

2026-2027 Faculty Competition
**Higher Education: Curriculum Development(CD) &
Hands – On –Training (HOT)**



Announcement for faculty at:

University of Nevada, Las Vegas; University of Nevada, Reno; Nevada State University; College of Southern Nevada; Great Basin College; Truckee Meadows Community College; Western Nevada College; Desert Research Institute

**Applications must be submitted by:
Friday, February 27, 2026; 5:00 pm PT**

This solicitation has a high funding rate.

Period of Performance: 06/01/2026 - 05/31/2027

Tips & Q/A Webinar: Thursday, Jan 15, 2026, at 1:00 pm PT

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Tips & Q&A Webinar will be recorded and made available on the NV NASA Programs website. Email daranda@nshe.nevada.edu if you have any trouble with the meeting link.

NOTE: Please open this document in Adobe Acrobat to view attached paperclip resource files relevant to this solicitation.

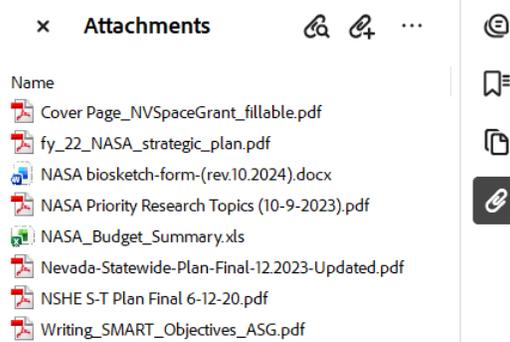


National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
Nevada Space Grant Consortium
Cooperative Agreement No.: 80NSSC25M7094



Paperclipped Attachments

Please note, to view all relevant attachments to this solicitation including the budget summary, cover page, NASA Mission Directorates, etc., please open this PDF document in Adobe Acrobat and select the paperclip on the left-hand side of the screen (you may need to click the arrow to expand the panel where the paperclip is located). Any questions regarding the paperclip attachments or how to access these documents can be directed to Darlene Aranda at daranda@nshe.nevada.edu.



Funding Information and Eligibility for CD and HOT

The Nevada Space Grant Consortium (NVSGC) seeks to fund three projects for either Curriculum Development or Hands-On-Training. The awards will be \$22,250 Federal with \$22,250 matching fund including state program match and institutional match. Please note that potential delays in Congressional appropriations and the release of funds may result in late sub-awards. We currently anticipate creating sub-awards during Spring 2026. The proposed project period of performance is June 1, 2026 and extend through May 31, 2027.

1. Student participation is encouraged and can be included in your overall budget.
2. Partnership with other Space Grant supported projects, NASA Centers or scientists and business/industry are also encouraged.

It is **highly recommended** that you contact your Sponsored Projects Office as soon as possible to inform them that you may apply for this solicitation. Please send them a copy of the solicitation when you contact them. This will give them time to schedule the proposal with their other work and assist you with the budget and approval process.

Eligibility:

Faculty at any Nevada System of Higher Education institution may apply.

Curriculum Development (CD):

The primary focus for the Curriculum Development program is to establish new and/or revised courses and materials that infuse NASA content directly related to NASA Mission Directorate priorities (see paperclipped file) within NSHE institutional curricula.

Projects that include development of interdisciplinary classes utilizing or implementing NASA Mission Directorate content as well as senior design courses and senior research projects are encouraged. The goal is to provide college students with NASA science and engineering course content that they would not otherwise receive, which will lead to improved opportunities for careers with NASA and NASA-related businesses. Curricula development projects should have a clear progression from initiation to classes/content being offered, to becoming part of the institution's curricula. The proposal review will place emphasis on those courses and curricula that target topics directly linked to the attached list of Mission Directorate priorities.

Hands - On - Training (HOT):

The primary focus of this program is to establish new authentic STEM hands-on-training activities for college students that utilize NASA related interdisciplinary content. Topic areas must target topics listed in the NASA Mission Directorate priorities list (attached). Proposals may include the development of teams to compete in science and engineering challenges relevant to NASA.

For both the **CD** and **HOT** projects, the NASA Office of STEM Engagement (NASA OSTEM) Space Grant solicitation states that all funded projects must be directly relevant to one or more Mission Directorate priorities. Please make sure that your proposal states which NASA Mission Directorate your project is most closely aligned with and how the proposed effort will address a priority from the attached list Mission Directorate and NASA Center priority topics.

Proposal areas of interest should address one or more of the following:

- Development of programs and new curriculum to provide students with a knowledge base leading to successful employment at a NASA Center or a NASA-related industry.
- Provide engaged, interdisciplinary learning by integrating state-of-the-art facilities and equipment.
- Incorporate faculty workshops, web posts, newsletters and other media that broaden the information provided to NSHE institutions about successful higher education content developed with Space Grant funding.
- Explore current NASA Mission Directorate topics. For HOT proposals, one option is the development of teams that engage or participate in NASA-relevant engineering design challenges (such as: NASA Student Launch Program, CanSat competition, Human Exploration Rover Challenge, the Mars Societies University Rover Challenge, etc.).
- Create programs that train multiple participants on how to access and utilize unique NASA assets for terrestrial, planetary or astrophysics research.
- Develop college- or university-industry partnerships that train multiple higher education students (including pre-service teachers) in NASA-relevant topics such as aerospace science and engineering topics.
- Engage multiple participants in hands-on activities or research workshops.
- Develop STEM summer orientation workshops for undergraduates.
- Lead to or support faculty externships in aerospace industries or NASA centers that are then used to enhance higher education curricula and hands-on training programs.

Proposal Guidelines

As a single PDF file, submit the following information (1-5):

- 1. Cover Page Form (identify this as a Higher Education CD or HOT application.) All forms are attached.**
- 2. Summary of the proposed project (maximum 4-page narrative). Must include the following:**
 - Title and Abstract:** 300 words or less summarizing the proposed activity
 - Who:** Roles and responsibilities of project participants and the anticipated number of faculty and student participants benefiting from the project. Name all participants that are known at the time of submission.
 - What:**
 1. The objectives, methods, and anticipated outcomes of the project.

2. A plan for sustained or additional institutional support of the project and results after the project end date.
3. Details regarding industry, other campuses, or NASA-Center partners' involvement (this is highly encouraged).
4. Please state if this proposal is in collaboration with another proposal submission.

When: Provide a timeline for the proposed project listing all critical project steps.
Where: Campus(s) and department(s) where the curricula and/or project will be available.

How:

1. State how the activity will result in the enhancement of, or provide training, new materials, procedures, or coursework for your campus programs.
2. Provide an evaluation plan to assess the effectiveness of the CD/HOT project.
3. Specify how this proposal aligns with NASA Mission Directorate research priorities. Please make sure that your proposal states which NASA Mission Directorate your project is most closely aligned with and how the proposed effort will address a priority from the attached list of Mission Directorate and NASA Center priority topics. (see attached list and/or <https://www.nasa.gov/directorates/>).

- 3. Budget and Budget Justification:** The awards will be \$22,250 Federal with \$22,250 matching funds. Please calculate unrecovered F&A on the state match, as applicable, and place it under the "Institutional Match" column of the budget summary. Unrecovered F&A + SPM direct costs = \$22,250. Please work with your campus Sponsored Programs Office/Business Officers to determine the institutional match. A budget and budget summary are required and **must be completed using the attached template.** Dollar amounts proposed with no explanation may reduce proposal acceptability.

Budget – A signed budget by your institutional representative (SPO, Grants, Contracts, etc.).

Budget Justification – Proposed travel should include the number of trips, destination, duration, etc. Student participants must be identified individually.

All reasonable costs are allowable with the following exceptions:

- a. Per NASA guidelines, funds used to support graduate student assistantships may only be used to support graduate students who are US citizens. There is no citizenship requirements on other participants in CD or HOT project activities.
- b. Foreign travel related to the goals of Space Grant might be allowed with prior approval but may not exceed \$5,000 annually across all projects administered by NVSGC. Note: a post-trip summary report must be prepared and submitted by NVSGC to the National Space Grant Program Office within 10 days.
- c. Equipment may be included in the budget but must be approved in advance of proposal submission by NVSGC; typically, the purchase of general computer equipment is prohibited. Purchase of any telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company, ZTE Corporation, Hytera Communications Corporation,

Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company or any subsidiary or affiliate of those entities, or any entity owned or controlled by or connected to the government of the People's Republic of China (PRC) is unallowable.

d. Funds may not be used for construction or remodeling of facilities.

4. Results of Lead PI Prior Nevada NASA Space Grant Consortium or Nevada NASA EPSCoR support (maximum of 600 words): If the lead PI has received NVSGC or Nevada NASA EPSCoR award(s) in the past five years, information on the award(s) is required. The PI should provide the following:

- The amount, period of support and date of final report submission.
- Summary of the results, including tangible outcomes, which could include, but are not limited to: resulting publications; proposals; new collaborations or partnerships; thesis/dissertations; and student successes.

5. Biographical Sketch

Use the current NASA biosketch format for the PI and Co-PI(s) who have a major role in the project (<https://www.nasa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/biosketch-form.docx>).

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES must be followed exactly.

- Proposals must be uploaded as one (1) complete PDF file (above mentioned documents/items 1-5) by your SPO, Grants & Contract, Business office, etc. at <https://nasa.epscorspo.nevada.edu/funding/2026-2027-cd-hot-faculty-competition/> by the deadline of: **Friday, February 27, 2025, at 5:00 pm, PT.**
- Proposals must be typed, single spaced with 1-inch margins, 12 pt. font, and in Times New Roman.
- Incomplete proposals as well as proposals submitted after that date and time will not be reviewed.
- PDFs should be named: **PI Last Name_First Name_NVSGC_CD or HOT**

Evaluation and Award Criteria: The screening and selection process will include statewide representatives from NSHE institutions and will focus on the following areas:

1. Clear, concise, well-written proposal with specific goals and objectives that have measurable outcomes.
2. Alignment of the proposal with NASA's Mission Directorate priorities.
3. Plan for engaging students (HOT).
4. Anticipated impact on STEM education. Plans for evaluating effectiveness and sustainability of the proposed activities.
5. Budget and timeline are appropriate for scope of work and well justified.

Proposals to NSHE for Space Grant Consortium Competitions should broadly aim to enrich and engage faculty and students.

Reporting:

Reporting will be required for all funded proposals.

- Reporting is the responsibility of the principal investigator of each successful submission. PI's will be responsible for working with the NVSGC program office and all project participants to provide text and data through an Excel reporting form.
- Profiles/identifier information must be reported for all students receiving significant funding and/or significant engagement (≥ 160 contact hours) for all undergraduate, graduate, and/or post-doctoral participants. An excel form will be provided.
- Information to be provided in the report includes:
 - Project participants (i.e., Faculty, students, etc...) provide titles, roles, demographics (optional);
 - Highlights and results of the project activities (photos of activities are encouraged);
 - Progress of the proposed activity(ies) as requested;
 - Indirect and Direct Participants information: You will need to capture the total number of direct and indirect attendees reached via your activity(ies). *Direct participants are individuals who are direct beneficiaries of the activity (i.e., participants and/or attendees who may have registered for the activity) indirect participants are individuals who indirectly benefit from the NASA activity and/or can only be estimated (i.e., Students participating in revised courses that are developed);*
 - Results from project evaluation and sustainability planning; and
 - Publications, presentations, papers, reports, posters, proposals submitted, new websites, etc. This information is required for reporting to NASA Headquarters.

If your proposal is selected for funding, you will be asked to provide a headshot or photo of you working in the lab/field and sign a media consent form. Your photo will then be posted to the NV NASA Programs website along with your project abstract. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Darlene Aranda at daranda@nshe.nevada.edu.

Note: If final reports are not submitted, the evaluation of future proposals to NV Space Grant and NV NASA EPSCoR may be impacted.

Informational Webinar

NVSGC Higher Education and Precollege

A *Solicitations and Proposal Preparation Tips & Q&A Session* will be held via Microsoft Teams:

 Thursday, January 15, 2026

 1:00 PM PT

 [Click here to join the meeting](#)

This session will be recorded and made available on the NV NASA Programs website. Contact daranda@nshe.nevada.edu if you encounter technical issues with the link.

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More information about NV Space Grant may be found at:

<https://nasa.epscorspo.nevada.edu/>