



Announcement of Opportunity Letter

Dear Students:

NASA, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, is seeking new and unique ideas for the next generation of robotic missions to explore the depths of space. The present Discovery Program includes a total of ten missions: five craft to explore comets and asteroids; one to land on Mars, one to orbit Mercury, one craft to orbit the moon, one to collect information about the sun, and one to search for Earth-sized planets outside of our solar system.

Complete proposals will demonstrate knowledge of the Discovery Program and its missions. A proposal will explain the value of past, present, and future exploration of space to society and life on Earth. It will identify and describe new areas for scientific investigation, provide suggestions for technological developments, and list the types of experts needed to design, build, test, and launch a successful mission.

In order to assist you in responding to this proposal, we have enclosed a video that provides general information about the Discovery Program and the individual missions. In addition, you will receive a list of important Internet sites that provide greater detail about each mission.

Proposals are restricted to two pages, will describe the goals of the new mission, and explain its value to science and society. Please include suggested dates for launch and a timeline for meeting the science objectives of your mission. Additional pages may include one design drawing of the spacecraft, approximate mission costs, the types of people needed to design, build, test, launch, and maneuver the spacecraft, and how mission scientists are involved in all stages of the mission.

The staff of the Discovery Program, and all of NASA, looks forward to receiving your response. Thank you in advance for your interest and hard work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David B. Jarrett". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

David B. Jarrett, Discovery Program Manager
