



# Louisiana EPSCoR

Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research

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## \$10 Million Agreement with Stennis Space Center Speeds Awards to LA Researchers

A contract for up to \$10 million for engineering and scientific research by Louisiana university investigators over a five-year period has been announced by the NASA John C. Stennis Space Center (SSC) in Mississippi and the Louisiana Board of Regents.

The contract facilitates requests from Stennis for the services of scientists and engineers with the Louisiana Research Consortium, which is comprised of the state's public and private research institutions of higher education. The contract extends to NASA and other government agencies located at the Stennis Space Center. This is the third consecutive five-year contract with SSC and will be administered by the Board of Regents (BoR), which serves as the liaison to NASA.

"The Stennis Space Center is known for rocket propulsion testing and earth science applications research, but it's much more than that," says the SSC Director, Admiral Thomas Q. Donaldson V, USN (Ret). "It's a unique federal and commercial city with more than 30 federal agencies and 60 technology-based companies. We are delighted that our association



*The Stennis Space Center's Visitors Center, StenniSphere, features a 14,000 square foot interactive review of the Space Center's role in America's Space Program.*

with the Louisiana Research Consortium will continue and expand." (See the list of resident agencies on page 2)

"As one of only 10 NASA field centers in the nation, Stennis Space Center affords us many opportunities, both in terms of research for our university investigators and the state's economic development," says Dr. E. Joseph Savoie, Louisiana Commissioner for Higher Education.

"It leads NASA's efforts to help solve problems related to homeland security, agricultural efficiency, disaster preparedness, and coastal management. In addition, part of its mission is to act as a catalyst to develop its region – which includes Louisiana – for the enhancement of education, quality of life and economic opportunities."

Stennis is also home to the largest concentration of oceanographers in the world...over 70 percent of NASA's propulsion experts...the national buoy center that produces tsunami buoys...and the Navy's Oceanographic Command, which has a supercomputer that ranks among the top 10 in the world.

Explaining that while there is a core group of federal employees at Stennis, much of the work is done by contract workers, Victor Johnson, manager of Louisiana's Stennis office, says that most of the research is geared more to applied sciences. "We have already received inquiries from several agencies for research contracts under the new Louisiana Research Consortium contract," he adds.

Under the agreement for the Louisiana Research Consortium, a contract for research services that could normally take up a year can be turned around in 30 to 45 days. The estimated minimum award is \$2,500; those awarded during the last agreement ranged from \$15,000 to \$244,000.

The Space Center will submit requests for research services to the Regents' Louisiana EPSCoR program where it will be forwarded to a designated representative at each participating institution. Each representative will be responsible for disseminating the request to appropriate faculty members on his/her campus. For further information about the agreement, email Rachel Patterson at [patterson@laregents.org](mailto:patterson@laregents.org).



*SSC Director, Admiral Thomas Q. Donaldson V, USN (Ret), left and LA Commissioner of Higher Education, Dr. E. Joseph Savoie.*

## LA Helping Stennis Bid for Multimillion Dollar Contract

Louisiana has committed \$1 million in workforce training funds to help entice NASA to award the John C. Stennis Space Center a multi-million dollar contract for a new national center that would bring Stennis 750 new jobs paying an average salary of \$55,000 to \$65,000. Based on the residence of current Stennis employees, about one-third would live in Louisiana.

Stennis is among the final three NASA centers competing for the NASA Shared Services Center (NSSC), which will consolidate financial, human resources, information technology and procurement functions now done at all 10 NASA field centers. Louisiana is part of a bidding team that includes Mississippi, the Computer Science Corporation (CSC), one of the world's leading information technologies consulting and outsourcing companies, and Lockheed Martin Corporation (LMC), the world's leading defense contractor. Both CSC and LMC are Fortune 500 companies.

"Stennis Space Center may be located in Mississippi, but it's a two-state facility," says Victor Johnson, manager of Louisiana's Technology Transfer Office (LTTO), which maintains an office at the space center. It was LTTO that got the Louisiana Research Consortium up and running.

"Besides the team effort to help win the NSSC, both states are members of Partners for Stennis, a multi-partnership economic development organization with two main goals: 1) to double the size of the Stennis workforce by 2010 and 2) to support

## Stennis Resident Federal Agencies & Major Contractors

### NASA

#### Department of Defense

Commander, Naval Meteorology & Oceanography Command  
Naval Oceanographic Office  
Naval Research Laboratory Detachment  
Naval Small Craft Instruction & Technical Training School  
Special Boat Team 22, U.S. Navy  
Navy Human Resources Service Center SE

Mississippi Army Ammunition Plant  
Defense Contract Management Agency

#### Department of Energy

Strategic Petroleum Reserve

#### Department of Commerce

National Data Buoy Center, National Weather Service  
NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service  
National Coastal Data Development Center

#### Department of Transportation

U.S. Coast Guard, National Data Buoy Center

### Department of the Interior

U.S. Geological Survey Water Resources Division  
U.S. Geological Survey Geomagnetism Center

### Environmental Protection Agency

Environmental Chemistry Laboratory  
Gulf of Mexico Program

### Applied Geo Technologies, Inc.

### Computer Sciences Corporation

### Jacobs Sverdrup, Inc.

### The Boeing Company

### Lockheed Martin Information

### Technology

### Lockheed Martin Space Operations

### Lockheed Martin Space Systems

### Lockheed Martin Technology

### Operations

### Mason Technologies

### Mississippi Space Services

### Paragon Systems, Inc.

### Pratt & Whitney

### Science Applications International Corporation

the development of a National Science Technology and Education Center.

Many exciting things are going on at Stennis, says Johnson. Lockheed Martin has established a \$25 million facility at Stennis, and Ionatron, a laser energy company, is relocating there from Arizona. Rolls Royce plans to move a jet engine facility from England to the center, and the Navy, Stennis' largest resident, is increasing its presence there. "We also helped four high-tech companies located at Stennis open offices in Slidell," he adds.

Louisiana has been an official Stennis resident agency since 2001. "Through the LTTO, the state's first Stennis office was established in the 1980's as a National Science Foundation pilot

project," says Roy Keller, LTTO director and a Partners for Stennis board member. "When we saw Mississippi researchers contracting with federal agencies at Stennis, we realized that the space center offered opportunities for Louisiana scientists, too. We approached the Board of Regents, which funded a part-time representative through its Louisiana EPSCoR program for four years."

"Governor Kathleen Blanco and Louisiana Secretary of Economic Development Michael Olivier have taken a real interest in the value of having a Louisiana office at Stennis and the potential of what can be accomplished in the future," says Keller.



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