



California Space Grant Consortium

Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program 2009-2010

Proposal Submission Period: January 4 through February 19, 2010

The California Space Grant Consortium (CaSGC – <http://casgc.ucsd.edu>) will award undergraduate research scholarships to students attending its affiliate member institutions (see CaSGC website for listing: http://casgc.ucsd.edu/?page_id=27) who are pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). This competitively awarded program engages the future STEM workforce in basic and/or applied aero/space-related research projects and facilitates the development of mentor relationships between students, faculty and the NASA community.

Applications are evaluated based upon the student's academic achievement, quality of proposed research project, letter of recommendation from their research mentor, and exhibited leadership qualities.

Applicants may carry out their research project at their home institution during the 2009 – 2010 academic year, including summer 2010. All research projects must be conducted under the general supervision of the applicant's research mentor.

At the end of the award period, selected students are required to submit a research summary to California Space Grant.

Eligibility Requirements

The applicant must be:

- Pursuing a bachelor's degree in a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics discipline of interest to NASA or working at a NASA center or aero/space industry.
- Classified as a junior or senior at a CaSGC affiliate member university/college during the 2009-2010 academic year.
- Conducting or proposing to conduct an aero/space related research project under the direct supervision of a research mentor.
- In good academic standing with a GPA of 3.0 or above (out of 4.0).
- A United States citizen (Permanent Residents are not eligible).

Applicants are eligible to receive a total of two Undergraduate Research Experience Scholarships during their academic studies.

Please review the following FAQ page for more information.



Application

Interested students must complete an online application (can be found at <https://secure.spacegrant.org/apps/?pk=cas1>) that includes the submission of:

- Unofficial transcripts (uploaded as a PDF file) - from all universities and/or colleges the applicant has attended (official transcripts will be required only if a student is selected to receive an award).
- Letter of recommendation from the student's current or proposed research mentor - once the application has been submitted, the mentor will be contacted, via email, with instructions on how to submit the on-line letter of recommendation. Students are encouraged to communicate this process with their mentor and make sure they treat the following email address as an approved address (often times it is sent to the spam/junk folder): applications@spacegrant.org. An application is not considered complete until all components have been submitted!

Due Dates

- On-line application form - **Due: February 19, 2010**
- On-line Letter of Recommendation - **Due: February 24, 2009**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Application Questions

1. Do I have to be a US citizen to apply?
2. Am I eligible to apply if I currently hold or plan to hold another federally funded award?
3. Why is my university not listed as an eligible institution?
4. Is my university a member of California Space Grant?
5. What type of supporting documentation is required?
6. Where do I email my supporting documentation?
7. Which transcripts are required??
8. How many letters of recommendation do I need?

Award Questions

1. When will the awards be announced?
2. If I receive the award when will I receive the check?
3. What is required for the final report?

Program Specific Questions

1. What is the profile of the average undergraduate scholarship recipient?
2. On what scale is GPA ranked?



ANSWERS

Application

1. *Do I have to be a US citizen to apply?*
Yes. Federal law requires that we only give fellowships and/or scholarships to United States citizens. Permanent Residents are not eligible for this award.
2. *Am I eligible to apply if I currently hold or plan to hold another federally funded award?*
California Space Grant awards are funded by the federal government. As a result, you can not receive scholarship and/or fellowship funds from two federally funded programs at the same time. Federal law prohibits a person from receiving fellowship and/or scholarships through multiple federally funded programs. If you receive an award offer from multiple federally funded sources you must choose which one award you will accept. If you receive another federally funded scholarship and/or fellowship and choose not to accept California Space Grant's offer you will be allowed to keep the California Space Grant scholarship designation but not the funding.
3. *Why is my university not listed as an eligible institution?*
There are two possible reasons that your university is not listed as an eligible CA Space Grant institution.
 - a. Your institution is not a member of CA Space Grant. Only students from CA Space Grant member institutions are eligible to participate in this program.
 - b. Your institution is a member of CA Space Grant but not a member in good standing. When a current member of CA Space Grant does not fulfill its membership obligations they lose their privileges of participating in CA Space Grant programs. If the situation is not rectified they are removed from CA Space Grant membership.
4. *Is my university a member of the California Space Grant?*
You can check our affiliate membership list by visiting http://casgc.ucsd.edu/?page_id=27 to see if your university is a member of our organization.
5. *What type of supporting documentation is required?*
CA Space Grant requires that a letter of recommendation and unofficial transcripts from the institutions that the applicant has attended be submitted through the online application system. Transcripts must include course name, credit hours, grades for all work completed or attempted through the fall semester of the current academic year.
6. *Where do I email my supporting documentation?*
All supporting documentation is submitted through the online application system as PDF files.



7. *Which transcripts are required?*
CA Space Grant requires that applicants submit transcripts from all universities and colleges where 10 or more credits were earned so that the applicant can be properly evaluated.

8. *How many letters of recommendation do I need?*
One. Only one letter of recommendation is allowed per application. If more than one letter is submitted using our on-line application program the one that was received last will be used in your application packet. This letter of recommendation should come from the person you have designated as being your research mentor for this project.

Award

1. *When will the awards be announced?*
Awards will be announced in March. All applicants will be emailed a notification whether or not they have been selected for an award. If you do not receive a letter by the end of March please contact SpaceGrant@ucsd.edu.

2. *If I receive the award when will I receive the check?*
Funds are administered as stipends directly to the student. You will be asked to send California Space Grant an Official Transcript through the fall semester / quarter. After verifying student's enrollment and academic status,, California Space Grant processes the awards. Summer awardees receive funds at the beginning of the first summer session. Academic year awardees receive funds in at the beginning of the semester.

3. *What is required for the final report?*
Please refer to the Final Report Guidelines on the California Space Grant website at http://casgc.ucsd.edu/?attachment_id=1179.

Program Specific

1. *What is the profile of the average undergraduate scholarship recipient?*
California Space Grant makes 30-40 awards each year to students from a variety of majors. GPA: 3.5 average - 4.00 high - 3.00 low

2. *On what scale is GPA ranked?*
GPA is based on an unweighted scale where A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1 and F=0 points. No additional points are given for advanced classes.