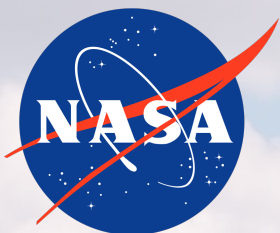




2024 Gateways to Blue Skies Competition:
**Advancing Aviation
for Natural Disasters**
Q&A Session #2

**January 25, 2024
3:30–4:30 PM Eastern**

(Please mute all mics.)



The Gateway to Blue Skies: Advancing Aviation for Natural Disasters Competition is sponsored by NASA's Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate's (ARMD's) University Innovation Project (UI) and managed by the National Institute of Aerospace (NIA).



Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Context for 2024 Competition
- Proposal & Video Expectations
- Programmatic Remarks
- Question-and-Answer Open
Call Opportunity
- Wrap Up



[Competition
Guidelines PDF](#)

NIA Program Team



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University Students Research Challenge (USRC)
Gateways to Blue Skies Competition (Blue Skies)

Judging Panel



Steven Holz, Co-Chair
Langley Research Center (UI)



Starr Ginn
Armstrong Flight Research
Center



Phil Kenul
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Shanna McClain
NASA Headquarters



Natasha Neogi
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**Marcus Johnson,
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Travis Potter
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Center



Jay Stalnacker
XPRIZE Wildfire



GATEWAYS TO
BLUESKIES

**Context for and
Discussion of 2024
Theme:**

**Advancing Aviation
for Natural Disasters**



Context for and Discussion of 2024 Theme



Through the 2024 Blue Skies Competition, collegiate-level student **teams will conceptualize applications of new and existing capabilities that can be deployed through aviation to aid in one of the management phases of a selected natural disaster to improve capabilities.**

This challenge seeks to investigate aviation-related capabilities that, if developed further or approached differently, could play a major role in modernizing existing disaster management practices, thereby mitigating loss of life, property, and/or natural resources due to natural disasters.

Proposal & Video Expectations



- The **Competition Guidelines** are your guide and the foundation on which your submission will be judged!
- What we **DO** want to see in the Competition:
 - High-level systems concepts,
 - Understanding of current natural disaster & response landscape,
 - Consideration of operational environment (physical and logistical),
 - End-user consideration and engagement,
 - Decisive and scoped concept choices (one system does not fit all solutions)
 - The ability to close gaps in current aviation-related natural disaster responses
- What do we **NOT** want to see in the Competition:
 - Detailed aircraft design studies
 - Physical prototypes

Programmatic Remarks



- Primary Faculty Advisor must sign the Proposal.
- Remember: You will need to submit a W-9/Vendor Form with your Proposal.
- YOU are selling your proposed concept to the judges!
- Be sure to review the Change Log in the Competition Guidelines!



[Competition
Guidelines PDF](#)

**NEXT
DEADLINE** →

2024 Competition
Announced
(July 25, 2023)

Q&A Session 2
(January 25, 2024)

Proposal & Video
Submissions Due
(February 27, 2024)

Selection
Notifications
(March 26, 2024)

Forum in Mountain
View, CA
(May 30-31, 2024)



Existing Resources Available on Website



Visit the Blue Skies FAQ Webpage for the following resources:

- Q&A Session #1 (November 2, 2023)
 - Video/Audio Recording
 - Summary Document
 - Presentation Slides (Chart Deck)
- Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- This Q&A Session and associated documents and recordings will be posted on the FAQs Webpage for future use.

<https://blueskies.nianet.org/faq>

Q&A: Open Call Format



To Ask A Question:

1. Use “Raise Hand” Function in Teams to ask verbally.
 - You will be called on to pose your question.
 - If possible, please turn on your camera while speaking.

OR

2. Type questions into the Chat.
 - The host will pose questions to co-chairs during the call.

Future Questions?



**PLEASE SEND ALL FUTURE QUESTIONS TO:
BLUESKIES@NIANET.ORG**

Each question will be responded to directly, as well as posted on the FAQ Webpage for everyone to see.

We encourage you to visit the FAQ Webpage frequently for updates:
<https://blueskies.nianet.org/faq/>

Scan the QR Code to view the 2024 Gateways to Blue Skies Competition Guidelines Document.

