

Space Grant Common Definitions

Significant Award - a monetary award, internship or experience which includes one or more of the following: (a) has a value of greater than or equal to \$3,000; (b) participation of greater than or equal to 160 hours; and/or (c) through a cost-benefit analysis proves to have significant impact on the student's academic achievement and employment.

Educator Participant - an individual who is currently serving as educator (i.e., certified teacher, school administrator, higher education faculty, preservice teacher, and/or informal educator) in a formal and/or informal setting that participates in a NASA STEM Engagement activity and/or utilizes NASA STEM Engagement content or resources (e.g, educator professional development, challenges, downlinks, awards, etc).

Underrepresented/Underserved – Learner, Educator, or Participant who identifies in one or more of the following racial or ethnic categories: Black, Hispanic, Pacific Islander, American Indian/Alaskan Native.

Underrepresented/Underserved Target Goal: Percentage of Significantly Awarded students who are classified in the designated underserved/underrepresented racial and/or ethnic categories. State goals are determined by the most recently released data from the National Center for Education Statistics (Department of Education - Total fall enrollment in degree-granting postsecondary institutions, by race/ethnicity or nonresident alien status of student and state or jurisdiction (Table 306.30)).

Female Target Goal: Percentage of Significantly Awarded students who are female. Target goal for all Space Grant Consortia is 45%.

Internships: Activities that provide experiential learning that integrates knowledge and theory learned in the classroom with practical application and skills development in a professional setting.

Fellowships: Activities that seek graduate research proposals in response to a NASA-funded Research opportunity.

Challenges: Activities that involve STEM Challenges, Competitions, and Contests that are designed and implemented to:

- Advance defined, measurable objectives that relate to a NASA mission;
- encourage broad participation and engagement by external solvers (when applicable);
- provide clear rules for participation, including any eligibility requirements;
- and provide clear solution performance and/or judging criteria

Educator Professional Development: Activities that provide a wide variety of specialized training and support to help administrators, teachers, pre-service teachers, faculty, and other informal educators improve their professional knowledge, competence, skill, and effectiveness.

College STEM Experiences: Activities that engage Higher Education students, but do not involve a challenge, contest or competition.

Pre-College STEM Experiences: Activities that engage K12 students, but do not involve a challenge, contest or competition.

Research Opportunities: Activities that provide Higher Education students opportunities to engage as researchers in NASA's mission.