



Astronauts4Hire

Your Spaceflight Crew Solution

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Fact Sheet

- Astronauts for Hire, Inc. (A4H) is a 501(c)(3) public charity founded on April 12th, 2010 – a date celebrated as the 49th anniversary of the first human in space and 29th anniversary of the first Space Shuttle flight.
- The A4H mission is to increase the competitiveness of commercial astronaut candidates by providing skills training, facilitating forums for candidate communication, engaging with potential employers, and inspiring the next generation.
- A4H not only helps members gain the training necessary to qualify for spaceflight but also matches them to researchers and companies needing to hire astronauts for jobs on parabolic microgravity or space flights.
- In July 2011, the first A4H group underwent Research Specialist Training that included centrifuge, altitude chamber, distraction factors, emergency egress training, and motion sickness assessment. The first fully qualified Research Specialist Astronauts from A4H will be announced by mid-2012.
- A4H members serve as Research or Operations Specialists who can consult on payload design, operate experiments and systems in flight, test/promote products, or serve as human test subjects.
- In September 2010, A4H was hired for its first contract to operate a payload for a researcher on a parabolic microgravity flight that took place in February 2011. The experiment to test the physiological effects of alcohol in microgravity gained widespread media attention.
- In October 2011, A4H was successfully awarded a NASA Flight Opportunities grant with partner Vital Space to test a new biometric monitoring system for spaceflight participants on a May 2012 parabolic flight campaign.
- A4H's Senior Technical Advisory Council comprised of former NASA astronauts, astronaut instructors, and government liaisons provides guidance to A4H as it develops its plans and strategy.
- A4H is focused on creating a pool of highly qualified commercial astronaut candidates. A4H currently has 19 Flight Members, who are the astronauts-in-training, and 60 Associate Members.
- The members of A4H use talents from across a wide range of disciplines that include aeronautics, astrobiology, astronomy, aviation, biology, business, chemistry, engineering, genetics, geosciences, life sciences, materials, medicine, nanoscience, neurobiology, oceanography, operations, physics, physiology, planetary science, and remote sensing.
- 10 A4H flight members have earned their doctorate degrees. 14 A4H Flight Members are US citizens. Other citizenships include: Canada, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Israel, Moldova, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, and Turkey. Combined, members are fluent in 16 languages, including English, Russian, Japanese, French, German, Spanish, and Portuguese.
- A4H is a Research and Education Affiliate of the Commercial Spaceflight Federation.
- A4H was a sponsor of the 2011 and 2012 Next-Generation Suborbital Researchers Conference.