

Dear Principal / Guidance Counselor / Potential Applicant / Other:

The North Alabama Chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers Professionals (NAL NSBE Professionals) invites middle-school students to participate in our Space Camp/Academy Scholarship. NAL NSBE Professionals was established out of a need to stimulate and sustain minority participation in Engineering and the Applied Sciences. This chapter of NSBE Professionals encourages and advises youth in their pursuit of careers in engineering and the applied sciences by offering programs and services that include Scholarship Endowment, Tutorial Programs, Advanced Study Skills and much more. In keeping with its objectives, the NAL NSBE Professionals is providing the opportunity for minority students to attend the US Space Camp/Academy.

The NAL NSBE Professionals will award four Space Camp Scholarships to minority youths within North Alabama. The scholarship covers a weeklong program at the US Space Camp/Academy, including meals, educational materials, housing accommodations, and paraphernalia. The US Space Camp/Academy is an educational program that couples classroom instruction with hands on activities. Trainees learn about space flight and the space program from attending lectures and seminars, and put this information to practical use with simulators and tours.

You can help the NAL NSBE Professionals select qualified minority students for the scholarship by recommending deserving students. Candidates should satisfy the following criteria:

- Students currently in grades 6th, 7th, or 8th
- Interested in engineering and applied sciences or STEM fields
- Strong academic background
- Financial Need
- **Interview for finalists will be required**
- Not previously attended US Space Camp/Academy

Each applicant is required to complete the following steps before his/her application will be processed:

1. Complete the scholarship application form.
2. Submit at least one Teacher Recommendation form.
3. Submit at least one Personal Reference Recommendation form.
4. Submit an essay on the question from the scholarship application form (attached). The essay will be judged on the following criteria:
 - ORIGINALITY - *uniqueness of thought, but not necessarily scientific or technical expertise.*
 - LEVEL OF INTEREST - *enthusiasm for the US Space Camp/Academy programs and general interest in the space program.*
 - PRESENTATION - *clarity of expression, quality of grammar (appropriate to grade), and neatness of presentation.*
5. Mail your Application, Teacher Recommendation, Personal Recommendation forms and essay to the address listed below

NAL NSBE Professionals
Attn: Space Camp Scholarship
P.O. Box 949
Huntsville, AL 35804

All forms must be submitted in the same envelope, and all entries must be **postmarked on or before Tuesday, January 16, 2018**. The scholarships will cover registration and enrollment for one week during the summer session and will be awarded at the NAL NSBE Professionals 25th Annual Scholarship Awards Banquet scheduled for **Thursday, March 8, 2018**. If you are selected as a finalist, a **formal interview will be scheduled and conducted at a later date**.

There is no limit on the number of students that can participate from each school, church, or community. You may apply for duplicate NSBE Scholarships, but you are only eligible to win **ONE** per year. If there are any questions or concerns, you may call Melissa Jackson at (256) 468-8867, Dr. Ebonee Walker at (256) 924-2504, or email nsbenorthalabamaae@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Melissa L. Jackson

Melissa L. Jackson
Scholarship Committee Chairperson
North Alabama NSBE Professionals

Enclosures: U.S. Space Academy Application
Teacher Recommendation Form
Personal Reference Recommendation Form

III. INCOME VERIFICATION

Number in Household _____

Household Income (check one):

___ \$0 - \$25,000 ___ \$26,000 - \$50,000 ___ \$51,000 - \$75,000
___ \$76,000 - \$100,000 ___ over \$100,000

IV. ESSAY TOPIC

Neatly write or type an essay on the topic below. Limit essay to a maximum of two pages. Include the essay with your application.

Essay Topic:

What is the value of human space exploration for the future of humanity?

V. APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Each submission must include the following:

- Completed Application
- Completed Essay
- Two (2) signed recommendations
(1 must be from a Math or Science Teacher)
(1 can be a personal reference)

Applications packets must be postmarked on or before Tuesday, January 16, 2018.

Late or incomplete scholarship applications will not be evaluated. Please mail all forms to the address below.

**NAL NSBE Professionals
Attn: Space Camp Scholarship
P. O. Box 949
Huntsville, AL 35804**

By signing this application you are certifying that all of the information contained herein is true and correct.

Applicants Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parents Signature: _____ Date: _____

U.S. SPACE CAMP/ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM

Recommending a student for a U.S. Space Academy Scholarship implies that you feel the student is deserving of this scholarship. Your recommendation does not in any way make you obligated for any aspect of the student's participation in U.S. Space Academy.

All application materials are due on **Tuesday, January 16, 2018.**

Applicant Name _____

Teacher's Name _____

Teacher's Signature _____

Teacher's Email _____

Subject or Grade Taught _____

School _____

School Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Please attach a letter or statement indicating why you feel this student deserves a tuition scholarship to U.S. Space Academy.

If you wish to make additional or confidential comments, please return them in a sealed envelope to the applicant. Applicant must submit all forms to NAL NSBE-AE in one envelope.

U.S. SPACE CAMP/ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP PERSONAL REFERENCE RECOMMENDATION FORM

Recommending a student for a U.S. Space Academy Scholarship implies that you feel the student is deserving of this scholarship. Your recommendation does not in any way make you obligated for any aspect of the student's participation in U.S. Space Academy.

All application materials are due on **Tuesday, January 16, 2018.**

Applicant Name _____

Reference's Name _____

Reference's Signature _____

Reference's Email _____

Affiliation with Student _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Please attach a letter or statement indicating why you feel this student deserves a tuition scholarship to U.S. Space Academy.

If you wish to make additional or confidential comments, please return them in a sealed envelope to the applicant. Applicant must submit all forms to NAL NSBE-AE in one envelope.