

# 2025-2026 ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPPORTUNITY

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# **UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS (UGR)**

# **Key Dates**

#### **Spring 2026 Research**

• Applications Open: September 1, 2025

• Deadline: October 13, 2025

• Awards Announced: December 5, 2025

#### Summer 2025/Academic Year 2026-2027

### Research

• Applications Open: November 1, 2025

• Deadline: February 2, 2026

• Awards Announced: March 27, 2026

#### **Awards**

Award Amount: \$5,000 (subject to funding availability)

## **Purpose**

The Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium (WSGC) provides Undergraduate Research Scholarships to support qualified students in designing and conducting independent, student-led small research projects in STEM fields aligned with NASA Mission Directorates.

# Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be a Wisconsin resident during the academic year.
- Be enrolled full-time in (or admitted/applied to) a WSGC member college/university.
- Be enrolled in a STEM program of study with an interest in aerospace or NASA-related missions.
- Maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA (applications below 3.0 considered individually).
- Submit a complete online application.

Students from smaller colleges and universities are especially encouraged to apply. WSGC will facilitate mentoring arrangements if necessary.

# **Application Process**

- 1. Create a NASA STEM Gateway account: <a href="mailto:stemgateway.nasa.gov/public/s/login/">stemgateway.nasa.gov/public/s/login/</a>
- 2. Create a WSGC account: <a href="mailto:spacegrant.carthage.edu/about/login/">spacegrant.carthage.edu/about/login/</a>
- 3. Log in and complete the Undergraduate Research Scholarship application.
- 4. Provide two letters of recommendation (one from a research advisor, one from a faculty member/employer/STEM professional). Letters may be uploaded with the application or emailed to <a href="mailto:spacegrant@carthage.edu">spacegrant@carthage.edu</a> (Subject: UGR26\_LOR).

## **Required Materials**

- Research Proposal (max 10 pages), including:
- Introduction/Summary (1 page or less)
- Background
- Proposed activities (objectives, methods, relevance to <u>NASA Mission Directorates</u> areas, expected results)
- Timeline (Spring projects end May 2026, Summer projects Aug. 2026, Academic Year projects May 2027), including oral/poster presentation at the WSGC Annual Conference in August.
- High school transcript (for incoming freshmen/sophomores; unofficial accepted)
- Most recent college transcript (unofficial accepted; not required for incoming freshmen)
- Two recommendation letters (see above)

# **Application Evaluation**

- 1. The conceptualization and design of the project.
- 2. The individuality of the student's research as it relates to the student's interest and career objectives.
- 3. The relevance to NASA Mission Directorates.
- 4. The effectiveness of the student research and mentoring arrangements.
- 5. Academic performance.
- 6. The student's interest in pursuing a STEM career.
- 7. The overall quality of the application.

\*NOTE: Students also applying for other scholarship/fellowship funding programs should submit a statement distinguishing the Undergraduate Research Scholarship application from other scholarship/fellowship applications. The Technical Advisory Panel limits the number of individuals eligible to receive multiple awards.

#### **Awardee Acceptance Components**

- Attend the Annual Wisconsin Space Conference (Aug. 2026 for Spring/Summer projects; Aug. 2027 for Academic Year projects).
- Submit award acceptance materials: Award Agreement, W9/W4/I9, biography, and professional photo.
- Submit award closeout materials: interim report, final report, project photos/video, proceedings paper by Sept. 15, student story and awardee publications, presentations, patents, and technology transfers report.

#### **Contact**

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All awards are fully competitive awards of opportunity in which applications are reviewed by the WSGC Technical Advisory Panel and other experts as needed. Awards are made by the Assistant Director based on recommendations from the Associate Director.