FAQ:

How do I indicate which mentor I am interested in on the application?
Applicants should upload a cover letter under “other attachments” which describes which project they prefer. All projects are listed on the Dragonfly website [https://dragonfly.jhuapl.edu/Student-Opportunities/] by May 28, 2021. If an applicant already submitted their application without a cover letter, they can modify their application before the deadline. For questions about how to modify your application, email Latonya Robinson [Latonya.Robinson@jhuapl.edu]

Does this opportunity cover tuition?
Funding does not cover tuition. The program covers 30% of the student’s time over the 2-year period (nominally equivalent to two back-to-back summer internships, distributed as appropriate over the 2-year period). Additional funds will cover travel to the team meetings (when in-person meetings resume), and travel to present research results at a relevant conference each year (if presenting at a virtual conference, funds will cover the registration fee)

Where can I find the listing of Dragonfly SEO mentors and projects?
Dragonfly mentors and associated projects are listed on the top right hand side of Student Opportunities page [https://dragonfly.jhuapl.edu/Student-Opportunities/]

Are students who will complete their M.S. or Ph.D. prior to the end of the 2-year period eligible to apply? In other words, is the opportunity only for graduate students, and not postdoctoral fellows?
We do not expect to accept any students for which there would be a substantial lag time (> 1-2 months) between the completion of their graduate degree(s) and the end of their second year as an SEO participant. This opportunity is not open to postdocs at the current time.

Can I use my work on Dragonfly towards my MS Thesis or PhD Dissertation?
Yes, if your Thesis/Dissertation advisor agrees.

Does my faculty advisor need to already be involved with the Dragonfly mission?
No. This program is intended specifically for students whose faculty advisors aren’t involved with Dragonfly. Faculty advisor do not have to be geologists or planetary scientists.

Does my faculty advisor need to have a background in planetary science or geology?
No.

Would it be possible to continue participating on Dragonfly after the 2-year period of participating in the SEO program ends?
Potentially, depending on the nature of the work being performed and how it fits with the project schedule.
What is the duration of the program at APL during the summer months?
The breakdown of time between the summer and academic year can be worked out with the Dragonfly mentor.

Are students eligible to receive academic credit for participating in this program?
It is completely up to the student’s home institution to arrange this. Students should arrange this with their faculty advisor and their home institution.

Will the work be done remotely or in-person?
Due to COVID19-related concerns, the projects will begin virtually and transition to on-site as needed over the two-year period of performance. Team meetings held in 2021 are likely to be virtual, but the venue during 2022 remains to be determined.

When will I be notified of my selection?
We anticipate that successful candidates will be notified by June 30, 2021.