"Igniting America's Future Space Exploration"

The 8th Annual AAS Glenn Space Technology Symposium
Student Poster Competition
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Schedule	
Call for Abstracts Announced	Wednesday, July 1, 2026
Abstract Due	Wednesday, July 29, 2026
Accepted Authors Notified	Wednesday, August 12, 2026
Authors Confirm Intention to Present	Wednesday, August 19, 2026
Poster Due	Friday, September 4, 2026
Poster Contest	Monday, September 14, 2026

The American Astronautical Society (AAS) is pleased to host the **Igniting America's Future Space Exploration – The 8th Annual Glenn Space Technology Symposium** (https://astronautical.org/glenn) September 15-16 at Clevland State University in Cleveland, Ohio. The AAS Glenn Space Technology Symposium brings together high-ranking government officials, industry executives, academia, and others from the aerospace community. The Symposium will focus on multiple aspects of the space industry including nuclear power, lunar exploration, space law, and more. The event is organized by AAS in collaboration with Cleveland State University and the NASA Glenn Research Center. (This is an in-person event.)

We are releasing this Call for Abstracts for students (undergraduate and graduate) design and research projects for the Student Poster Competition, which will be a key component of this year's symposium. Students from all disciplines are encouraged to submit an abstract. Individual and group projects of ongoing or completed work are acceptable. ***Current undergraduate and graduate students from all institutions of higher learning are eligible to participate.*** (You must be attending or enrolled to attend an undergraduate or graduate program in the fall of 2026.) The best posters will be selected in two categories (Engineering/Physical Sciences and Liberal Sciences) within two divisions (undergraduate and graduate). Students from all disciplines are encouraged to submit an abstract. Individual and group projects of ongoing or completed work are acceptable.

AAS is offering the opportunity for one of the best poster winners from all AAS student poster contests hosted each year to present their work in a project paper format at the International Astronautical Congress (IAC) in Poznań, Poland, from September 27 to October 1, 2027. For this, the first and second place winners for each category in both divisions will be invited to develop a revised abstract and submit it to the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) for inclusion in the 2027 IAC through the regular IAC submission process (expected due by the end of February 2027). Those applying and accepted by the IAF for a regular paper and presentation will subsequently develop and provide their presentation and paper to the AAS (in June 2027 – earlier than due to the IAC). AAS will review these and select one student to sponsor for the trip (student registration fee, economy class air travel, and hotel accommodation with arrangements to be approved by AAS) to present their work at the IAC. The student will also be asked to give a short talk on their experience at a future AAS event. It is the students' responsibility to monitor the IAC submission schedule and notify AAS of their submissions to the IAC.

Abstracts for the AAS student poster competition should be a summary of the focus of the project (250 words maximum). They should show an explicit connection to aerospace systems. Areas of work could include atmospheric science, earth observation, space life sciences, space health, aerospace systems engineering and design, astrophysics, optics, economics, business, program management, space policy, sustainability, history, international relations, education, Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) outreach initiatives, or other aerospace related areas.

Posters should cover student work either currently in process, work completed in Summer 2026, or work completed during the 2025-2026 Academic Year. Similarly, the undergraduate category is for students performing the work as undergraduates, and the graduate category is for students performing the work as graduate students (independent of the students' current status).

The primary author must submit the abstract. A student may submit only one abstract as the primary author (but may be a contributing author on other posters). A different author may be the presenter but also cannot present more than one poster in the competition (they can be a non-presenting team member on other projects). By submitting an abstract, you are committing to creating and presenting a poster if selected.

With your submission, you must submit the contact information of your teacher/faulty advisor.

Primary authors of submitted posters will receive one free admission to the full symposium to share among their poster team.

International submissions will be accepted, but AAS does not provide visa invitation letters nor any travel related expense coverage for this event.

Abstracts are due no later than Wednesday, July 29th, 2026, at 11:59pm Eastern time. No more than 30 abstracts will be accepted for presentation.

Abstracts should be submitted via the online form here:
https://www.xcdsystem.com/aas/abstract/index.cfm?ID=1X9CTY4

Lead authors will be notified of acceptance by Wednesday, August 12, 2026. The author must reply with their intention to participate by Wednesday, August 19, 2026, or else their position will be released.

The number of abstracts selected for presentation in the Symposium will be limited. AAS will collect all abstracts and make final determinations of the abstracts selected. Abstracts will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Content and coherence
- Mechanics
- Originality and creativity
- Relevance to advancing space initiatives or practical applications of space technologies

When posters are presented at the conference, they will be evaluated on the above plus:

- Visual Presentation
- Oral Presentation and Response to Questions

This contest is for student projects performed under the auspices of a university or college. The students must work with a faculty/researcher staff advisor. The advisor must be on staff with their university or college (and have a university/college e-mail). The advisor should give guidance and advice; and is

responsible for approving the accuracy and content of the abstract and poster. The student(s) should be listed as the primary (or first) author(s), and the advisor's name must appear as a co-author or in the Acknowledgments of the final poster. It is the student's responsibility to coordinate with the advisor.

A 36" wide x 48" high poster template will be provided and must be used. **Accepted entrants must present the poster in-person at the Symposium.** Further instructions will be provided closer to the event. Lead authors of submitted posters will receive one free admission to the full Symposium.

AAS and Cleveland State will print, mount, and transport the poster to the exhibition at no charge to the submitter. (Students can keep their posters after the event.)

Students must submit electronic copies (PowerPoint and PDF only) of posters for the proceedings and printing by Friday, September 4, 2026, through the online submission process. Failure to do so will invoke the "No Presentation/No Podium" rule, and the item will be stricken from the schedule.

Remember, abstracts are due no later than Wednesday, July 29, 2026, at 11:59pm Eastern time, at https://www.xcdsystem.com/aas/abstract/index.cfm?ID=1X9CTY4

If you have any questions, please send an email to aas@astronautical.org. Thank you and good luck!