented to enable a comprehensive analysis of propulsion system performance. Advanced instrumentation has the potential for substantial reduction in time and cost of propulsion systems development, with substantially reduced operational costs and improvements in ground, launch, and flight system operational robustness.

EPSCoR research could design and demonstrate a wireless, highly flexible instrumentation solution capable of multiple types of measurements (e.g., heat flux, temperature, pressure, strain, and/or near-field acoustics). These advanced instruments should function as a modular node in a sensor network, capable of performing some processing, gathering data, and communicating with other nodes in the network. The sensor network must be capable of integration with data from conventional data acquisition systems adhering to strict calibration and timing standards (e.g., Synchronization with Inter-Range Instrumentation Group— Time Code Format B (IRIG-B) and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) traceability is critical to propulsion test data analysis.)

Appendix B: Contact/Inquiries

For inquiries regarding technical and scientific aspects of NASA's Research Focus Areas in this NOFO, please contact the designated POC.

B.1 Mission Directorates : Inquiries/Contacts

Mission Directorates	**POC**
Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate (ARMD)	Dave Berger, dave.e.berger@nasa.gov
Space Operations Mission Directorate (SOMD) Commercial *Space Capabilities*	Marc Timm, marc.g.timm@nasa.gov Warren Ruemmele, warren.p.ruemmele@nasa.gov
Space Operations Mission Directorate (SOMD) Office of Chief Health and Medical Officer (OCHMO)	Dr. Victor Schneider, vschneider@nasa.gov Dr. James D. Polk, james.d.polk@nasa.gov
Space Operations Mission Directorate (SOMD) Human Research Program/Space Radiation Element	Elgart, S Robin, shona.elgart@nasa.gov
Space Operations Mission Directorate (SOMD) Human Research Program/Exploration Medical Capability(ExMC) Element	Moriah Thompson, moriah.s.thompson@nasa.gov
Exploration Systems Development Mission Directorate (ESDMD)	Matt Simon, matthew.a.simon@nasa.gov
Science Mission Directorate (SMD)	Lin Chambers lin.h.chambers@nasa.gov
Science Mission Directorate (SMD) Biological and Physical Sciences (BPS)	Douglas Gruendel Douglas.J.Gruendel@nasa.gov Dr. Francis Chiaramonte francis.p.chiaramonte@nasa.gov
Science Mission Directorate (SMD) Heliophysics Division	Patrick Koehn, Ph.D. patrick.koehn@nasa.gov Madhulika Guhathakurta, Ph.D. madhulika.guhathakurta@nasa.gov
Science Mission Directorate (SMD) Earth Science Division	Yaitza Luna-Cruz yaitza.luna-cruz@nasa.gov Laura Lorenzoni laura.lorenzoni@nasa.gov Nancy Searby nancy.d.searby@nasa.gov
Science Mission Directorate (SMD) Planetary Science Division	Erica Montbach, PhD (she/her) erica.n.montbach@nasa.gov Michael Lienhard, PhD (*he/him*) michael.a.lienhard@nasa.gov
Science Mission Directorate (SMD) Astrophysics Division	Dr. Hashima Hasan, hhasan@nasa.gov Dr. Mario Perez, mario.perez@nasa.gov
Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)	Damian Taylor, Damian.Taylor@nasa.gov

POC	STMD Technology Area	Email
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Appendix C : Definitions

- NASA Centers – NASA Centers, located throughout the United States, provide leadership for and execution of NASA's work. There are nine NASA Centers, plus NASA's only Federally Funded Research and Development Center, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). JPL is eligible for collaboration within NASA EPSCoR on par with NASA Centers. The nine NASA Centers are:
    - Ames Research Center (ARC)
    - Armstrong Flight Research Center (AFRC)
    - Glenn Research Center (GRC)
    - Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC)
    - Johnson Space Center (JSC)
    - Kennedy Space Center (KSC)
    - Langley Research Center (LaRC)
    - Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC)
    - Stennis Space Center (SSC)

- Cooperative Agreement – An award of federal assistance similar to a grant with the exception that NASA will be substantially involved in the recipient's performance of the project. Cooperative agreements are managed pursuant to the policies set forth in 2 CFR § 200, 2 CFR § 1800, and the *NASA Grant and Cooperative Agreement Manual* (GCAM).

- Jurisdiction – A State or Commonwealth that is eligible to submit a proposal in response to this announcement.

- NASA Research Contact – The primary NASA point of contact during the proposal writing stage for the proposed research area. If the proposer has contacted and received permission from a NASA scientific or technical person, that individual may be listed in the proposal as the NASA Research Contact. Otherwise, the NASA Research Contact is the University Affairs Officer at the NASA Center, or the NASA Mission Directorate contact at NASA Headquarters.

- Principal Investigator (PI) – A jurisdiction's EPSCoR Director is considered the Principal Investigator (PI). The PI is responsible for proper conduct of the research, including appropriate use of funds and administrative requirements such as the submission of the scientific progress reports to the Agency. The PI is the administrator of the proposal.

- Science-Investigator (Sc-I) – The Sc-I will serve as the point of contact (POC) with the International Space Station (ISS) Program. The formally stated PI will remain responsible for the overall direction of the effort and the use of funds.

- Research Focus Area (RFA) – An area of research focus aligned with the objectives of NASA.

- Research Assistant – A student (undergraduate, graduate, or postdoctoral) who receives a research appointment in direct support of the NASA EPSCoR research in a research proposal.

- Mission Directorates
    - Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate (ARMD)
    - Exploration Systems Development Mission Directorate (ESDMD)
    - Human Exploration and Operations (HEO) Mission Directorate
    - Science Mission Directorate (SMD)
    - Space Operations Mission Directorate (SOMD)
    - Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)

Appendix D : Certifications

Certification of Compliance, Assurances, and Representations

Awards from this funding announcement that are issued under 2 CFR 1800 are subject to the Federal Research Terms and Conditions (RTC) located at http://www.nsf.gov/awards/managing/rtc.jsp. In addition to the RTC and NASA-specific guidance, three companion resources can also be found on the website: Appendix A— Prior Approval Matrix, Appendix B—Subaward Requirements Matrix, and Appendix C—National Policy Requirements Matrix.

By submitting the proposal identified in the Cover Sheet/Proposal Summary in response to this Research Announcement, the Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) of the proposing organization (or the individual Proposer if there is no proposing organization) as identified below—

(a) Certifies that the statements made in this proposal are true and complete to the best of his/her knowledge;

(b) Agrees to accept the obligation to comply with NASA award terms and conditions if an award is made as a result of this proposal; and

(c) Confirms compliance with all applicable terms and conditions, rules, and stipulations set forth in the Certifications, Assurances, and Representations contained in this NRA or CAN. Willful inclusion of false information in this proposal and/or its supporting documents, or in reports required under an ensuing award, is a criminal offense (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001).

The AOR's signature on the Proposal Cover Page automatically certifies that the proposing organization has read and is in compliance with all certifications, assurances, and representations as detailed in the NASA GCAM Appendix A, Standard Format for a NASA Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

Note: On February 2, 2019, the System for Award Management (SAM) implemented a new process that allows financial assistance registrants to submit common Federal Government-wide certifications and representations. The new process will be required effective January 1, 2020. Guidance on the new process and system change can be found at: https://interact.gsa.gov/blog/certifications-and-representation-improvements-sam

Appendix E: Useful Web Sites

NASA http://www.nasa.gov

NASA Office of STEM Engagement http://stem.nasa.gov

NASA EPSCoR https://www.nasa.gov/stem/epscor/home/index.html

Vision for Space Exploration
https://www.nasa.gov/pdf/55583main_vision_space_exploration2.pdf

NASA Centers & Facilities https://www.nasa.gov/about/sites/index.html

Guidebook for Proposers Responding to a NASA Research Announcement
https://www.nasa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/2023-nasa-proposers-guide-final.pdf

NASA Solicitation and Proposal Integrated Review and Evaluation System(NSPIRES)
http://nspires.nasaprs.com

NASA Grant and Cooperative Agreement Manual (GCAM)

https://www.nasa.gov/offices/procurement/gpc/regulations_and_guidance

NPR 5810.1A, Standard Format for NASA Research Announcement and Other Announcements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements

https://nodis3.gsfc.nasa.gov/displayCA.cfm?Internal_ID=N_PR_5810_001A_&page_name=main

Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (2 CFR 200, 2 CFR 1800)
https://ecfr.federalregister.gov/current/title-2

NASA EPSCoR Director's Contact Information
https://www.nasa.gov/stem/epscor/home/EPSCoR_Directors.html