

THE NATIONAL SPACE GRANT COLLEGE & FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

FISCAL YEAR 2023 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT (APR)

FUNDING SOURCE:
OFFICE OF STEM ENGAGEMENT
SPACE GRANT
(CFDA) NUMBER: 43.008

MANAGING ORGANIZATION:
NASA HEADQUARTERS
OFFICE OF STEM ENGAGEMENT

TECHNICAL OFFICER:
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VIRGINIA SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM LEAD INSTITUTION:
VIRGINIA SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM

ACTIVITY TITLE:
VIRGINIA SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM FY2020-2024

UNIQUE ENTITY IDENTIFIER:
077945947

VIRGINIA SPACE GRANT DIRECTOR:
CHRIS CARTER
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COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT/GRANT NUMBER:
80NSSC20M0056

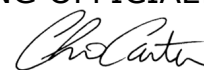
PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:
APRIL 10, 2022 – APRIL 9, 2023

REPORTING PERIOD:
APRIL 10, 2022 – APRIL 9, 2023

SUBMISSION DATE:
02/08/2024

FINAL REPORT:
NO

SIGNATURE OF SUBMITTING OFFICIAL:



SUMMARY OF CONSORTIUM MILESTONE PROGRESS (PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR/DIRECTOR):

Milestones	Status (On target, Delayed, Canceled)	Progress towards achieving milestone	Reason for Delay or Cancellation (if applicable)
NASA Internships and Fellowships			
Graduate Research Fellowship Awards	On Target	Awards in progress.	
Undergraduate Research Scholarship Awards	On Target	Awards in progress.	
Community College STEM Scholarship Awards	On Target	Awards in progress.	
Undergraduate STEM Bridge Scholarship Awards	On Target	Awards in progress.	
NASA Research Experiences	On Target	Awards in progress.	
NASA Center Internships	On Target	Awards in progress.	
Aerospace Research Mission Directorate			
Pathways Flight Academies	On Target	Summer 2023 was completed.	
Aerospace Day in the Commonwealth	On Target	Event is scheduled for February 2024.	
Aerospace Cooperative Research Program (ACRP) Graduate Research Awards	On Target	Awards were made in May 2023.	
Aerospace Cooperative Research Program (ACRP) University Design Competition	On Target	Awards were made in June 2023.	
Engineering Early Advantage Program for Women	On Target	Completed in summer 2023.	

Human Exploration Operations Mission Directorate			
Virginia Aerospace Science and Technology Scholars (VASTS)	On Target	Students completed online course in April 2023. Summer Academy completed in summer 2023.	
Science Mission Directorate			
Virginia Earth System Science Scholars (VESSS)	On Target	Students completed online course in April 2023. Summer Academy completed in summer 2023.	
Building Leaders for Advancing Science and Technology (BLAST)	On Target	Five BLAST Academies were completed in summer 2023.	
Space Technology Mission Directorate			
Community College Faculty Professional Development Workshop	On Target	Workshop completed in May 2023.	
Virginia Space Coast Scholars Program (VSCS)	On Target	Students completed online course in April 2023. Summer Academy completed in summer 2023.	
Competitive Projects			
Commonwealth STEM Industry Internship Program (CSIIP)	On Target	Virtual, site-based and hybrid placements being made throughout the year.	
New Investigator Program Awards	On Target	Awards were made in December 2023.	
Student Research Conference	On Target	2023 conference held in April.	
Student Flight and Design Programs	On Target	Supported RockSatC team and Solar Eclipse projects.	
Innovative Projects Fund Awards	On Target	Awards were made in February 2023.	
Informal Education Program Awards	On Target	Awards were made in February 2023.	

Administrative Milestones			
OEPM Reporting	On Target		
Semi-annual Progress Report to NASA OSTEM Space Grant	On Target	Report submitted on October 10, 2023.	
Annual Progress Report	On Target	Report submitted February 8, 2024.	
National Council of Space Grant Directors Spring Meeting	On Target	Planning to attend the meeting in spring 2024.	
National Council of Space Grant Directors Fall Meeting	On Target	Attended National Meeting in Fall 2023.	

ACTIVITY/PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS MADE IN THE PAST YEAR:

(e.g., activity management, cost efficiencies) (250-500 words)

One of VSGC’s key accomplishments during this fiscal year was to strengthen our use of social media platforms to disseminate information about our programs, recruit participants, and the posting of pictures and videos to engage a wide audience. We hired a new communications coordinator, formerly with NASA Public Affairs, who has led the growth of VSGC social media presence. VSGC has also modernized our logo and branding. Also, this year, we significantly updated our website to be more picture and media rich. The communications coordinator worked closely with our media specialist to completely re-design the site with input from the VSGC Advisory Council and other stakeholders.

With funding and a partnership with the FAA, VSGC was able to expand the Pathways Flight Academies project. The Pathways Flight Academies project provides students with a 12-day residential pilot ground school and flight training that can culminate in their first solo flight. The project is a partnership with the Commonwealth of Virginia, Averett University, Rick Aviation, and the Virginia Department of Aviation. The FAA partnership allowed VSGC to place 20 additional students in the flight academies and supported 13 students with 40-hour flight scholarships.

With funding and a partnership with the U.S. Department of Education and Luminary Labs, VSGC provided professional development and support to 10 middle-school CTE teachers through the ‘Bringing Space to the Middle School CTE Classroom’ project. The project was a partnership with Old Dominion University who hosted the two-week workshop and provided hands-on instruction led by faculty. In addition, teachers visited and toured NASA Langley Research Center and NASA Wallops Flight Facility and received a total of 80 hours of professional development through follow-on sessions and instruction. It is anticipated this partnership will continue in 2024 and beyond.