

# Annual student launch April 1

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More than 200 middle school and high school students in Las Cruces have been preparing experiments to launch into suborbital space April 1 at the annual New Mexico Space Grant Consortium Student Launch.

The experiments will be carried into space on board a sounding class rocket from Spaceport America.

“Las Cruces students are in a great position to take advantage of opportunities in the new commercial space industry,” said Pat Hynes, space grant director. “These middle school and high school students have worked hard with their teachers to bring an exciting new learning opportunity into the classrooms, and the Student Launch Program is creating an increased interest in technology and science programs for Las Cruces and the entire state.”

Seven Las Cruces-area public schools are participating in this year’s launch, along with a project from New Mexico State University. Local schools include Loma Heights Elementary, Mesa, Sierra and Zia middle schools and Oñate and Mayfield high schools.

The local students will be among 800 students from New Mexico, west Texas and Arizona to watch their experiments go into space on April 1 from Spaceport America. The Student Launch is open to the public by reservation for \$45 per person, which includes coach transportation as no private vehicles are allowed at the launch. Register online at [www.launchnm.com/registration.php](http://www.launchnm.com/registration.php).