Space Communications and Navigation (SCaN) serves as the Program Office for all of NASA’s space communications activities. SCaN manages and directs the ground-based facilities and services provided by the Deep Space Network, Near Earth Network and Space Network. It is also responsible for the development of space communications and navigation technology. SCaN’s national and international activities include its role in NASA’s spectrum management and policy advocacy.

The SCaN Internship Project (SIP) is a paid internship hosted by NASA’s Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, OH, and NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD. SIP is open to students 16 or older who are pursuing a career in space communications and navigation, or have an interest in these areas. SIP is sponsored by the SCaN Policy and Strategic Communications Office at NASA Headquarters in Washington, D.C. SIP takes place during the summer, for 10 weeks, with potential continuation during the school year.

The internship allows students to perform hands-on training with real mission scenarios, gain exposure and analyze powerful space communication systems, utilize networks software tools and effectively communicate their findings in a final presentation to NASA management. Each student is paired with an experienced and multidisciplinary mentor who counsels the student with his/her work, and also engages with career planning.

Students are introduced to space communications and navigation knowledge and practices through their participation in the program. Each year, as the students’ knowledge matures, their corresponding NASA activities and training increase in complexity.

- Students offer fresh perspectives and innovative ideas.
- Students work on projects that can change the face of NASA.
- Students are integrated with career professionals emphasizing mentor-directed, degree-related tasks while contributing to the operation of a NASA facility or the advancement of NASA’s missions.
- NASA actively promotes STEM careers, and SIP is in line with NASA’s message and vision.

SCaN Internship Project
Hosted by NASA’s Glenn Research Center and NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center

Educational Paths
- Aerospace Engineering
- Applied Physics
- Astronautical Engineering
- Computer Science/Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Finance
- Graphic Design
- Information Technology
- Mathematics
- Software Engineering
- Space Policy
- Strategic Communications
- Support Services
- Systems Engineering
- Computer Science/Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Finance
- Graphic Design
- Information Technology
- Mathematics
- Software Engineering
- Space Policy
- Strategic Communications
- Support Services
- Systems Engineering

Eligibility Requirements
- U.S. citizenship
- GPA: 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- At least 16 years at the time of the internship
- High school students: Must be a permanent Resident of Ohio for a SCaN internship at NASA’s Glenn Research Center and live within a 50-mile radius from NASA Center. Students must be a permanent resident of either Maryland, Virginia or Washington, D.C. for a SCaN internship at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center and live within a 50-mile radius from NASA Center.
- Undergraduate or graduate students: Enrolled full-time in a degree-granting program at an accredited college or university.
- Must be able to provide own transportation

Learn More and Apply!
To learn more, visit https://www.nasa.gov/directorates/heo/scan/communications/outreach/internships
To apply, visit https://intern.nasa.gov/

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- Quantum Communications
- Radio Frequency Spectrum (RF)
- SIP
- Space Communications and Navigation (SCaN)
- Space Communication Technology
- Space Network (SN)
- Tracking and Data Relay Satellite (TDRS)