



# 2014 Astrophysics Small Explorer (SMEX) and Mission of Opportunity (MO) Pre-Proposal Conference

## CubeSats & sRLVs

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## CubeSats

- MO SCMs may be proposed for flight on CubeSats. NASA provides launch opportunities for CubeSats as secondary payloads on U.S. Government missions at no cost to the PI-managed Mission Cost.
- The proposed PI-Managed Mission Cost for CubeSat missions shall be no more than \$35 million in FY 2015 dollars.
- The degree of launch date flexibility must be indicated in the proposal
- The CubeSat Launch Initiative is managed by the NASA Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate. See [http://www.nasa.gov/directorates/heo/home/CubeSats\\_initiative.html](http://www.nasa.gov/directorates/heo/home/CubeSats_initiative.html)
- For CubeSat proposals, all instruments/small satellites are recommended to comply with Cal Poly *CubeSat Design Specifications*, found at <http://cubesat.calpoly.edu/index.php/documents/developers>.
- Concepts that do not comply with the Cal Poly CubeSat and Poly Picosat Orbital Deployer (P-POD) standards should clearly describe how their designs are packaged and deployed.



# CubeSats & sRLVs

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- NASA Launch Services Program has issued a *Program Level Dispenser and CubeSat Requirements Document* with requirements for CubeSats sized up to 6U (2U x 3U). All proposals for CubeSats sized up to 6U shall be compliant with these requirements. Both of these documents can be found in the Program Library.
- No CubeSat form factors larger than 6U will be considered under the present call. Qualifying CubeSat form factors (size) include 1U, 1.5U, 2U, 3U and 6U with a mass not to exceed 1.33 kg per U.
- For further information on CubeSats, please contact:  
Anne E. Sweet  
Launch Services Program Executive  
Phone: 202-358-3784  
E-mail: [anne.sweet-1@nasa.gov](mailto:anne.sweet-1@nasa.gov)  
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Director, Advanced Exploration Systems  
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## sRLVs

- SCMs may be proposed for flight on suborbital Reusable Launch Vehicles (sRLVs).
- Access to sRLV platforms is managed by the Flight Opportunities Program within the Space Technology Mission Directorate. Platforms are provided by NASA to host payloads on sRLVs at no cost to the PI-managed Mission Cost.
- The proposed PI-Managed Mission Cost for missions on sRLVs shall be no more than \$35 million in FY 2015 dollars.
- Information about sRLVs is available from the Flight Opportunities Program website at <http://flightopportunities.nasa.gov>.
- Additional information on sRLV vehicles, including general vehicle capabilities and contact information for some vendors, is available at <http://flightopportunities.nasa.gov/platforms>.
- The Flight Opportunities Program may advise proposers on the use of sRLV platforms, including the potential integration, safety and mission assurance, and operational costs.



## sRLVs

- Proposals for investigations using sRLVs as platforms must specify the technical requirements that their investigation places on the vehicle.
- The proposal must include a Letter of Endorsement from a commercial vendor that:
  - (i) provides technical information on how the vehicle will meet the investigation requirements,
  - (ii) states that the vehicle will be available for use at the time proposed for flight and provides information showing a plan for getting from the current vehicle status to flight status, and
  - (iii) provides a quoted cost for the flight and all other services that are required from the vehicle vendor to enable and conduct the proposed investigation.
- The Flight Opportunities Program is available to assist with (i) – (iii).



## sRLVs

- Proposers interested in using sRLVs must identify a vehicle that can provide the technical capabilities required to conduct the proposed investigation.
- SCMs to be flown on sRLVs must either be automated or remotely operated. Remote operation capability must be confirmed with the flight operator.
- The degree of launch date flexibility must be indicated in the proposal
- Questions concerning potential sRLV investigations may be addressed to:

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