



**SOUTH DAKOTA SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM**  
**Research Experience for Teachers – Application and Instructions**  
**Summer 2019**  
(Release Date – November 2, 2018)

**Program Summary**

The South Dakota Space Grant Consortium (SDSGC) is accepting applications for 2019 Research Experience for Teachers (RET) summer fellowships. The program enables high school teachers to enrich their knowledge of science and engineering practices by joining a research group at a South Dakota university or laboratory in the summer of 2019. Research has shown that teachers who participate in research in science and engineering are able to provide an enriched classroom experience for their students in subsequent years.

All 2019 awards are contingent upon U.S. Congressional approval of the 2019 federal budget and the availability and receipt of FY2019 Space Grant funding from NASA. We invite current high school teachers in science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) disciplines to apply for one of two RET fellowships to be offered during the summer of 2019. Research projects must align with NASA's mission and those of the SDSGC and its affiliates. The RET fellowship will be \$8000.

Participants are expected to

- work at a SDSGC affiliate research organization\* during the Summer of 2019 for at least eight weeks;
- participate in occasional videoconferences with other RET teachers and science education professionals to develop strategies for transferring the summer experience to the classroom;
- give a poster or oral presentation about your research at either the South Dakota Academy of Science or the South Dakota Science Teachers Association annual conference in the spring of 2020;
- participate in two on-line surveys or phone interviews as part of our evaluation process.

Teachers will make their own arrangements for working with a research group. However, if you are interested in a particular area of research and/or location and need help in making contact with a faculty member, please contact Peggy Norris at [pnorris@sanfordlab.org](mailto:pnorris@sanfordlab.org).

**Important Dates**

Application Receipt Deadline: **January 14, 2019, 11:59 p.m. MST.**  
Award Notification: anticipated to be announced by **March 17, 2019.**

**Eligibility and U.S. Citizenship Requirement**

All applicants must be citizens of the United States. Applicants must be full time high school teachers in a STEM discipline during the 2019-2020 school year and planning to teach full time for at least three more years in South Dakota.

**Application Instructions**

Applications are to be submitted as one complete pdf file to [pnorris@sanfordlab.org](mailto:pnorris@sanfordlab.org). A complete application consists of the following four items in the following order:

1. A completed application form (at the end of this announcement)
2. A cover letter which includes an explanation of what you hope to bring back to the classroom from your RET experience and how the proposed research aligns with NASA interests
3. A letter of commitment from a principal investigator in the proposed research group
4. A Curriculum Vita which includes 1) the schools in which you have taught, 2) the courses you taught and 3) any STEM enrichment activities in which you have participated, all for the previous five year period.

The applicant may wish to consult the NASA website [www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov) for information on NASA priority areas.

Applications will be reviewed and award selections made by the SDSGC Management Team listed online at <http://sdSPACEgrant.sdsmt.edu/contact.html>. The awardee should contact the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or a tax accountant to determine what needs to be reported on a tax return since Consortium personnel may not be qualified to answer all questions in this regard.

***Reporting***

By February 22, 2020 school year, the awardee must submit a brief report (an email message will suffice) to Tom Durkin <[Thomas.Durkin@sdsmt.edu](mailto:Thomas.Durkin@sdsmt.edu)> at the Space Grant Headquarters Office summarizing his/her experience and accomplishments. The report should include a description of how the summer experience has impacted their classroom during the current school year.

***Inquiries***

Questions concerning the preparation and submission of applications and the administration of this program should be addressed to Peggy Norris, Deputy Director, Education and Outreach, Sanford Underground Research Facility, 630 E. Summit St, Lead, SD 57754, Email: [pnorris@sanfordlab.org](mailto:pnorris@sanfordlab.org), Phone: 605-722-5049.

***Acknowledgement***

In any presentations or publications that are developed as a result of the RET research project, we ask that the teacher please acknowledge the support provided by the NASA South Dakota Space Grant Consortium and to also send us a copy or citation.

**\* SDSGC affiliate research institutions are:** Augustana University (Sioux Falls), Black Hills State University (Spearfish), Dakota State Univ (Madison), Lake Area Tech (Watertown), Northern State Univ (Aberdeen), Oglala Lakota College (Kyle), Sanford Underground Research Facility (Lead), Sinte Gleska University (Mission), South Dakota School of Mines and Technology (Rapid City), South Dakota State University (Brookings), United States Geological Survey Center for Earth Resources Observation and Science (EROS), University of South Dakota (Vermillion)

**SDSGC Research Experience for Teachers  
APPLICATION COVER PAGE**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE INFORMATION:**

INSTITUTION: \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

MENTOR: \_\_\_\_\_

MENTOR'S EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**I ATTEST THAT I AM A UNITED STATES CITIZEN.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

**I ATTEST THAT I AM TEACHING FULL TIME IN A SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL IN 2018-2019 AND THAT, BARRING UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES, I AM PLANNING TO CONTINUE TEACHING IN SOUTH DAKOTA FOR AT LEAST THREE MORE YEARS.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)