



NDSGC RESEARCH FOCUS AREA (RFA) REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The North Dakota Space Grant Consortium (NDSGC) is soliciting applications for Research Focus Area (RFA) funding which will be evaluated using the following criteria. Please review this information prior to submitting your application.

The RFA program is designed to promote, develop, and expand NASA research in North Dakota in the following areas:

- Astronomical/planetary science
- Small satellite development
- Earth Sciences
- Materials science
- Planetary space suit research
- Other NASA-relevant research areas

Eligibility:

- Faculty and any funded students must be U.S. Citizens.
- UND and NDSU faculty **cannot** serve as PI (can be co-PI).
- Faculty PI must be from an [NDSGC affiliate institution](#).
- Research must be in STEM (science, technology, engineering, or mathematics) or STEM Education field, and have significant NASA-relevance.

Proposal Checklist:

- CV of PI and Co-PIs
- Research Narrative, Budget, and Budget Justification
- All materials must be uploaded as **fully searchable pdf** documents.

Apply online here:

<http://ndspacegrant.und.edu/applications/faculty-application-form.aspx>

<http://ndspacegrant.und.edu/>

Jim Casler, Director
(701) 777-3462
casler@space.edu

Caitlin Nolby, Deputy Director
(701) 777-4856
cnolby@space.edu

Marissa Saad, Coordinator
(701) 777-4161
msaad@space.edu



GUIDANCE FOR PROPOSERS

Proposal Guidance:

- 1. CV of PI (and Co-PIs)**
 - a. Relevant Teaching and Research Experience

- 2. Research Narrative** *(Use the following headings in ≤ 10 pages for a – h. Page limit does not apply to references/citations and any letters of commitment.)*
 - a. Introduction
 - o Overview of the scope of work, including mention of NASA-relevance
 - b. Background
 - o Bigger picture of how the proposed work fits into your overall research plans and the field of study at large
 - c. Research Objectives
 - o Clear identification of all science and technical objectives
 - d. NASA Relevance
 - o Identification of current and potential applications/relevance to NASA
 - e. Implementation Strategy
 - o Expected deliverables: when, and by whom outlined in timetable of milestone completion
 - f. Management Plan
 - o Hierarchy of individuals/institutions working on the project, recruitment plan for team members not yet identified, methods for tracking and reporting progress throughout the project
 - g. Anticipated Outcomes
 - o Expected research outcomes, plans for publications, conference attendance, funding opportunities, future studies and collaborations
 - h. Budget
 - o Clear alignment between budget justification and budget table with items such as: faculty salary and fringe benefits, student stipends, research supplies and materials, travel for field research, collaborations, presentations, etc.
 - i. References
 - j. Letters of Commitment *(if applicable)*

<http://ndspacegrant.und.edu/>

Jim Casler, Director
(701) 777-3462
casler@space.edu

Caitlin Nolby, Deputy Director
(701) 777-4856
cnolby@space.edu

Marissa Saad, Coordinator
(701) 777-4161
msaad@space.edu



GUIDANCE FOR PROPOSERS

Proposal Evaluation:

Collaboration across institutions, industry, and NASA centers, and interdisciplinary teams are highly encouraged. Preference will be given to PIs who have not received NDSGC RFA funding in the last fiscal year. Equipment cannot be funded through the NDSGC. Awards are anticipated to be in the \$15K - \$25K range.

It is a national priority to increase diversity in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields. This diversity consideration is included in each of the NDSGC SMART objectives. Traditionally, minority groups and women have been underrepresented in the STEM disciplines as students and faculty as well as in the workplace after graduation. All proposers are encouraged to help recruit diverse participants to their proposed projects.

Proposers are encouraged to reference the following documents for NASA-relevant research alignment:

- NASA 2015 [Technology Roadmap](#)
- NASA 2017 [Strategic Technology Investment Plan](#)
- NASA 2018 [Strategic Plan](#)

Proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria: scientific and technical merit, NASA-relevance, demonstrated competency of the proposed team to complete the scope of work, and budget reasonableness.

<http://ndspacegrant.und.edu/>

Jim Casler, Director
(701) 777-3462
casler@space.edu

Caitlin Nolby, Deputy Director
(701) 777-4856
cnolby@space.edu

Marissa Saad, Coordinator
(701) 777-4161
msaad@space.edu