



**New Investigations Program
Grant Year 2008
(July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009)**

Request for Proposals

<http://www.ncspacegrant.org/nip/>

Announcement Date: November 1, 2007
Letter of Intent Due: January 10, 2008
Proposals Due: February 15, 2008 (5:00 PM)
Expected Award Date: April 15, 2008



North Carolina Space Grant New Investigations Program - Request for Proposals

I. Summary

The New Investigations Program is designed to strengthen North Carolina's aero/space-related research infrastructure by providing startup or re-alignment funding to university personnel who are conducting research that is directly aligned with NASA's Vision for Space Exploration. This opportunity is available to those who have either yet to become established researchers or are pursuing a significant change in research direction.

NC Space Grant anticipates making 5 to 8 awards of up to \$25,000 with a period of performance of 24 months (July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2010). Awards require a 50% cost-match of non-federal funds to awarded funds. In other words, if \$25,000 is requested from the NC Space Grant, then \$12,500 must be provided as cost-match.

II. Eligibility Requirements

Competition is open to individuals at active NC Space Grant university member institutions. Individuals must be qualified to serve as a principal investigator at their respective institution and must be permanent US citizens. Submission is limited to one proposal per investigator.

NC Space Grant encourages proposals from females, members of underrepresented minority groups, or persons with disabilities.

III. Background

A. National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program

The National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program was established by Congress under Title II of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 1988. Today the 52 Space Grant consortia includes over 850 affiliates from universities, colleges, industry, museums, science centers, and state and local government agencies.

B. North Carolina Space Grant

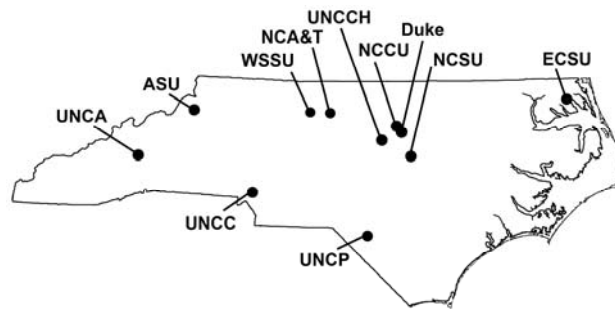
NC Space Grant, established in 1991, is an active member of the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program. NC Space Grant currently has 11 university member institutions, 8 industry/government/non-profit partners and has managed and provided nearly \$13 million in support to North Carolina citizens.

NC Space Grant conducts programs in areas of fellowships, scholarships, education, research, and public service to promote, develop and support aeronautics and space-related science, engineering and technology training and programs. A common focus is to involve women, underrepresented minorities, and persons with disabilities in North Carolina.



University Member Institutions

Appalachian State University
Duke University
Elizabeth City State University
NC A&T State University
NC Central University
NC State University
UNC-Asheville
UNC-Chapel Hill
UNC-Charlotte
UNC-Pembroke
Winston Salem State University



IV. Letter of Intent

In order to plan for a timely and efficient review process, interested proposers are strongly encouraged to submit a brief Letter of Intent (LOI) to proposals@ncspacegrant.org by January 10, 2008. The LOI should include the following: descriptive proposal title, principal investigator, institution, email, phone number, and the name of the program to which the PI is responding. The submission of a LOI is not a commitment to submit a proposal, nor is it required. Rather it is used by NC Space Grant to organize its review panels.

V. Proposal Content

A. Title Page (1 page)

The cover page must include the following items: Project title; period of performance (July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009); PI name, institution, address, phone, fax, and email; concurrence signatures from the Principal Investigator and the Authorizing Official of the proposing institution; and the NC Space Grant program name (New Investigations Program).

B. Research (maximum of 5 pages)

The PI is expected to use these discretionary funds to further establish his/her professional career through new research, expansion of existing research, support for graduate or undergraduate students; publication costs; regional/national travel costs to conferences, meetings, or to NASA centers; summer salary support; disposable research materials; or research related equipment. This section should include, but is not limited, to the following:

1. Description of the proposed research;
2. Relevance of proposed research to NASA's Vision for Space Exploration;
3. Description of how funding will impact investigator's career;
4. Description of past projects supported by NC Space Grant (if applicable).

C. Vita (2 pages)

Include a vita for the proposed Principal investigator of no more than 2 pages.



D. Letter of Support (1 letter)

One letter of support and/or recommendation is required from a research colleague. This letter should emphasize the importance of the proposed research to the field, as well as the ability of the PI to conduct research.

E. University Support Statement (1 letter)

Provide one letter of support from the PI's department head, research center director, or lab director that outlines the importance of the proposed research to the department and the direction of the university.

F. Current and Pending Support

Identify current and pending support of the Principal Investigator including: source of support; project title; amount of award; period covered by award; months or percent of time committed by the investigator during the award period; and location of research.

G. Budget and Budget Narrative (2 pages)

The NC State University/NASA National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program grant does not cover facilities and administrative costs. Unrecovered facilities and administrative costs may be used for required cost-matching.

Provide a detailed budget using the format outlined in Appendix A (New Investigations – Proposed Budget for Grant Year 2008), along with a budget narrative. Each format should include expense summaries as well as the 50% non-federal cost match requirement. Specific budget details are noted below:

- Direct salary expenses should be separated by titles or disciplines with hours, rates, and total amounts for each position. Student salary expenses should also be noted.
- Proposed travel should include the number of trips, destination, duration, etc. International travel is not allowed.
- Requests for equipment are limited to equipment that has a direct impact on the research. Furniture, building/remodeling costs, general office supplies, and computers not directly tied to the research project described may not be charged to the grant but may be used to contribute to the organization's required matching funds.
- Unrecovered facilities and administrative costs may be used for required cost-matching. The detailed budget must include a description of the required 50% cost-match of non-federal funds.

The NASA Grants and Cooperative Agreements Handbook, Sections A and B, located at <http://ec.msfc.nasa.gov/hq/grcover.htm>, provides additional information on uniform administrative requirements for grants and cooperative agreements with institutions of higher education.



VI. Proposal Format

The following guidelines and restrictions apply to all proposals. Proposals not meeting these requirements may not be considered.

- Proposals must be submitted in PDF format via NC Space Grant's on-line proposal submission system at <http://www.ncspacegrant.org/proposals/> by 5:00 PM February 15, 2008.
- One hard copy with original signatures must be received at NC Space Grant by February 20, 2008.
- Proposals should be one-sided, single-spaced on standard 8 ½ x 11 paper, no smaller than 12 point font and with no less than one inch margins throughout.
- Proposals should contain only appendices and attachments specifically called for.

VII. Proposal Submission

Proposal submission will be conducted via the NC Space Grant website at <http://www.ncspacegrant.org/proposals/> by 5:00 PM, February 15, 2008. One complete single electronic file in PDF format is required by the on-line system. Electronically submitted proposals must contain all required signatures. Questions concerning the on-line proposal submission system should be directed to proposals@ncspacegrant.org.

The original proposal with all required signatures must arrive at NC Space Grant by February 20, 2008. Late or incomplete submissions may not be considered. Hard copy submissions should be made to the following address:

Dr. Chris Brown, Director
North Carolina Space Grant
Box 7515, North Carolina State University
1009 Capability Drive, Suite 210
Raleigh, NC 27606

VIII. Proposal Review and Evaluation

Proposals will be reviewed by a panel of individuals who are scientifically literate, but not necessarily experts in the proposed field of research. Proposals will be grouped into 'research areas' based on information provided by the PI during proposal submission. Similarly, review panel members will be grouped into research areas of interest.

Special parameters have been established by the NC Space Grant for evaluation in the following major areas:

- Alignment of research to NASA's Vision for Space Exploration;
- Research plan;
- Budget alignment to research plan
- Compelling case for the need for this support to further the investigator's research career;
- Professional letter of support from research colleague;



- Commitment by PI's institution to the investigator and the proposed research as indicated by the letter of support from the university and/or cost matching.

IX. Reporting Requirements

A. Financial Progress Report

A financial progress report must be submitted by December 31, 2008. This report must contain a breakdown of project expenditures to date and summarize how remaining funds will be spent. Format will be provided.

B. Final Report

A final report is due within 90 days of the completion of the award. This report must contain the following (format will be provided):

1. Executive summary of the project that is suitable for publication. The executive summary should no more than 250 words.
2. Statement of how funding assisted investigator.
3. List of papers submitted for publication during the period of this award. Include title, publication, date of publication, author list, and a copy of the paper.
4. List of all presentations delivered during the period of this award. Include presentation title, location, date, and a copy of the presentation.
5. List of all conferences attended during the period of this award. Include conference title, location, dates, and if investigator presented
6. List of all proposals submitted during the period of this award. Include proposal title, announcement of opportunity title, name of sponsor, proposal due date, role of investigator, and funding status.
7. List of all patents that were applied for and/ or approved during the period of this award.
8. List of pending and actual support for investigator. Include source, PI, % time, and role of investigator.
9. Budget summary that details all project expenditures and includes a comparison of the proposed budget to actual expenditures for all budgeted categories.
10. Signed statement of cost sharing from PI's Office of Sponsored Programs.

X. Other Requirements

A. Acknowledgment of Support

An acknowledgment of NC Space Grant support (logo and/or written) must appear in all publications of any material based on this funding in the following terms: "Supported by the North Carolina Space Grant." The NC Space Grant logo can be downloaded at www.ncspacegrant.org.

B. Post Award Reporting Requirements

The Principal Investigator agrees to submit a current vita to NC Space Grant once per year for at least 5 years after the completion of this award. This allows NC Space Grant to assess the impact of this program on the career of the investigator.

C. Audit and Records



Financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and other material pertinent to this grant shall be retained by the grantee for a period of at least three years following submission of the final project report and shall be made available to NC Space Grant upon request.

D. Payments

Contingent upon NC Space Grant's receipt of NASA funds, a sub-agreement will be established between the grantee's institution and NC State University. The grantee institution shall receive payments under this grant through that institution's Office of Sponsored Projects. Invoices must be submitted no later than 30 days after the last day of the month in which the expense was incurred. Late invoices may not be honored.

E. Notification of Absence

NC Space Grant shall be notified prior to the Principal Investigator's absence from campus for a period of four months or more. Prolonged absences from the campus for non-project related purposes are subject to NC Space Grant review.

F. Transfer of Awards

If the principal investigator leaves the grantee institution or otherwise relinquishes active direction of the project, the institution must notify NC Space Grant as soon as possible and the award will be terminated. Awards may not be transferred if the PI leaves the grantee institution to another institution that is not an active academic member of the NC Space Grant.

G. Suspension or Termination

This grant may be suspended or terminated if the grantee fails to comply with all the terms and conditions of the grant.

H. Nondiscrimination

No person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under this grant on grounds of race, color, national origin, religious affiliation, physical disability, gender, or sexual orientation.

I. Compliance with Regulations

The investigator must abide by all state and federal regulations related to research.

XI. Supplemental Information – NC Space Grant Guiding Documents

In addition to the Space Grant enabling legislation, the following should be considered guiding documents for proposal submission:

NC Space Grant Strategic Plan

http://www.ncspacegrant.org/info/docs/strategic_plan/

NASA's Vision for Space Exploration

http://www.nasa.gov/missions/solarsystem/explore_main.html

Report of the President's Commission on Implementation of United States Space Exploration Policy

http://www.nasa.gov/pdf/60736main_M2M_report_small.pdf



The NASA Education Enterprise Strategy
<http://www.education.nasa.gov/about/strategy/>

XII. Point of Contact

Questions regarding this announcement should be directed to:

Dr. Chris Brown, NC Space Grant Director, cbrown@ncsu.edu, (919) 513-2457;

Ms. Jobi Cook, NC Space Grant Associate Director, jobi_cook@ncsu.edu, (919) 515-5933; or

University	Campus Director	Email	Phone
Appalachian State University	Dr. Anthony Calamai	calamaiag@appstate.edu	828-262-3090
Duke University	Dr. F. Hadley Cocks	Hadley01@duke.edu	919-660-5310
Elizabeth City State University	Dr. Thomas Rossbach	tjrossbach@mail.ecsu.edu	252-335-3376
North Carolina A&T State University	Dr. William Craft	craft@ncat.edu	336-334-7346
North Carolina Central University	Dr. Kinney Kim	khk@nccu.edu	919-530-6451
North Carolina State University	Dr. Fred DeJarnette	dejar@ncsu.edu	919-515-5243
University of North Carolina at Asheville	Dr. Brian Dennison	dennison@unca.edu	828-232-5036
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	Dr. Yogendra Kakad	kakad@uncc.edu	704-687-8408
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Dr. Wayne Christiansen	wayne@physics.unc.edu	919-962-3022
University of North Carolina at Pembroke	Dr. Jose D'Arruda	jose.darruda@uncp.edu	910-521-6638
Winston-Salem State University	Dr. Elva Jones	jonese@wssu.edu	336-750-2485



**APPENDIX A
 NEW INVESTIGATIONS – PROPOSED BUDGET FOR GRANT YEAR 2008
 (July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009)**

Institution: _____
PI: _____

AWARD AMOUNT: \$ _____ **; COST SHARE COMMITMENT: \$** _____

(The award amount and cost-share commitment should match what is reported below)

Budget Category	Amount Requested	Amount Spent	Cost-Share	TOTAL
Salaries	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Travel	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Supplies	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Services	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Equipment	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Student Salaries/Stipend	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other (Explain)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Indirect Costs	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
TOTALS:	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

Budget Narrative: (please attach on a separate sheet)