

Foundation for International Space Education

P.O. Box 58162, Houston, TX 77528 – USA
a 501c3 Educational Organization www.unitedspaceschool.org



Dear Prospective Student:

Thank you for your interest in attending the upcoming United Space School (USS) session. Our program has a long history of providing a life changing educational experience to students from all over the world. Since attendees have such a unique access to space industry experts, we have high expectations for students applying through the At-Large selection process. **The dates for USS2025 are July 13 - 28.**

Selected students must be able to handle both the academic and social responsibilities of USS. Each student should have an interest in the space sector, as well as be open minded toward American and world cultures. Students should be at least 15 years of age and no more than 19 by July 14 of the year they plan to attend USS.

To apply for one of these At-Large positions, submit the following items:

1. **A CV** (refer to template provided).
2. **One (1) letter of recommendation from a teacher, principal, manager, or headmaster**
3. **An essay that includes the following:**
 - a. A paragraph that outlines how you learned about the United Space School program and why you would like to participate.
 - b. A paragraph that highlights a group or team project you've been involved with and how it did or didn't work for you
 - c. A paragraph that outlines where you think humans should advance their presence in space. Choose a possible mission destination and why you chose it. (could be a crewed or robotic mission). Be creative but base your essay on existing technologies or foreseeable advancements in the next 10 to 20 years. In addition, select TWO (2) of the following five(5) subjects:
 1. How do you intend to reach your destination (from earth to destination orbit and/or destination ground)?
 2. If your mission involves a crew, describe how they will survive during the mission and the duration of this mission.
 3. Describe ground operations (mission control) and how your mission is funded.
 4. Present a plan to acquire technology needed if not already available.(what needs to be invented and what is the development process?)
 5. Pick a sub-system on your spacecraft (engines, life support, ship structure, power generation) and propose an innovative idea to resolve a specific challenge of that sub-system.

NOTE: The essay is used to evaluate and differentiate your aptitude, abilities and personal attributes. Do your best to make it as original and personal as possible. Your essay should be typed on standard-sized paper (8.5" x 11"), with 1" margins on all sides using 12 pt. Times New Roman font. The essay should not exceed 3 pages. Remember to cite your sources. In addition, English is the common language used during United Space School, so your English proficiency will also be evaluated. Convert your documents to the PDF format and submit them to FISE by February 1, 2025. Send all required documents to: admissions@unitedspaceschool.org and use "USS2025 Italian selection application" as the subject line.

Applicants who pass the initial screening process will be interviewed by the FISE Board of Directors either in person or remotely. In some cases, the committee members request a copy of the applicant's school transcripts. Repeat applicants are given due consideration by our admissions committee, so we recommend applying even if you are unsure about your prospects of being accepted this year. By submitting an application you verify your availability for the dates of USS2025.

The fees for attending the school are USD \$1000 for the two-week Space School session. In addition, if selected, students are responsible for arranging, booking and paying for their transportation to and from Houston.

Sincerely,

USS SELECTION COMMITTEE