🚀 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)

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📅 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.

UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY, AND ARCHITECTURE