Department of Education

P. O. Box 2120 Richmond, Virginia 23216-2120

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MEMO NO. 170-20

**DATE:** October 20, 2020

**TO:** CTE Administrators

**FROM:** George R. Willcox, Director, Operations and Accountability Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

**SUBJECT:** **Free NASA Opportunities for Virginia High School Students!**

Virginia Space Grant Consortium (VSGC) provides the following **FREE** STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) opportunities for Virginia high school students in grades 10 through 12. Our student application deadline is almost here! Please remind your students to apply by **October 25, 2020**!

**10TH GRADE  
Virginia Space Coast Scholars (VSCS)** – Online course for 10th grade students focusing on missions flown or managed by NASA Wallops Flight Facility on Virginia’s Eastern Shore, with a week-long summer academy program at NASA Wallops Flight Facility. [**LINK: http://vsgc.odu.edu/spacecoast/**](http://vsgc.odu.edu/spacecoast/)

**11TH AND 12TH GRADE  
Virginia Aerospace Science and Technology Scholars (VASTS)** – Online course for 11th and 12th grade students focusing on NASA’s human spaceflight missions and the Journey to the Moon and on to Mars with a week-long summer academy at NASA Langley Research Center. Students can earn up to four free dual enrollment college credits. [**LINK: http://vsgc.odu.edu/VASTS/**](http://vsgc.odu.edu/VASTS/)

**11TH AND 12TH GRADE  
Virginia Earth System Science Scholars (VESSS)** – This interactive online earth system science course for 11th and 12th grade students features NASA scientific research and data. Students can earn up to five dual enrollment college credits and can also be selected to attend a summer academy program at NASA Langley Research Center. [**LINK: http://vsgc.odu.edu/VESSS**](http://vsgc.odu.edu/VESSS)

Our online course applications are **OPEN** **UNTIL OCTOBER 25th** for 10th – 12th grade students to apply.

**Teachers:** Each of our programs also hires a cohort of Master Teachers to grade student work in our virtual environment from December through April. Teachers, please refer to each program’s website for details on becoming a **paid** Master Teacher for one of these programs!

For additional information contact Priscilla Hill, Education Program Assistant, Virginia Space Grant Consortium at [APHill@odu.edu](mailto:APHill@odu.edu).

GRW/aar