



KENTUCKY AEROSPACE TECHNICAL CHALLENGE

KYATC

Build. Innovate. Advance.

\$5,000

Funding for materials and supplies

For Kentucky college teams entering NASA or aerospace-related challenges, competitions, capstones, rocketry, or robotics competitions, or working with NASA, science or commercial missions.

LAUNCH YOUR TEAM PROJECT

NASA Kentucky Space Grant invites Kentucky college student teams to apply for support and pursue hands-on aerospace design and technical challenges.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Student teams pursuing NASA or aerospace-related competitions, capstones or challenges.
- Student teams working with NASA, scientific, or commercial aerospace missions.

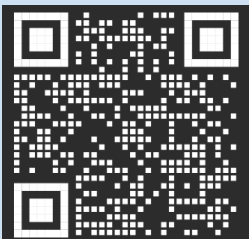


EXAMPLE CHALLENGES

- NASA Student Launch • NASA Lunabotics • NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge • NASA SUITS • RASC-AL • Gateways to Blue Skies • COSMIC Capstone Challenge • NASA TechLeap

DID YOU KNOW?

Kentucky college teams have achieved national honors in multiple aerospace technical competitions, including the NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge, NASA Student Launch and national rocketry competitions.



READY TO START?

Contact NASA Kentucky for application information and competition eligibility

nasa@uky.edu

nasakentucky.org

Kentucky Aerospace Technical Challenge (KYATC)

Description: Many Kentucky college teams have achieved national honors in aerospace technical competitions, including the NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge, NASA Student Launch and national rocketry competitions. Kentucky Space Grant Consortium (KYSGC) supports aerospace teams statewide each year. KYSGC will support KY college teams with seed funding for competitions and challenges in the 2026-2027 academic year to assist teams with the resources to participate.

Opportunity: Kentucky college teams who register for a NASA or aerospace-related capstone design, challenge or technical competition (including rocketry and robotics) can apply to receive \$5,000 in funding for materials and supplies from the NASA KY Space Grant Consortium.

Eligibility:

1. Kentucky college student teams who register for a competition or challenge sponsored by NASA or an aerospace-related organization
2. Kentucky college student teams working with NASA, scientific, or commercial aerospace missions
3. Teams must have a faculty, technical or industry mentor

Challenges and Competitions:

- NASA-sponsored team challenges
- Challenges or competitions sponsored by an aerospace organization
- Other challenges and technical opportunities, including pitch contests, will be considered. Teams must justify how the challenge relates to technical advancement in aerospace.

Examples:

- C3: COSMIC Capstone Challenge - Sept 11 <https://cosmicspace.org/c3/>
- NASA Undergraduate Student Design Projects - Sept 14 <https://www.nasa.gov/learning-resources/nasa-undergraduate-student-design-projects/>
- NASA Student Launch - Sept 14 <https://www.nasa.gov/learning-resources/nasa-student-launch/>
- NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge (HERC) - Sept 17 <https://www.nasa.gov/learning-resources/nasa-human-exploration-rover-challenge/>
- NASA Lunabotics Challenge - Sept 30 <https://www.nasa.gov/learning-resources/lunabotics-challenge/>
- NASA Gateways to Blue Skies Competition - Oct 12 <https://blueskies.nianet.org/competition/>

- RASC-AL - Oct 13 <https://rascal.nianet.org/>
- NASA Human Lander Challenge - Oct 20 <https://www.nasa.gov/directorates/stmd/prizes-challenges-crowdsourcing-program/center-of-excellence-for-collaborative-innovation-coeci/nasa-2026-human-lander-challenge/>
- NASA Spacesuit User Interface Technologies for Students (SUITS) Challenge - Oct 22 <https://www.nasa.gov/learning-resources/spacesuit-user-interface-technologies-for-students/>
- NASA Techleap – Oct 28 <https://occ.nasatechleap.org/>

See specific challenge websites for more information, including upcoming webinars and deadlines.

Deadline: Teams must apply by March 15, 2027.

Application: To begin the application process, send a Notice of Intent (NOI) to nasa@uky.edu. The NOI should identify competitions or challenges that the team is targeting (including website links), Kentucky institutions that the students are enrolled in, and the name and contact information of a faculty, technical or industry mentor. The NOI should identify a student team member as point of contact and include their contact information. Upon receiving the NOI, KYSGC will review and provide additional application information.

Additional Information:

Sources for additional challenge opportunities include NASA Gateway and NASA EXPRESS:

<https://stemgateway.nasa.gov/s/>

<https://www.nasa.gov/learning-resources/nasa-express/>

The NASA KY Space Grant Consortium may announce additional KYATC support throughout the year, including to select teams who complete technical requirements and advance to the next stage in the challenge or competition.

Contact: NASA KY at nasa@uky.edu for more information and questions about eligibility.

About: NASA Kentucky Space Grant Consortium is a higher education program based at the University of Kentucky in partnership with [NASA Space Grant](#) to provide opportunities in aerospace-related research and education statewide for Kentucky colleges, universities, community colleges, and non-profits, and in partnership with Kentucky industry. More information available at nasakentucky.org.