

UHART Student Opportunity: **Apply for the NASA RockSat 2026 Program**

Are you ready to send your experiment into space?

The RockSat programs offer a hands-on opportunity for students to design, build, test, and fly their experiments into space aboard a NASA sounding rocket launched from Wallops Flight Facility. Since 2008, these nationally recognized programs have connected thousands of students and faculty from across the U.S. with real-world flight experiences.

About the Program

In 2026, a sounding rocket launch will carry the RockSat experiments, offering students direct exposure to a space environment at an altitude of 150–170 km. Upon reaching apogee, the rocket will despin and eject its skin, giving all experiments full exposure to microgravity and space for a short duration. The selected team will assess the goal of the project and design a real-world space experiment.

As this is a competitive opportunity, we are seeking students who are:

- Well-prepared and organized
- Willing to go through a full engineering design lifecycle, including:
 - Conceptual Design Review (CoDR)
 - Preliminary Design Review (PDR)
 - Critical Design Review (CDR)
 - Spring reviews and hardware testing
 - All selected teams will need to deliver their experiment for testing by late May 2026 and participate in in-person integration at NASA Wallops.
 - Integration & Testing Trip to Wallops (Required): Estimated June 1–5 or June 8–12
 - Tentative Launch Date: June 25, 2026

Note: Faculty or industry mentors are encouraged, but the majority of work must be done by students.

How to Apply

Undergraduate students (2nd & 3rd year) interested in joining the 2026 RockSat team must submit:

Statement of Interest (1–2 pages):

- Describe your motivation for joining the program
- Your background and experience (engineering, physics, software, etc.)
- A proposed experiment idea or research question you'd like to explore
- Resume
- Highlight relevant coursework, projects, and technical skills
- (Optional) Concept Paper or Diagram
- A rough sketch or description of your experiment idea (if available)

 **Deadline to Apply: September 15, 2026**

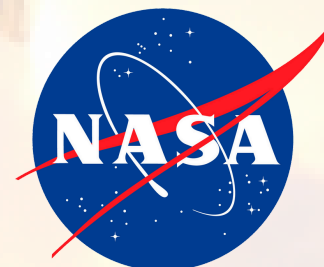
Submit all materials as a single PDF to: obst@hartford.edu

This is your chance to take your engineering or science ideas beyond the classroom and into actual spaceflight.

Build it. Test it. Launch it.



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