

NASA In-Flight STEM Downlinks Expedition 74 Proposal Form

General Information

The proposal period for In-Flight STEM Downlinks Expedition 74 is March 17 – April 29, 2025.

NASA In-flight STEM Downlinks allow participants and facilitators to interact with astronauts aboard the International Space Station during a 20-minute question-and-answer session. During the event, astronauts respond to the participants' questions live on air. Downlinks are available to U.S.-based formal and informal organizations. Expedition 74 In-flight STEM downlinks will tentatively occur between **Sept. 2025 and March 2026**.

To Apply:

1. Download the Planning Guide and Expedition 74 Proposal Form [here](#). Email questions to JSC-Downlinks@mail.nasa.gov.
2. Register in [NASA STEM Gateway](#). Registration is a three-step process:
 - Register and set up a profile in [NASA STEM Gateway](#).
 - Download and complete the Expedition 74 Proposal Form.
 - Register specifically for the current [In-Flight STEM Downlink engagement](#).
3. Upload the completed proposal form and supporting materials in NASA STEM Gateway by the proposal deadline – 12:00 p.m. CT on April 29, 2025.

IMPORTANT: The deadline for completed proposal submissions is 12:00 p.m. CT on April 29, 2025.

Virtual Question-and-Answer Sessions

Three virtual question-and-answer sessions will be offered throughout the proposal period. We invite you to attend the session that works best with your schedule to gain answers and feedback on your proposal, Impact Statement, and other parts of the application process.

Tue. March 25, 2025	12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m. CT
Wed. April 9, 2025	6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. CT
Mon. April 14, 2025	9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. CT
Thurs. April 24, 2025	3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. CT

Please reach out to the Downlinks team at JSC-Downlinks@mail.nasa.gov with questions.

Organization Information

Please ensure the organization information matches the information submitted in NASA STEM Gateway.

Organization Name:	
Organization Address: (Street, State, Zip Code)	

	Primary Point of Contact	Technical Point of Contact	Media Point of Contact
Name			
Email			
Phone			

Answer the following questions:

Has your organization previously applied for an In-flight STEM Downlink? If so, when?	
Has your organization previously hosted an In-flight STEM Downlink? Please list the expedition number.	

***Previously hosting an In-Flight STEM Downlink does not prevent an organization from future participation.*

Date Availability

Important!

In-flight STEM Downlinks are only available on weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. CT.

Preferred 2-hour time window:	<i>[Type preferred time window here. Use CT.]</i>
Preferred date(s):	<i>[Optional. Type preferred dates with a brief explanation of why those dates are important here.]</i>

In the table below, type any dates for which you cannot host a Downlink.

Expedition 74 - Sept. 2025 – March 2026	
Month	Dates Unavailable (Weekdays Only)
September	
October	
November	
December	
January	
February	
March	

BETA Test of Alternate Opportunity for Space Station Connection with ARISS

What is ARISS?

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) inspires participants worldwide to pursue interests and careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) through amateur radio communications opportunities with the [International Space Station](#) on-orbit crew.

What is the alternate opportunity?

If your proposal is not selected for an Expedition 74 In-flight STEM Downlink and you select that you are interested in a possible ARISS connection with the International Space Station on-orbit crew, we will forward your proposal form to ARISS to be considered in their proposal selection process.

Additional Requirements

Your In-flight STEM Downlink proposal will replace the extended ARISS application. Still, ARISS will require you to complete an additional one-page information/application to ensure they have the information they need for their proposal selection process.

Permission to Share Proposal and Contact Information With ARISS

☐ Yes, I want to participate in this opportunity to have my In-flight STEM Downlink proposal shared with ARISS and considered in their proposal selection process for an ARISS communication opportunity with the International Space Station on-orbit crew. By checking this box, I give permission for you to share my proposal form and contact information with ARISS.

☐ No, I do not wish to participate.

****Selecting that you wish to participate in this additional opportunity does not guarantee an ARISS communication opportunity selection.***

For more information regarding ARISS, visit [ARISS - Home](#).

Leadership Commitment of Support

We require a commitment from your organization's leadership in support of your proposal. Your leadership should understand what an In-flight STEM Downlink is and the support, time, and community partnership necessary for a successful proposal and event. The proposal you submit will stay with your organization. If you change employment to a different organization and we select your proposal for scheduling, we will contact the organization that you originally included in your proposal. Provide your leadership's contact information below.

Optional: Submit a Letter of Support from your leadership in NASA STEM Gateway as a supporting document.

Leadership's Name and Title	
Leadership's Email Address	
Leadership's Phone Number	

Technology Plan

In-flight STEM Downlinks use prerecorded participant questions. Astronauts respond to participant video questions in real-time during the 20-minute event. Once scheduled, hosts will receive deadlines and additional guidelines.

Downlinks stream on [NASA+](#) and require no additional technology outside of an internet connection. In-Flight STEM Downlinks encourage organizations to host watch parties, including the broader community, to maximize Downlink impact.

When preparing for the possibility of being selected for an In-flight STEM Downlink, consider the following:

- Technology you will use to film participant videos
- Filming location
- What kind of microphone will you use to ensure quality sound (required)
- A plan to test the organization's bandwidth if you will use many devices to watch the event live
- Who will be handling the filming (dedicated team, department, or individual)
- How you will collect and select participant questions to ask crew members
- How you will collect signed Talent Authorization Forms

☐ By checking this box, I certify that I have read and understood the basic technology requirements needed to host an In-flight STEM Downlink.

[Type Technology Plan here]

Impact Statement

The impact statement is the most important section of the In-flight STEM Downlink proposal and carries the most weight with the review committee. It explains who you are as an organization, why your organization and community desire to host an In-flight STEM Downlink, the anticipated impact on both participants and the community, and how a Downlink aligns with your current STEM goals.

A strong impact statement includes:

- A summary of how a Downlink supports your current STEM goals and your plans to sustain STEM engagement
- Special considerations (partnerships, clubs/programs, community needs, etc.)

Only submit ONE of the following options for your Impact Statement

Option 1: Written Statement	Option 2: Slide Deck	Option 3: Virtual Interview
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two pages maximum• May include images and photos• Use headers to label sections• You may upload a separate file along with the application	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ten slides maximum• All content must be on the slide; do not include presenter notes• Use headers to label sections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 - 7 minutes• Email jsc-downlinks@mail.nasa.gov to request to schedule a virtual interview before the proposal deadline of Thursday, April 24, 2025

Impact Statement (Up to two pages maximum. Please indicate which option you choose: PowerPoint/Slide Deck or Virtual Interview.

[\[Type Impact Statement here\]](#)

Event & Logistics Plan

Human space flight is fluid, and as a result, shifts in scheduling often occur. Your event and logistics plan should reflect that you have considered the logistics leading up to your event, the logistics surrounding the day of your event, and any logistics relating to post-event activities.

Your Event & Logistics Plan should include the following:

- A draft agenda for the day of the event
- Summary of the activities before and after the Downlink
- Details of any community partnerships you plan to engage in and how they will fit in logistically
- A note of potential opening and closing speakers
- A plan for flexibility if your scheduled time gets shifted at the last minute
- Your other activities for the day (the Downlink should not be your only activity)

Event & Logistics Plan

[Type Event & Logistics Plan here]

Measuring Impact & Collecting Data Plan

Post-Downlink, we ask hosts to provide metrics, including audience numbers, responses to social media posts, local news articles related to your event, and VIPs in attendance. In addition to considering how you will collect basic metrics and data, we ask that you consider a plan to gauge the impact on the audience.

Your Measuring Impact & Collecting Data Plan should include the following:

- How you plan to collect audience counts both directly and indirectly
- How will you gauge the impact on the audience
- Specific outcomes you will be looking for or asking about
- Survey awareness about space workforce and STEM careers

Measuring Impact & Collecting Data Plan

[\[Type Measuring Impact & Collecting Data Plan here\]](#)

Community Engagement Plan

In-flight STEM Downlinks are designed to be a community-wide event. Consider innovative ways to engage the community outside your organization. Create community-wide awareness and collaboration for implementing STEM initiatives and sustainability.

Your Community Engagement Plan should include the following:

- Any community partnerships that have committed to collaborating with you
- The reach of your Community Engagement Plan
- How partnerships will specifically help increase community awareness and sustained STEM initiatives
- Any other community-wide initiatives, events, or collaborations that will support your event and STEM awareness
- Any Community-Based Learning plans in connection to the In-flight STEM Downlink opportunity

Community Engagement Plan

[Type Community Engagement Plan here]

Above and Beyond (Optional Bonus Scores)

"Above and Beyond" includes several **optional** ways to help your proposal "stand out" from others. We invite you to be innovative and consider more ways than what is listed in the comment box below to go "Above and Beyond." You can upload supporting documents in NASA STEM Gateway with your application for Expedition 74 In-flight STEM Downlink.

Options for your Above and Beyond section could include, but are not limited to:

- Letter of Support — Statements of commitment from community stakeholders, VIPs, or collaborators that reach beyond your community. These should include details of how they plan to help implement your event and sustain STEM Engagement
- Events with a specific theme relevant to your community, research conducted on station, or connected to a specific astronaut's area of expertise
- Large-scale cross-community, county, or state collaborations
- Collaborations or ties to other NASA programs or products
- Community-based learning project plans or results in connection with International Space Station and Space Exploration science

[Type Above and Beyond plans here]