

**2016 Missions of Opportunity
Astrophysics Explorer Program
Q&A**

Change Log		
Rev.	Date	Description of Changes
01	06/14/16	Added Q&A 1
02	08/15/16	Added Q&A 2
03	09/22/16	Added Q&A 3
04	10/04/16	Added Q&A 4
05	10/7/16	Added Q&A 5
06	10/26/16	Added Q&A 6

Q1 : If a mission requires a balloon as the launch vehicle, but it does not fit within the Mission of Opportunity (MO) cost cap, can such a mission be proposed above the MO cost cap, but below the MIDEX cost cap, to be considered as a full-scale MIDEX and reviewed as such?

A1 : No, a MIDEX mission is a space mission not a suborbital mission.

Q2 : Is the charge for access to space \$20M?

A2 : No, see the *Launch Services Program Access to Space Options* document in the Program Library.

Q3 : In regards to AO NNH12ZDA006O-APEXM03, specifically 4.6.3.3 (Requirement R-24): Will using the Planetary Sciences Corp. 6U Canisterized Satellite Dispenser (CSD) be considered for proposals? Assuming of course that we 'clearly describe how its designs are packaged and deployed.'

A3 : A proposal that designs to the use of a specific dispenser, such as the CSD, is allowed under the CubeSat Launch Initiative and for this solicitation.

Q4 : Section 4.1.1 of the PEA states "Each flight mission must utilize the communications office of a NASA center or JPL to manage the communications plan and activities". Since the communication plan is developed during phase B, no action is required at this point. Is that correct?

A4 : That is correct. A communications plan is not required at this point. If a proposal is selected to continue to subsequent phases of development, a communications plan would be developed during Phase B.

Q5 : What is the page limit for the classified heritage appendix? Is it also 30 pages, in addition to 30 pages of an unclassified heritage appendix?

A5 : No, the total page limit for both unclassified plus any classified appendices is 30. In other words, the page count of the unclassified appendix plus a classified appendix must not exceed 30 pages. Extra pages for the classified appendix are allowed only for Letters of Validation from the technology sponsor of the classified heritage technology.

Q6 : For a SCM going to into orbit as a secondary payload, does a single acceptable orbit need to be specified or can a range of acceptable orbits be specified?

A6 : No, a single acceptable orbit is not required. A range of acceptable orbits will increase the probability of NASA being able to find a secondary launch opportunity that is scheduled to launch relatively soon after the launch readiness date of the SCM.