NASA Opportunity for Student Airborne Research

NASA seeks highly motivated advanced undergraduate and early graduate students for participation in a summer 2010 research program in Earth system science using its DC-8 flying laboratory. The Student Airborne Research Program (SARP), is managed by the National Suborbital Education and Research Center (www.nserc.und.edu).

Students will acquire hands-on research experience in all aspects of a scientific campaign, using a major NASA resource for studying Earth system processes, calibration and validation of space-borne observations, and prototyping instruments for possible satellite missions. Students will operate instruments onboard the DC-8 aircraft to sample atmospheric gases and to image land and water surfaces in multiple spectral bands.

Applicants should have a strong academic background in disciplines relevant to the Earth system, including the physical, chemical, or biological sciences, or engineering.

Eligibility requirements include full-time student status at an accredited U.S. college or university. Women and minorities are strongly encouraged to apply. Successful applicants will be awarded a stipend for participation in the 6 week program in Southern California for classroom, laboratory, and aircraft experience. NSERC will provide travel to and from California and living expenses while in California.

Application materials should include:

- 2 page personal statement describing the student’s interests in pursuing research in the Earth sciences and other special qualifications.
- Letter of recommendation from a professor or advisor familiar with the student’s abilities.
- Official undergraduate and/or graduate transcripts.

Selection criteria will include:

- Excellent academic performance
- Promise for contributing to nation’s future workforce as judged by career plans
- Evidence of interest in Earth system science and hands-on research
- Geographic, gender and ethnic diversity
- Ability to perform in teams

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS FEBRUARY 22, 2010

Submit by mail to:
Rick Shetter, NSERC Director
Center for People and the Environment, University of North Dakota
4149 University Avenue, Stop 9011
Grand Forks, ND 58202-9011
More information can be found at http://www.nserc.und.edu/learning/SARP, or by telephoning Mr. Shetter at (701) 330-2126.

Or submit electronically to:
r.shetter@nserc.und.edu