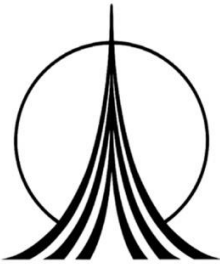


*Astronaut Challenge
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**The Astronauts
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Visit www.astronautchallenge.com for additional information on the competition and the regional testing dates and locations.



**STATE OF FLORIDA
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STATE OF FLORIDA STUDENT ASTRONAUT CHALLENGE

Florida State University Schools

www.astronautchallenge.com





What is the FSUS Space Shuttle Simulator?

In 2009 Florida State University Lab School (FSUS) received a grant to construct a space flight simulator. The goal of this research project was to:

- Evaluate the effect of virtual immersion on developing student interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).
- Develop an innovative method for teaching teamwork and problem solving to science students by placing them in real world situations.

After the study was successfully completed FSUS decided to use the simulator to reach a larger student audience. Working with the Department of Education and local businesses, the "State of Florida Student Astronaut Challenge" was created.

What is the Student Astronaut Challenge?

The Student Astronaut Challenge is a space-related competition comprised of a regional qualifying exam and a four event finals. The finals competition is held annually at the Kennedy Space Center with both middle and high school divisions. Awards are presented in

each division to the top three teams in each event and the overall winning team.

How do schools qualify?

The regional qualifier is held in North, Central, and South Florida in October and consists of a 100 multiple choice question test based on the Student Astronaut Challenge textbook located in the website "Reference Material" menu option.

Students compete as a five person team, each individually taking a different version of the test. The average score of the team is used to obtain their regional ranking. Fifteen high school and twelve middle school teams are selected for the finals competition based on their regional competition rankings.



What are the Astronaut Challenge events?

Event One consists of an engineering challenge where students are provided a flight operation related problem on the space shuttle or the international space station. Working together as a team, they are required to devise and present a procedure for solving the problem to a board of NASA engineers and scientists.

Event Two is the presentation of a focused experimental proposal that could be performed on the International Space Station on a



provided topic. The lab proposal is then presented to a board of NASA scientists.

Event Three consists of three rounds (including a semi-final and final) where teams are required to perform the pre-flight operation, launch, orbit and landing of the Space Shuttle Enterprise flight simulator and the operation and responsibilities of the mission control team. During the semi-final and final rounds, students are provided with in-flight emergencies that must be managed to safely complete their mission.

Event Four consists of two rounds (including run-offs and finals) where two team members are required to perform a landing of the Space Shuttle Enterprise flight simulator and the operation and responsibilities of the mission control team. Each team member will perform both duties.

How can I get involved?

The staff of the Student Astronaut Challenge is continually looking for educational partners and sponsors to support the challenge. If you are interested, please contact any of the program staff listed on this brochure or the www.astronautchallenge.com website.

Students, please share this information with your teachers.