

Education Partnership Agreement

What is the Air Force Technology Transfer (T²) Program and how is it connected with education partnership agreements? The T² program promotes the transfer and/or exchange of technology with state and local governments, academia, and industry to create jobs, improve productivity, and increase competitiveness while supporting the AF mission. The Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) assists the T² program by opening up expanded areas of exploration and cooperation to academia through Education Partnership Agreements (EPAs).

What is an EPA?

It is a formal agreement between a defense laboratory and an educational institution to transfer and/or enhance technology applications and provide technology assistance for all levels of education (pre-kindergarten and up). (Title 10 USC 2194)

The term "defense laboratory" means any laboratory, product center, test center, depot, training and educational organization, or operational command under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense.

What type of educational institutions can participate?

Any local educational agency, colleges and universities, and nonprofit (501c3) institutions dedicated to improving science, mathematics and engineering education. Federal departments and agencies are to give the highest preference to elementary and secondary schools with mathematics and science education programs to meet the National Education Goals. (E.O. 12999)



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Air Force
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[T²EPA]

Technology Transfer Education Partnership Agreement



Sharing Air Force Technology
with Academia & State and
Local Governments

T²EPA

Technology Transfer Education Partnership Agreement

What authority does the Director of a Laboratory have involving EPAs?

- > May directly transfer (donate) laboratory (i.e., scientific, research) equipment that is in excess to the needs of that lab, to public and private schools and nonprofit institutions in the U.S. Zone of Interior.
- > Make laboratory personnel available to teach or assist in developing courses and course materials.
- > Involve faculty and students in laboratory research.
- > Provide academic and career advice and assistance to students.

What are the benefits to the participating institutions?

- > Supporting the educational process promotes a better educated and technology aware public.
- > Involvement of students and teachers in developing useful technological applications.
- > Future workforce trained on state-of-the-art equipment – potential for higher wages and faster promotion of employees.
- > Cooperating with the institution in developing a program under which students may be given academic credit for work on defense laboratory research projects.
- > Improvement of students' overall confidence and interest in math, science and technology.
- > Schools can receive quality/educationally useful equipment.
- > Undergraduate and graduate students work with mentors from AFRL and other organizations on research and development projects.

What are the benefits to the AFRL?

- > Involving students in the laboratories assures a future pool of scientists and engineers.
- > Increased potential for applying military technology to commercial markets.
- > Leverage/cost savings to the Air Force by utilizing student participation in projects.
- > Community awareness of the Air Force Core Values and increased visibility of Air Force technologies.
- > Enhances the reputation of the laboratory and enables lab employees to become mentors within local school districts.



Need more information?

Procedures regarding EPAs can be found at: www.vs.afrl.af.mil/TechOutreach/TT/EP

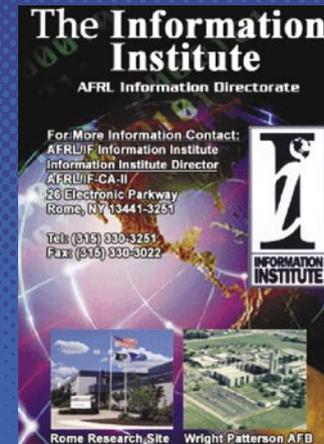
A model of an EPA can be found at: www.afrl.af.mil/techtran/handbk (under Section J).

To begin Air Force EPA discussions visit www.afrl.af.mil/techtran and contact your regional Technology Transfer Officer.

[T²EPA] Examples:

The Information Institute

The Information Institute (II) is a virtual, collaborative research environment concentrating on Information Science and Technology.



It currently consists of universities allied with the US Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate (AFRL/IF) at the Rome Research Site (New York) and Wright Research Site (WPAFB, Ohio) through an Educational

Partnership mechanism. The institute will enhance the AFRL/IF workforce by providing employment opportunities for participating students. The institute will establish new and strengthen existing ties among member universities, which will enable them to leverage research opportunities. The AFRL/IF will serve as mentors for staff enrichment and universities will receive financial support for research. The Information Institute provides a unique opportunity to work with the US Air Force to turn science into applications.

AFRL Mars Missions Project

Classroom-based Mars colonization simulation was adapted from a project created by the Challenger Center for Space



Science Education. The AFRL at Kirtland B, New Mexico sponsors annual Mars missions for elementary school (5th grade) students. This project exposes students to biological, scientific and environmental studies related to space exploration; demonstrates problem solving and team



learning using a cooperative model; integrates science, mathematics and the arts; and provides students with positive role models from the fields of science and technology.

technology transfer

exchange of technology