## NSF REU PROGRAM IN CLIMATE AND SPACE SCIENCE OBSERVATION (PICASSO)

The University of Michigan Department of Climate and Space Sciences and Engineering (CLASP) is currently seeking a highly motivated, diverse and inclusive cohort of undergraduate students to participate in its summer Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) site program entitled: **Program in Climate and Space Science Observation (PICASSO).** This REU program is funded by a grant from the [National Science Foundation](https://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/).

The program is open to students from any academic discipline who are interested in exploring a potential career in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields of meteorology, climate, and space sciences. Program participants will work closely with faculty, research staff, and graduate students to engage in research from a broad range of disciplines, including:

* Meteorology
* Climate science and adaptation planning
* Atmosphere-biosphere interactions
* Aerosols, and atmospheric chemistry, and air quality
* Space-based remote sensing
* Space-weather and planetary atmospheres.

As part of the **PICASSO** program, student participants will also engage in the following activities while on campus:

1. A mentored-guided research project, the goals of which will be designed with the participation of the students themselves
2. Peer-mentoring performed by the department’s graduate students/postdoctoral fellows
3. A professional development seminar series provided by faculty and staff from across the University of Michigan
4. Community-building activities which will strengthen their relationships within the REU student cohort, including opportunities for community service
5. An end-of-program poster fair in which students will present their works to CLASP Department faculty, student and staff

**REQUIREMENTS:**

To be eligible for this research opportunity you must be:

* A US citizen, US national, or US permanent resident
* Enrolled as an undergraduate in a degree program leading to a baccalaureate or associate degree
* Most successful applicants will have a minimum grade point average of 2.8

**COMPENSATION:**

Participating students will receive a $6000 stipend. In addition, the following costs will be covered as part of our program: (1) the costs associated with travel to/from Ann Arbor, (2) room and board during the program, and (3) costs associated with the registration, room and board and travel for the student’s attendance at a professional conference (AMS, AGU, etc.).

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

* Application period begins: November 1, 2022
* Application period ends: January 31, 2023
* Offers Extended: March 1, 2023
* Requested Accept/Decline: March 15, 2023
* First day of the program: May 22, 2023\*
* Last day of the program: July 29, 2023

\* A later starting date will be possible for students whose institutions have academic term ending dates which make starting on May 22 impractical.

**HOW TO APPLY TO THE PROGRAM:**

***NOTE: Before you apply, please see the Application Checklist below. You will need the following documents in order to apply:***

* **Cover Letter**Please introduce yourself. We are not looking for a list of accomplishments, but rather a better sense of who you are. Also, please let us know where you heard about our program.
* **Diversity Statement**PICASSO values diversity in all of its forms. In 500 words or less, please let us know how you feel your participation in PICASSO will contribute to the creation of a diverse and vibrant cohort of students within our program.
* **Statement of Interest**In 500 words or less, please let us know what your interests are in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Additionally, please let us know how you think our program will help you to achieve your goals related to a STEM education/career.
* **Grade Transcript**Since we are interested in learning more about your educational experiences, we require an unofficial copy of your grade transcript.
* **Contact Information of Reference Providers**We require at least one letter of reference for your application to be considered, with two letters being preferred. One of these letters of reference should be from a faculty member or research advisor**. All letters should be sent directly to the following email address by those who are providing the reference**: clasp-reu@umich.edu. For our records, please provide us with the names and contact information for the individuals who will provide letters of reference, in case we need to contact them directly.
* **Combine all of the above documents (cover letter, diversity statement, statement of interest, diversity statement, grade transcript, and reference contact information) into a single PDF document. This PDF document will be your application to the NSF PICASSO REU program.**
* **Send in your application!**

**Download a copy of the**[PICASSO Application Checklist here.](https://clasp.engin.umich.edu/files/pages/application_checklist_2019.pdf)

**CONTACT: If you have questions regarding our program, please contact Dr. Frank Marsik (**marsik@umich.edu**).**

##### Other research opportunities:

* [National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR)](http://www.soars.ucar.edu/)
* [Others listed on NSF page](https://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/list_result.jsp?unitid=10020)