



Flight Opportunities

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Enjoy!

The Flight Opportunities team

Community Learning

Mark Your Calendar for our First Community of Practice Webinar

**25 Years of Microgravity Flight Research
A Conversation with Dr. Steven Collicott
January 6, 2021
10 a.m. PST**

Celebrating his 25th year of leading Purdue University's Zero-Gravity Flight Experiment undergraduate class, Dr. Steven Collicott is an experienced and prolific Flight Opportunities-supported researcher. In this webinar, Dr. Collicott will illustrate the innovative ways in which he involves students in his flight campaigns and offer recommendations for other researchers looking to do the same. He'll also share his perspective on important aspects of preparing for flight, best practices for designing experiments and conducting tests, and creative ways of communicating outcomes with potential users.

This webinar will be hosted on Microsoft Teams:

Join on your computer or mobile app: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only): +1 256-715-9946 (United States, Huntsville) Phone Conference ID: 767 011 992#

*Community of practice webinars will take place the **first Wednesday of every month at 10 a.m. PT.** Stay tuned for details about additional webinars planned for 2021.*

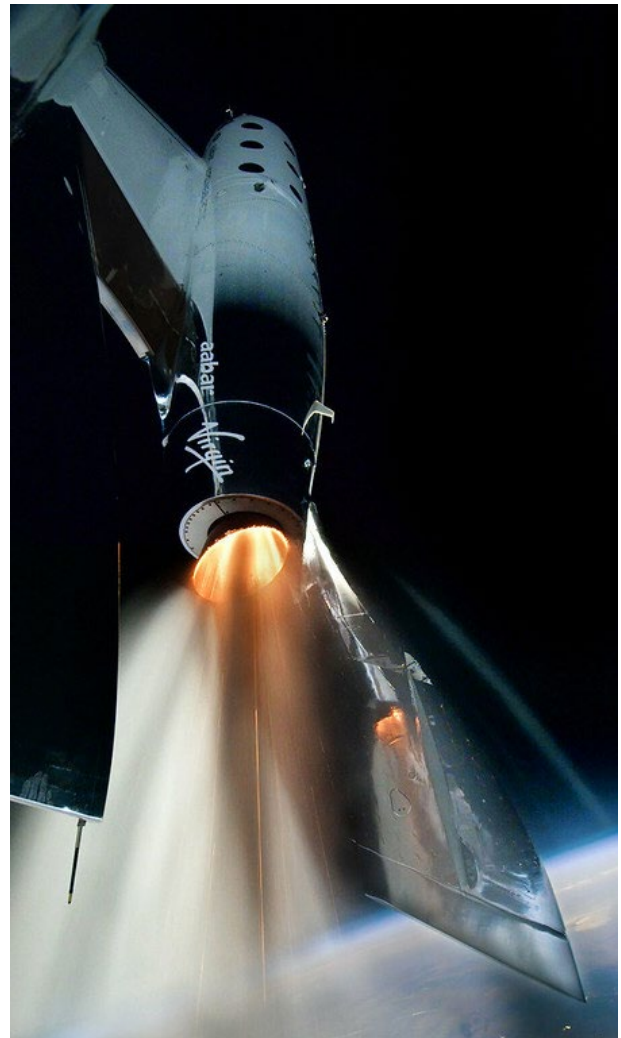
NASA Awards Contract for Flight and Integration Services

NASA has selected Masten Space Systems Inc. of Mojave, California, and Virgin Galactic LLC of Las Cruces, New Mexico, to provide flight and integration services for payloads chosen by the Flight Opportunities program. The two companies join **four others** to provide service under commercial indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity (IDIQ) contracts with NASA.

Read the **full NASA news release** for more information.



Masten Space Systems' Xodiac vertical takeoff and vertical landing system lifts off the desert floor at Mojave Air and Space Port in California. Credits: Masten Space Systems/Matt Kuhns

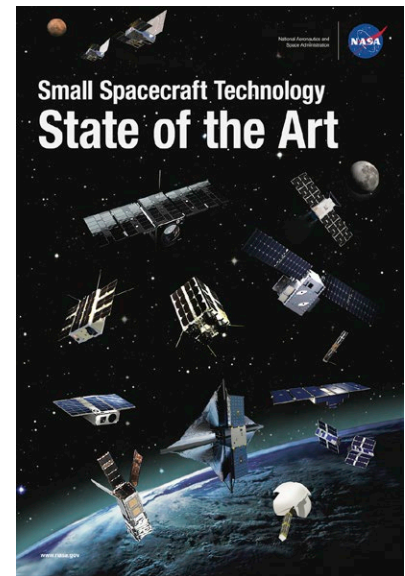


Virgin Galactic's SpaceShipTwo launches toward space after taking off from Mojave Air and Space Port in California. Credits: Virgin Galactic

Download the 2020 Small Spacecraft Technology State of the Art Report

Now available, the [2020 Small Spacecraft Technology State of the Art Report](#) may be of interest to those developing technologies with relevance to this field. The report includes coverage of:

- In-space propulsion
- Deorbit system
- ID and tracking systems



Venture Capital Firms Weigh in on NASA Investment Best Practices

Over the past year, NASA's [Office of the Chief Technologist](#) led a trade [study](#) about venture capital firms and their relationships with technology startups. The study used independent research and qualitative data from interviews with 13 firms to develop recommendations for how NASA could increase the impact of our investments. Recommendations included may be of interest to those developing technologies for testing through Flight Opportunities and other NASA programs.

Opportunities

Upcoming

Stay Tuned for the Tech Flights 2021 Solicitation

While NASA's 2021 Tech Flights solicitation is planned for release next year, please be aware that the specific timing for the release is still being determined. Be sure to keep an eye on this newsletter and the [Flight Opportunities website](#) for information as it becomes available.

In preparation for next year's solicitation:

- Read our [tips on preparing for the Tech Flights solicitation](#)
- Read an [overview of the Tech Flights program](#) and eligibility criteria
- Learn more about the [technologies selected for Tech Flights awards in 2020](#)

Recently Announced

Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) Suborbital Flight Opportunity Flight Opportunities has partnered with NASA's EPSCoR program to provide access to suborbital flight tests for the EPSCoR community. Through an amendment to the existing 2021 EPSCoR International Space Station Flight Opportunity solicitation, EPSCoR jurisdictions will be able to propose using suborbital flights to further their EPSCoR-funded research.

Proposal deadline: February 22, 2021

Visit NSPIRES for more details.

(Editor's note: The EPSCoR announcement in our November issue erroneously listed the proposal due date as January 7, 2021. Please note the new date.)

Closing Soon

NASA SBIR/STTR 2021 Phase I Program Solicitation

Proposal deadline: January 8, 2021

Team Spotlight

Congratulations to Leslie Williams on her Retirement

As the News Chief for NASA's Armstrong Flight Research Center, Leslie Williams has worked to represent the Flight Opportunities program across NASA's websites, traditional and social media channels, and more broadly in the space community beyond the agency. She will retire at the end of 2020 after 30 years of service to NASA and a strong legacy of work for our program over the last decade. The Flight Opportunities team wishes her a hearty congratulations on her long career with the agency and extends our gratitude for the attention she has brought to Flight Opportunities and the many program-supported technologies developed and tested in support of NASA's mission goals. Her energy, tenacity, wit, and humor will be missed among our ranks, and we are wishing her all the very best for her next chapter.



High winds in New Mexico are no match for AFRC News Chief Leslie Williams, who will retire at the end of 2020 after a 30-year career with NASA. Credits: NASA

“There’s been so much learned over the years – so many exciting missions and events to witness – but the people are really what make it all possible.” – Leslie Williams, News Chief, NASA’s Armstrong Flight Research Center

The Lunar Surface Science Workshop Series

Organized by NASA, the Lunar and Planetary Institute, and Universities Space Research Association, these **focused virtual sessions** will solicit input from the community on the potential for new scientific research that could be enabled by human exploration near the lunar South pole, and help to close knowledge gaps associated with crew activities and safety.

Space Biology Session:

January 20–21, 2021

This session will inform the community about lunar surface science programmatic activities at NASA and solicit input from the community on the potential for new scientific research that could be enabled by Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS) and human exploration on the Moon and the technologies needed to conduct the research investigations.

Registration deadline: January 18, 2021

Structuring Real-Time Science Support of Artemis Crewed Operations Session:

February 24-25, 2021

This session will explore lessons learned from Apollo to inform how scientists will work with Artemis Program flight controllers, flight directors, astronauts, and spaceflight engineers to achieve mission success and maximize scientific productivity by ensuring that the Artemis lunar surface missions effectively and efficiently accomplish high-priority science objectives.

Registration deadline: February 21, 2021

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Have ideas or feedback for the Flight Opportunities newsletter?

Drop us a line at:

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STAY CONNECTED:



NASA Flight Opportunities Program

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Flight Opportunities is part of NASA's Space Technology Mission Directorate.