



Rules and Regulations

Overview

The objective of the **Space Florida International Space Station Research Competition**, the “Competition”, is for **Space Florida** and **NanoRacks LLC** to partner and provide a competition in which up to eight winning individuals or organizations will be provided an opportunity to fly their scientific payloads to the International Space Station (ISS) and have their research conducted on board the U.S. Lab on the ISS.

The Competition is designed to bring forth innovations, research opportunities and access to the ISS. Space Florida and NanoRacks share the view that “breakthroughs” in basic research on materials, biological, environmental monitoring as well as understanding complex drugs, have visible and immediate application for human health-benefits and commercial research. This research will be beneficial to broader applications in future launch systems, frequent access to Earth orbit and help ignite commercial capabilities for dedicated launches and research opportunities. Space Florida and NanoRacks view these areas as emerging markets for government, commercial, and academic customers.

Space Florida and NanoRacks have designed the Space Florida International Space Station Research Competition as an opportunity for dedicated scientists, engineers, and interested parties to fly and test their research on board the ISS. Given the present-day limitations on resources and accessibility to the ISS, this Competition should be viewed by all applicants as a fortuitous opportunity to undertake valid research at a minimum cost. The Judges of the Competition will therefore critique each Proposal seeking the very best of scientific research in numerous disciplines. The scope of scientific research that is being sought in this Competition will be expected to conform to professional standards, have commercial viability and be of benefit to mankind.

This document provides the Competition Summary and details on the following:

- R-1.0 Competition Format
- R-2.0 Competition Rules
- R-3.0 Competition Winners & Judges.
- R-4.0 Judges Criteria
- R-5.0 Media Rights and Use of Names, Trademarks and Insignias
- R-6.0 Miscellaneous
- R-7.0 Competition Timeline

Competition Summary:

- **Workshop:** Space Florida will host a workshop at the Florida Solar Energy Center, Cocoa, Florida on October 5, 2012. During this workshop, intending applicants will be able to interact with NanoRacks personnel for Proposal and Competition guidance. Attendance at the workshop is highly recommended, but not mandatory. Representatives from NASA and CASIS will also be in attendance.

- **Open Competition:** This Competition is open to all individuals and organizations, U.S. and non-U.S. Such organizations may include educational institutions, industry, nonprofit organizations, Federally Funded Research and Development Centers, NASA Centers, and partnerships between such entities.
- **Proposal Deadline:** Applicants must submit their completed Proposals to info@spaceflorida.gov and put "Proposal" in the subject line on or before 5:00 p.m. EST, October 31, 2012.
- **Technical Support:** The following documents are located on the Space Florida website at www.spaceflorida.gov/iss-research-competition
 - (a) Interface Control Document Between NanoLabs and the NanoRacks Platforms 1 & 2';
 - (b) How to Build a NanoRacks Payload.
- **Final Authority:** The final interpretation of all rules and regulations of the Competition will be at the sole discretion of the Competition Judges and Space Florida. All decisions regarding the disqualification of applicants, Competition winners, and/or Proposals are at the sole discretion of the Competition Judges and Space Florida.

R-1.0 Competition Format:

- 1.1 A recommended workshop to explain the Rules & Regulations of the Competition will take place at the Florida Solar Energy Center (FSEC), Cocoa, Florida on October 5th, 2012. Additional information including the time of the workshop may be found at www.spaceflorida.gov/iss-research-competition. Attendees must register in advance on the Space Florida website at www.spaceflorida.gov/iss-research-competition/registration.
- 1.2 There are up to eight payload box units "NanoLabs" available for use by the Competition winners. Additional NanoLabs may be purchased directly by Competition applicants and/or winners from NanoRacks.
- 1.3 Space Florida has the right to determine the number of winning payloads that will be selected.
- 1.4 NanoLabs will have a slot on the NanoRacks Platform onboard the ISS for a period of up to thirty days.
- 1.5 Up to eight Competition winners will be provided space transportation to the ISS for their selected research.
- 1.6 Competition winners pay for the development of the payloads; Space Florida pays the cost of transportation of the payloads to the ISS.
- 1.7 NanoLabs are 4 inches x 4 inches x 4 inches.
- 1.8 Five hours of NanoRacks consultation on payload technical interfaces will be provided at no cost to the Competition winners.
- 1.9 Upon selection of the winners, NanoRacks shall work with the winners and establish a payload development timetable.
- 1.10 NanoRacks shall work with Competition winners and NASA regarding safety reviews required for the payloads and ISS.
- 1.11 The Competition winners shall be provided power, command and data down link, for a period of 30 days as agreed to during the development of the payload.

R-2.0 Competition Rules:

- 2.1 Competition applicants must submit their Competition Proposals, and timely complete and provide all other requested information found at www.spaceflorida.gov/iss-research-competition.
- 2.2 Providing false or misleading information may result in an applicant being disqualified from the Competition.
- 2.3 Neither Space Florida nor NanoRacks are liable for any costs of preparing Proposals, or construction and design of research payloads that may be presented for consideration in the Competition. These costs are the sole responsibility of the Competition applicants.
- 2.4 Proposals should, at a minimum, address the criteria outlined in R-4.0.

- 2.5 The Proposal must be submitted electronically in PDF or Word format on 8-1/2" X 11" size pages, 12-point font, limited to 30 pages. Hard copies of the Proposals are not requested.
- 2.6 The Competition is open to both U.S. and international applicants, from professional, business, non-private and private entities, and from individual persons world-wide. Applicants must identify the nationality of all parties involved with the Proposal. If this information is not received with the Proposal, applicants may be disqualified from the Competition.
- 2.7 NASA is the final arbitrator on all issues related to the flight opportunity, including but not limited to, flight manifest, safety review, technical review, access to astronauts time, and return, if appropriate, of the payload.
- 2.8 Competition applicants may be asked to provide evidence of citizenship, or other personal details.
- 2.9 Proposals will not be accepted from individuals less than 18 years of age as of September 5, 2012.
- 2.10 Failure to provide or respond to any requested information from the Judges and/or Space Florida may result in automatic disqualification from the Competition.

R-3.0 Competition Winners & Judges:

- 3.1 Space Florida will recruit and select a panel of Judges with relevant research and scientific experience to support the Competition.
- 3.2 All decisions of the Judges, including issues such as the interpretation of rules, the disqualification of applicants, and the selection of the winners are final.
- 3.3 Competition winners agree to all the Rules and Regulations of the Competition stipulated by Space Florida, NanoRacks, the Judges, and agree to enter into and be bound by all additional required agreements.
- 3.4 The Judges will operate under non-disclosure agreements to protect intellectual property of the applicants.
- 3.5 The Judges will not provide technical assistance to any applicant.

R-4.0 Judges Criteria:

- 4.1 At a minimum, the Judges will evaluate the Proposals on the following criteria:
 - a. That the Proposal offers a reasonable return on investment and that it has clear viability and application for commercial research.
 - b. That the research detailed in the Proposal proposes benefits to mankind if and when it is successfully developed and implemented.
 - c. That the Proposal is a viable and logistical proposal of research that will neither impede nor endanger the mission to/or onboard the ISS.
 - d. That the Proposal may offer technical opportunities and benefits for future space travel, aerospace research and the survival of astronauts travelling far from Earth.
 - e. The professional credentials and experience of the applicant(s).
 - f. The proposed timeline for the development of the payload and whether the timeline can be adhered to and will be met by the applicant(s).
- 4.2 Proposals will be evaluated as to the amount of astronaut time that is being requested on orbit to assist in research.
- 4.3 The Judges and Space Florida may, for any reason whatsoever, disqualify a Proposal or an applicant or a Competition winner.

R-5.0 Media Rights and Use of Names, Trademarks and Insignias

- 5.1 The name, trademark or insignia of Space Florida, NanoRacks or NASA may not be used unless applicants or Competition winners request and receive prior written permission.
- 5.2 Applicants and Competition winners retain all media rights related to their participation in the Competition.

- 5.3 Space Florida and NanoRacks retain all media rights related to the Competition.
- 5.4 Space Florida and NanoRacks may use any applicants name, trademarks and insignia, and the name and likeness of applicants (without charge) as may be reasonably required in connection with the media material prepared and distributed by Space Florida and NanoRacks relating in any way to the Competition.
- 5.5 Applicants and Competition winners agree upon request, to provide Space Florida and NanoRacks with reasonable amounts of video or photographic images related to their participation in the Competition and for the right of Space Florida and NanoRacks to use such materials for public affairs or educational purposes.

R-6.0 Miscellaneous

- 6.1 Neither Space Florida, the Judges, nor NanoRacks claim Intellectual Property rights from any applicant or winner. All trade secrets, copyrights, patent rights, and software rights will remain with each respective applicant or winner.
- 6.2 Applicants and Competition winners release and indemnify Space Florida, their officers, employees, and agents, NanoRacks, their officers, employees, and agents, the Judges, individually, and NASA, their officers, employees, and agents, from liability and damages of any kind arising out of or connected to their participation in this Competition.
- 6.3 Under no event whatsoever shall Space Florida, their officers, employees, and agents, NanoRacks, their officers, employees, and agents, the Judges, individually, or NASA, their officers, employees, and agents, be liable to an applicant or Competition winner for acts or omissions arising out of or related to the Competition or for that applicant or Competition winner's participation in the Competition.

R-7.0 Competition Timeline:

- 7.1 **Public announcement of the Competition:** Wednesday September 5, 2012.
- 7.2 **Workshop:** October 5th, 2012.
- 7.3 **Proposal Deadline:** 5:00 p.m. EST, October 31, 2012.
- 7.4 **Winners Notified:** On or before 5:00 p.m. EST, November 30, 2012.
- 7.5 **Winners Payload Development Period:** December 3, 2012 to February 13, 2013.
- 7.6 **Delivery of Payloads to NASA:** NASA will complete safety inspections and review Competition winners payloads on manifests between May to June 2013.
- 7.7 **Flights to the ISS:** October 2013 – December 31, 2013.

