**2022 Student Airborne Science Activation (SaSa)**

**Mentor Responsibilities and Expectations**

**Locations, Dates, and Housing:** The dates of SaSa 2022 are June 6-July 29.  Mentors will need to arrive at University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) **on Sunday, June 5** and can depart on the afternoon of **Friday, July 29** (mentor travel to/from Baltimore will be paid for by SaSa). The first two weeks of the program, including introductory lectures, will take place in Baltimore, MD.  Week 3 will include visits to both Hampton University and University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES). For Weeks 4-6 the program will be based at Wallops Flight Facility in Wallops Island, VA, where the research flights will take place.  The final two weeks of the program will return to UMBC.  At UMBC, mentors will live with the other graduate mentors in apartment-style housing on the UMBC campus. Mentors will each have their own room throughout the program. Housing is paid for by SaSa.

**Salary and Expectations:** We expect there to be 4-5 graduate mentors and 25 undergraduate students in the summer program. Along with faculty members, graduate mentors will help the students analyze and interpret the data collected onboard the aircraft/in the field and will help groups of 2-4 students work on group research projects. Graduate mentors may also be expected to support professional development programming (e.g., guidance for applying to graduate programs, finding undergraduate internship programs, building a CV and resume) and community building activities. We hope to hire one of the mentors to be specifically designated as a programming/coding mentor. This mentor will give introductory lectures on Matlab/IDL/Python programming and Geographic Information Science (GIS) to all of the students and will hold office hours, where students can sign up to get help with programming questions related to their projects.

Mentors will receive a salary of $6400 for the 8-week program.  In addition, they will also receive per diem allowance (based on government rates for meals and incidentals for each locality) for each day of the program (including weekends). Because mentors receive per diem on all days of the program, it is expected that mentors will participate in and lead SaSa activities over the weekends. Weekend activities may include helping students in the lab as well as transporting students to educational (and fun!) activities in the MD, DC, and VA area. Suggestions for additional trips are welcome.

Each mentor can have up to two weekends where they can either leave or not participate in weekend activities.  Those weekends will be coordinated before the beginning of the summer so that we have a core of staff available every weekend.  The last weekend before presentations (July 23-24) is a weekend that everyone needs to be available as all students will be in need of last minute guidance before their presentations. Note, that if you choose to take a weekend (or two) off, we cannot pay you the per diem on those days.

In order to help the students understand what is expected for the final presentations, each mentor will give a 12-minute conference style presentation on their own research to all of the students at some point during the program.

Finally, we encourage all mentors to help us with documenting and promoting the SaSa program – this could include taking pictures and videos during the summer and/or writing blog posts for various NASA blogs.

**I have read and agree to the responsibilities and expectations outlined above for SaSa mentors**.

Print Name Signature Date

**Application Questions:**

**Please take as much space to answer as required. Email completed application to** **arc-sasa@mail.nasa.gov** **along with a current resume/cv. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.**

1. *Describe your teaching/TA/mentoring experience.*
2. *Describe why you would like to serve as a graduate student mentor for NASA SaSa and what you hope to get out of the experience.*
3. *Describe your research interests and how you might be suitable as a science mentor for your research group.*
4. *Are you comfortable working and living with the students for the entire 8-week time frame?*
5. *Use three adjectives to describe your personality.*