The Virginia Space Grant Consortium would like to share the following information about the following FREE NASA-related programs for Virginia's high school students interested in STEM.

## Virginia Aerospace Science and Technology Scholars

(VASTS) is a NASA-based program for **11th grade students** (and STEM teachers) who are interested in aerospace-related science, technology, engineering and/or math (STEM). This course focuses on space mission design and human space flight.

(VASTS) is an interactive online learning course with a space mission design and human space flight theme, culminating in a one-week residential Summer Academy at NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton for those students who qualify. Offered at **no cost** to the student, VASTS consists of eight modules and a final project to be completed from **November 2016 through May 2017** under the guidance of licensed master educators. Based on success in the online coursework, students may be selected to attend a Summer Academy where they interact with NASA scientists, engineers and technologists to design a human mission to Mars. **Students who successfully participate in VASTS can apply to earn 2 college credits for the online course and 2 additional credits for the Summer Academy**.

Please direct students or other faculty to the website for program information and application, <a href="http://vasts.spacegrant.org">http://vasts.spacegrant.org</a>
. The deadline for student applications is October 30th, 2016.

For more information on this program, please contact: Ian Cawthray VASTS Education Program Coordinator ian.m.cawthray@nasa.gov Or visit: http://vasts.spacegrant.org

Please visit the NASA Virginia Space Grant Consortium website