National Aeronautics and Space Administration

NASA TECHFLIGHTS 2023

Awards Up to $1 Million and Access to Suborbital and Orbital Flight Tests

Whether you're developing technology for the Moon, Mars, the International Space Station, or a small spacecraft, putting it to the test in a relevant environment is essential to reaching for the stars. Funding through NASA TechFlights can help you get there with grants and collaborative agreements to test your technology on commercial flights using suborbital vehicles or orbital platforms hosting payloads.

How much funding is available?

- Up to $1 million per awardee
- No cost sharing required for awardee

What does it cover?

- Purchase of flight tests on commercial suborbital vehicles or orbital platforms hosting payloads that suit your technology demonstration needs
- Design, development, and preparation of your technology payload for flight
- Travel, educational opportunities, and other indirect costs

What kinds of vehicles can I test my technology on?

Researchers may select any commercial flight provider that meets NASA's technical requirements and suits the technology demonstration, including:

- Aircraft flying parabolic profiles
- Rocket-based systems
- High-altitude balloons
- Hosted orbital platforms

What kinds of technologies does TechFlights fund?

NASA is looking for technologies that align with specific topic areas that address agency and mission goals:

Topic (1): Advancing the Lunar and Low-Earth Orbit (LEO) to Geosynchronous-Earth Orbit (GEO) Economies

Topic (2): Supporting NASA Science Mission Directorate's Commercially Enabled Rapid Space Science (CERISS)

Read more about the topics and review examples in the full TechFlights solicitation.

Who is eligible to apply?

U.S.-based* researchers from:

- Industry
- Academia
- Private research institutes

*Non-U.S.-based organizations may be eligible to collaborate with a U.S.-based principal investigator.

How are proposals evaluated?

NASA evaluates all proposals based on technical merit. Relevance to NASA missions and/or commercial spaceflight and soundness of the technology payload development and flight test plans are considered, among other factors.

This year, emphasis will be placed on the overall impact to be achieved via the flight test awards and on decreasing the amount of time between award and flight testing.

The 2023 TechFlights solicitation continues efforts to ensure equitable reviews and reduce unconscious bias through implementation of a dual-anonymous peer review process (DAPR).

How do I get started?

1. Read the full TechFlights solicitation online: tinyurl.com/NASA-23FO-F1
2. Register on www.SAM.gov (a prerequisite for registering on NSPIRES)
3. Register on NASA NSPIRES to access all materials and create your proposal: https://nspires.nasaprs.com

When is my proposal due?

Mandatory preliminary proposals due:	Full proposals (by invitation only) due:
June 7, 2023 5:00 pm ET	**October 4, 2023 5:00 pm ET**

I have questions! Where do I get help?

- Attend the live Q&A session: May 10, 2023 (Visit the solicitation page on NSPIRES for attendance details or to watch the replay.)
- Contact us at: HQ-STMD-FO@nasaprs.com