

CubeSat Launch Initiative

As NASA's Earth-to-space bridge that is dedicated to launching all types of spacecraft, the Launch Services Program (LSP) manages small satellite missions, known as CubeSats, which are selected by NASA's CubeSat Launch Initiative (CSLI).

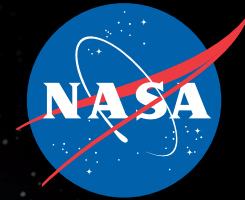
CSLI provides access to space for small satellites developed by the NASA Centers and programs, educational institutions and non-profit organizations. This gives CubeSat developers access to a low-cost pathway to conduct research in the areas of science, exploration, technology development, education or operations.

CSLI also promotes and develops innovative technology partnerships among NASA, U.S. industry, and other sectors for the benefit of Agency programs and projects. NASA thus gains a mechanism to use CubeSats for low-cost technology development or pathfinders.

CubeSats, also called nanosatellites, come in several sizes and are based on the standard CubeSat "unit." A 1U CubeSat is small enough in size to fit in the palm of your hand, measuring 10x10x10cm, with a mass of approximately 1.33 kg. CSLI launches CubeSats as small as 1U and as large as 12U.

LSP finds rides to space for CSLI selected CubeSats by manifesting them on NASA, military, or commercial launch vehicles going to the right orbit in the right timeframe. The complement of CSLI CubeSats on a given flight is referred to as an Educational Launch of Nano-satellite (ELaNa) mission.

Once manifested, LSP works with both the CubeSat developer and the launch service provider to ensure that technical, safety, and regulatory requirements are satisfied before launch.



Learn more about CSLI:



CubeSat 101



[ELaNa Mission Page](#)

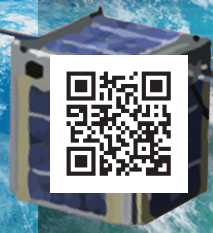
[CubeSat Launch Initiative Feature](#)



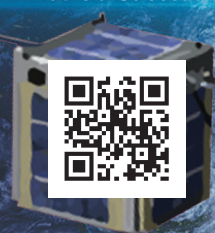
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LSP

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