



National Council of Space Grant Directors Meeting Tucson, AZ

NASA Space Grant Program Office Update
October 2, 2015

Lenell Allen, Ph.D.



Overview

- NASA Education Lines of Business
- Current & Future Opportunities
- Space Grant & SMD (USIP) Solicitation
- Tips for a Successful Audit
- FY2016 Fiscal Climate



NASA Education Lines of Business

PROGRAMS	Aerospace Research & Career Development (ARCD)		STEM Education & Accountability (SEA)	
PROJECTS	Space Grant	EPSCoR	MUREP	SEAP
Description	Enhances science & engineering education/research for educators & learners through Univ./Consortia in 50 States + DC and PR.	Strengthens research capability of jurisdictions that haven't participated equitably in competitive aero research activities.	Enhances research and academic capabilities at MSIs to improve quality of STEM programs for underserved and underrepresented populations.	Enhances formal and informal education activities for learners and educators.
Funding Examples	Funds scholarships, fellowships, stipends and variety of authentic hands-on experiences.	Funds faculty and post-docs research aligned with NASA Mission Directorates.	Funds internships and multi-year cooperative agreements research at MSI's. Support events like Society of Women Engineering (SWE).	Funds museums, planetariums and NASA Visitors Centers.
Educator Professional Development (EPD)	X		X	X
STEM Engagement (SE)	X		X	X
NASA Internships, Fellowships, & Scholarships (NIFS)	X		X	X
Institutional Engagement (IE)	X	X	X	X



Current and Future Opportunities



- Space Grant & SMD Undergraduate Student Instrument Project (USIP) Solicitation
- SG Solar Eclipse Solicitation
 - Anticipated release Q1 FY2016
- Augmentation to 2015-2018 Training Grant
 - Anticipated release Q1 FY 2016
 - More information forthcoming as details are solidified



SG/SMD USIP Solicitation

- Maximum Value Per Award: \$200,000
- Anticipated Number of Awards: 30
- **New NOI Due Date – October 15, 2015**
- **Proposals Due Date – November 20, 2015**
- Please continue to check NSPIRES regularly for updates and FAQ responses



SG/SMD USIP FAQs Update

Question 1:

- With regards to the USIP RFP:
 - Section E 3.4 states that “Graduate students mentoring stipends may not exceed \$25k/year”. To clarify, is the graduate student cap \$37,500 for the 18 month project (\$25K for 12 months; \$12.5K for 6 months)? Or the \$25K cap for the duration of the project?

A1:

- The USIP Solicitation period of performance (POP) is 2 years or 24 months; thus, the graduate student mentoring stipend cap is \$50,000 (since the graduate student mentoring stipends cannot exceed \$25K/Year).



SG/SMD USIP FAQs Update

Question 2:

- The solicitation states in section 2.3.2 for OE selections: “The *Requested Funding* in Real Year dollars (RY\$) for a USIP investigation awarded by OE is \$200K, including direct and indirect costs, irrespective of the suborbital-class platform proposed, and including the design, development, integration, and testing of the payload; staff labor and student internships/stipends; and research on key innovative technologies.”
 - The Principal Investigator serving in a “lead role” has selected the \$50K sounding rocket for our suborbital-class platform. Since the rocket will cost \$50K can we allocate the remaining \$150K funding for student support such as graduate student mentoring stipend, student internships, and travel grants?

SG/SMD USIP FAQs Update

A2:

- Yes. The maximum amount of funding awarded by OE is \$200K irrespective of the suborbital-class platform. If a proposer selects the (\$50K) sounding rocket as its proposed suborbital-class platform, then the remaining \$150K can be allocated for student support including internship/stipends, scholarships, travel grants, direct and indirect costs.

Inquiries

Questions specifically concerning the Space Grant component of this solicitation may be directed to:

Dr. Lenell Allen

Director, Aerospace Research and Career Development (ARCD)

Office of Education

NASA Headquarters

Phone: (202) 358-1762

E-mail: hq-space-grant@mail.nasa.gov

Tips for a Successful Audit

- **Objective of an audit for Space Grant consortia may include:**
 - 1. **Used award funds for their intended purpose;**
 - 2. **Costs claimed were allowable and in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, guidelines, and terms and conditions of the grant award;**
 - 3. **Met grant objectives; and**
 - 4. **Collected data and developed performance measures to assess accomplishment of the intended objectives.**

Program Performance and Accomplishments

- **Consortia should be prepared to provide:**
 - **Program performance and accomplishments** to determine whether the grantee met grant objectives and collected data and developed performance measures to assess accomplishment of the intended objectives.
 - **Budget management and internal controls** to determine the amounts budgeted and the actual costs for each approved cost category, and to determine whether the grantee deviated from the approved budget and, if so, whether the grantee received the necessary approval.



Accounting and Internal Controls

- **Consortia should be prepared to provide:**
 - **Accounting and internal controls** to determine whether the grantee had sufficient accounting and internal controls to identify and report expenditures and reimbursements. This included testing:
 - ***Grant drawdowns*** to determine whether they were adequately supported and whether the grantee was managing receipts in accordance with Federal requirements;



Grant Reporting and Cost Sharing Requirements

- ***Consortia should be prepared to provide:***
 - ***Grant expenditures*** to determine whether they were allowable under the terms and conditions of the grant award; properly authorized, classified, and supported; and allocable to the grant;
 - ***Grant reporting*** to determine whether required reports were submitted on time and accurately reflected grant activity; and,
 - ***Grant cost sharing funds*** to determine whether the grantee met cost sharing requirements



Additional Audit Guidance

- Work closely with your Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) staff to ensure that your SG budget is managed in a way that mirrors the internal controls of your university.
- Budgets reported in OEPM should mirror expenditures posted to date in OSP; if there are funds that have not been encumbered and will be pushed forward, it's ok! Just explain it!

Fiscal Climate – FY2016

- Appropriations Funding Levels:

- House and Senate

- Space Grant: \$40M



- Continuing Resolution – December 11, 2015

- *NASA Office of Education will adhere to the “FY2016 Appropriations Language” and will make every effort to make sure that there is no discontinuation of operations as we await the results of the external evaluation.*

Thank You!

