

The NASA Reauthorization Act of 2024

Reaffirms the Nation's Commitment to Human Space Exploration:

Space exploration plays an important role in maintaining U.S. leadership in space and American international competitiveness.

- Supports human space exploration efforts, including both the Artemis and Moon to Mars Programs.
- Promotes a steady cadence of Artemis missions and supports continued development of exploration systems, including the Space Launch System and Orion.
- Enables the growth of the commercial space sector by directing the utilization of private sector capabilities for exploration activities.

Facilitates the Development of the Low-Earth Orbit Economy:

A presence in low-Earth orbit (LEO) is crucial to U.S. research and economic development.

- Enables NASA to transition from an owner-operator of the ISS to a customer of commercial services in low-Earth orbit.
- Encourages the maximum possible utilization and productivity of the ISS to ensure the greatest return on investment in the station.
- Authorizes the Administrator to procure services from U.S. operators of low-Earth orbit platforms and procure ISS deorbit capabilities from U.S. providers.

Promotes Space Technology Development:

Growing interest in space from nations and the private sector continues to drive an increasing focus on developing space technology. Competitiveness in space technology development is critical to maintaining U.S. leadership in space.

- Explores opportunities to facilitate the development and deployment of lunar surface power.
- Evaluates cislunar and deep space communications capabilities and progress in developing the next-generation systems.

Supports Transformative Aeronautics Technology Development:

NASA aeronautics research supports efforts to improve the safety and efficiency of aviation and to make improvements to the National Airspace System.

- Supports experimental aircraft development to test and mature transformative aeronautics concepts and technologies.
- Empowers next-generation aeronautics technologies, including advanced air mobility, hypersonic capabilities, and advanced materials and manufacturing technology.

Fosters Scientific Discovery and Expands Our Collective Knowledge:

NASA science drives our understanding of the Earth all the way out to the edges of the universe. This work also contributes to advancements that improve life on Earth.

• Encourages NASA to maintain a balanced scientific portfolio with a steady cadence of missions varying in size, guided by the recommendations of the National Academies decadal surveys.