Federal/university partnerships to promote a strong educational base in the space and aeronautical sciences. These designated colleges and consortia will provide leadership for a network of American colleges and universities, industry and State and local governments in space-related fields. The Administrator hereby delegates this authority to the Director, Educational Affairs Division.

(b) Designation of Space Grant colleges, Space Grant college consortia and Space Grant regional consortia shall be for 5 years. Designation of Space Grant colleges and consortia may be continued based on a merit review at the beginning of the fifth year.

(c) Each designated Space Grant college or consortium will receive:
   (1) A Space Grant award that requires a 100 percent match; and
   (2) Funds for fellowships.

(d) Each Space Grant college or consortium will be funded annually.

§ 1259.401 Responsibilities.
Each designated Space Grant college or consortium shall:
(a) Designate a Space Grant Program Director;
(b) Establish a Space Grant Office;
(c) Administer a fellowship program;
(d) Develop and implement programs of public service, interdisciplinary space-related programs, advisory activities and cooperation with industry, research laboratories, State and local governments and other colleges and universities, particularly institutions in their State and/or region with significantly large enrollments of racial minorities who are under-represented in science and technology; and
(e) Provide nonfederal matching funds (exclusive of in-kind contributions) for the Space Grant program equal to that provided by NASA.

§ 1259.402 Basic criteria and application procedures.
(a) Any institution of higher education may be designated a Space Grant college if the Administrator or designee finds that it has a balanced program of research, education, training and advisory services in fields related to space, as further defined in the program announcement.

(b) Any association or other alliance of two or more persons may be designated a Space Grant regional consortium, if the Administrator or designee finds that such association or alliance: (1) Is established for the purpose of sharing expertise, research, educational or training facilities and other capabilities in order to facilitate research, education, training and advisory services, in any field related to space;
(2) Will encourage and follow a regional approach to solving problems or meeting needs relating to space, in cooperation with other institutions of higher education, Space Grant program grantees and other persons in the region.
(c) The opportunity to apply for designation shall be announced by the Director, Educational Affairs Division. The application procedures and evaluation guidelines for designation shall be included in the designation announcement.
(d) Designation will be decided by a competitive merit review of the program proposal measured against the purposes of the Act and including, but not limited to, proposed linkages with other colleges and universities (particularly institutions with significant enrollments of under-represented minority groups), public service and collaboration with space-related industry.

§ 1259.403 Limitations.
The same limitations shall apply as are stated in § 1259.203.

§ 1259.404 Suspension or termination of designation.
The Administrator or designee, the Director, Educational Affairs Division, may, for cause, and after an opportunity for a hearing before an Administrative Judge appointed by the Deputy Administrator, suspend or terminate the Space Grant designation of any institution or consortium.

Subpart 5—Space Grant Fellowships

§ 1259.500 Description.
The Space Grant fellowship program will provide educational and training assistance to qualified individuals at
the graduate level in fields related to
space. Awards will be made to institu-
tions of higher education for fellow-
ships. The student recipients shall be
known as NASA Space Grant Fellows.

§ 1259.501 Responsibilities.
(a) All institutions which receive
Space Grant fellowships will be ex-
pected to use the awards to increase
the pool of graduate students in fields
related to space.
(b) The overall fellowship program
shall be cognizant of institutional di-
versity and geographical distribution.

§ 1259.502 Application procedures.
(a) All applicants for designation as
Space Grant colleges and consortia
must apply for Space Grant fellow-
ships.
(b) Applicants for Space Grant pro-
gram or project grants (under §1259.200)
and for national needs grants (under
§1259.300) may also apply for Space
Grant fellowships.
(c) There will be a merit review selec-
tion of Space Grant fellowship awards.

§ 1259.503 Limitations.
(a) Fellowships shall be awarded only
to Nationals of the United States.
(b) Any students supported under this
fellowship program shall not be funded
for more than 4 years unless the Direc-
tor, Educational Affairs Division,
makes an exception.

Subpart 6—Space Grant Review
Panel

§ 1259.600 Panel description.
An independent committee, the
Space Grant Review Panel, which is
not subject to the Federal Advisory
Committee Act, shall be established to
advise the Administrator with respect
to Space Grant program and project
awards, the Space Grant fellowship
program and the designation and oper-
ation of Space Grant colleges and con-
sortia. A majority of the voting mem-
bers shall be individuals who, by reason
of knowledge, experience, or training,
are especially qualified in one or more
of the fields related to space. The other
voting members shall be individuals
who, by reason of knowledge, experi-
ence or training, are especially quali-
"ified in, or representative of, education,
extension services, State government,
industry, economics, planning or any
other activity related to the purposes
of the Space Grant program.

§ 1259.601 Establishment and composi-
tion.
(a) The Panel, to be located at NASA
Headquarters in Washington, DC, will
be composed of ten voting members
who are not current NASA employees.
(b) It shall include four from Federal
departments, agencies or entities that
have an interest in space programs or
science and education, and six non-
federal representatives.
(c) The nonfederal representatives
shall include two persons who are di-
rectly involved with the Space Grant
program at a Space Grant college or
consortium, one person involved with
the Space Grant program at a univer-
sity that is not a designated Space
Grant college, a university president or
chancellor, one representative of a
space-related industry and the last per-
son to be from whatever field the Ad-
ministrator determines to be of great-
est concern.
(d) The Panel members shall be ap-
pointed by the Administrator or des-
ignee.
(e) The relevant organizations and
associations in aerospace and science
education fields will be asked to pro-
vide three names for each position on
the panel. The Administrator shall
consider them, but not be limited to
them, in the selection process.
(f) The Administrator or designee
shall select a Chair and a Vice Chair.
The Vice Chair shall act as Chair in the
absence or incapacity of the Chair.
(g) The Administrator or designee
may select NASA officials to serve as
ex officio, nonvoting members of the
panel.

§ 1259.602 Conflict of interest.
Any member of the Panel who has a
personal or financial interest in an
issue before the Panel shall abstain
from voting on such issue.