NASA Locations Where Will Your Career Launch?





Do you want to explore the extraordinary, every day? Here at NASA, we reach for new heights and reveal the unknown for the benefit of humankind. But we don't just work in space. Nearly 18,000 of the Nation's top scientists, engineers, and business professionals work across the United States at our 10 Center locations, our Shared Services Center, or one of our smaller test and research facilities. Read more about each of our main locations and imagine yourself here. Where will your career launch?

1. Ames Research Center (ARC)

Mountain View, CA

Located in the heart of California's Silicon Valley and less than an hour from San Francisco, Ames Research Center is known for its cutting-edge R&D work supporting NASA's most important missions. Ames's 1,200 civil service employees do everything from designing spacecraft entry systems and next-generation aircraft here on Earth to harnessing quantum computing for advanced modeling and simulation, conducting research in astrobiology, and influencing the most advanced robotics and human technology. Ames fosters partnerships with top universities and high-tech industry leaders, bringing the scientific and corporate communities together to advance human knowledge.

2. Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center (AFRC) Edwards, CA

Best known for its achievements in atmospheric flight research and operations, the mission of the Armstrong Flight Research Center is to advance science and technology through flight. Armstrong is located in the majestic western Mojave Desert, which is less than 2 hours from the excitement of Los Angeles. For more than 60 years, Armstrong projects have led to major advancements in the design and capabilities of state-of-the-art civilian and military aircraft. The newest, the fastest, the highest-all have made their debut in the vast, clear desert skies over Armstrong. The Center's 560 civil service employees design supersonic iets that push the frontiers of flight overhead, as well as sophisticated remotely piloted aircraft that safely detect forest fire hot spots. Armstrong's space operations, flight research, and scientific discovery projects are an integral part of NASA's future missions.

3. John H. Glenn Research Center (GRC) Cleveland, OH

Located in one of America's most affordable cities, near the birthplace of rock and roll, John H. Glenn Research Center supports all of NASA's missions and major programs. Glenn's 1,600 civil service employees excel in researching and developing innovative technologies for both aeronautics and space flight. A multitude of NASA missions have included elements from Glenn, from the Mercury and Gemini projects to the Space Shuttle Program and the International Space Station (ISS). With its world-class engineers, researchers, and facilities-including wind tunnels, drop towers, vacuum chambers, and aircraft hangars-Glenn is distinguished by its unique blend of space flight and aeronautics expertise. Glenn partners with U.S. industry, universities, and Government institutions to advance the exploration of our solar system and beyond.

4. Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) Greenbelt, MD

Best known for its leadership in scientific discovery and understanding, Goddard Space Flight Center is located between the vibrant cities of Baltimore and Washington, DC. Goddard is the home of innovative Earth science, astrophysics, heliophysics, and planetary science, as well as the Nation's largest group of scientists and engineers dedicated to using observations from space to expand knowledge of Earth and our solar system. Goddard's 3,300 civil service employees range from interns to accomplished Nobel Prize winners, and they work on a variety of exciting projects, including many of NASA's Earth observation, astronomy, and space physics missions. Goddard also serves as a major U.S. laboratory for developing and operating robotic scientific spacecraft.

5. NASA Headquarters

Washington, DC

In the heart of the Nation's capital, NASA Headquarters oversees the work of the Agency's numerous space flight centers, science centers, research centers, and other installations. The five principal organizations at NASA Headquarters, called Mission Directorates, are dedicated to the fields of aeronautics, human exploration and operations, science, space technology, and mission support. Approximately 1,100 civil service employees manage Agency projects at Headquarters. They establish management policies, procedures, and performance criteria. Employees also evaluate mission progress and analyze all aspects of NASA programs. Headquarters has primary responsibility for developing the NASA budget and for communicating with the White House and Congress and serves as the Agency's focal point for accountability to external organizations.

6. Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center (JSC) Houston, TX

Best known as the home of NASA's Astronaut Corps and Mission Control—the nerve center for America's human space program— Johnson Space Center is located in one of the Nation's "coolest cities" according to Forbes. From the early Gemini and Apollo projects to today's International Space Station and Orion projects, Johnson continues to lead NASA's efforts in human space exploration. Johnson also serves as the lead for the ISS—the U.S.-led collaborative effort of 16 nations that is the largest and most complex human facility ever to operate in space. Johnson's 3,100 civil service employees push the boundaries of human space flight, biological science, and research into how humans can live and thrive in space. Johnson's work supports NASA's ambitious future missions, including sending humans to Mars.

7. John F. Kennedy Space Center (KSC) Cape Canaveral, FL

Located along the golden shores of Florida's eastern coast and less than an hour from Orlando, Kennedy Space Center's rich legacy includes the assembly, integration, and launch of all U.S. human space flight missions, including Apollo and the Space Shuttle. Kennedy is home to NASA's Launch Services Program, launching satellites and robotic missions to learn more about our home planet and to unlock the secrets of the universe. Kennedy's 2,000 civil service employees focus on NASA's core values: safety, integrity, teamwork, and excellence. They support International Space Station operations as the orbiting laboratory enters its second decade of discoveries. Kennedy also partners with industry as it develops the multi-user Kennedy Spaceport.

8. Langley Research Center (LaRC) Hampton, VA

Established in 1917 as the Nation's first civil aeronautics research laboratory, Langley Research Center is located in the Hampton Roads metro area in beautiful coastal Virginia near historical Jamestown and Williamsburg. The Center's research, science, and technology development have revolutionized aviation and space flight, and the Center continues to fuel NASA's significant contributions in science and engineering. Langley's 1,800 civil service employees are well known for their work on cutting-edge product lines, including advanced materials and structural systems; aerosciences; atmospheric characterization; entry, descent, and landing; intelligent flight systems; measurement systems; and systems analysis and concepts.

9. George C. Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) Huntsville, AL

Located in one of the "Top 100 Best Places to Live." according to Livability.com, and a short distance from both Nashville and Birmingham, Marshall Space Flight Center provides the multidisciplined engineering expertise for a variety of space transportation and propulsion systems. Marshall's 2,400 civil service employees enable scientific discovery through the development of hardware and instruments for projects, including the Chandra X-ray Observatory, the Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope, and the Japanese-led Hinode mission to study the Sun. Marshali also develops, integrates, and operates major components and systems on the International Space Station while supporting its science operations around the clock. Looking ahead, Marshall will deliver the systems needed for the Space Launch System, which will be the Nation's next advanced heavy-lift vehicle—and the most powerful rocket ever built.

10. John C. Stennis Space Center (SSC) Hancock County, MS

Stennis Space Center sits in picturesque Hancock County on an expansive campus with its own post office, bank, credit union, daycare, fitness center, convenience store, fuel station, and more, It is located less than an hour from the excitement of New Orleans and charm of Biloxi. For nearly five decades, Stennis has served as NASA's primary rocket propulsion testing ground. Stennis's 320 civil service employees oversee rocket propulsion test services for NASA, the Department of Defense, and the private sector, including the RS-25 engine testing scheduled to begin in fall 2014 for NASA's Space Launch System, which will take humans deeper into space than ever before. Stennis also is engaged in a range of scientific research to support NASA's Applied Sciences Program, which will help to build a greater understanding of Earth and the solar system.

11. NASA Shared Services Center (NSSC) Hancock County, MS

Located on the Stennis Space Center campus, the NASA Shared Services Center plays a critical role in NASA's business and financial operations. The NSSC's mission is to provide timely, accurate, high-quality, cost-effective, and customer-focused support for selected NASA business and technical services. The NSSC's 130 civil service employees support a wide range of Agency functions, including procurement, financial management, human resources, information technology, and business support.

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