



Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS)

NASA OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT | VIGNETTE



Who/Where

NASA's Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS) contract enables the rapid acquisition of services from American companies for the delivery of payloads to the lunar surface. Investigations and demonstrations launched on commercial Moon flights will help the agency study Earth's nearest neighbor under the Artemis approach. The Johnson Space Center (JSC) in Texas is responsible for the management of the CLPS Project Office and administration of the CLPS contract.

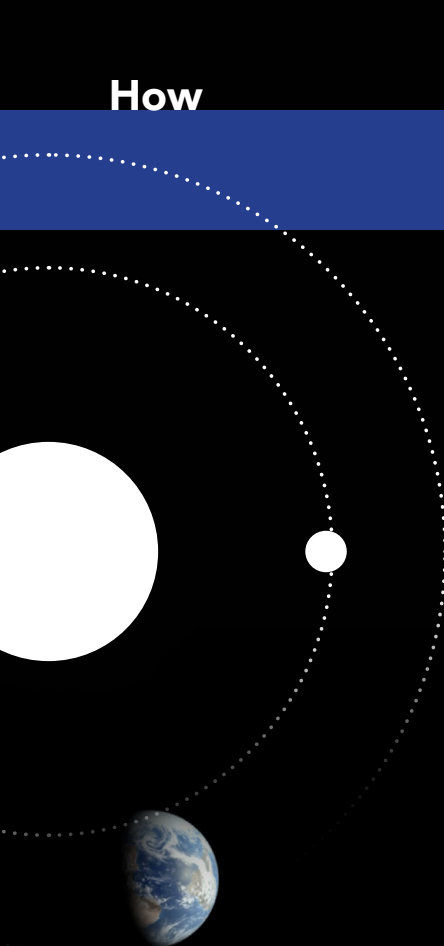
What

There are currently a total of fourteen CLPS contract holders. Contract terms allow for periodic on-ramping of additional contractors. As requirements for surface and orbital payloads develop, each contract holder is provided the opportunity to compete for a task order with selection based on factors such as technical feasibility, price, and schedule. The CLPS contract is available for use by NASA centers and other government agencies.

\$2.6 billion

The CLPS contract is a multiple-award indefinite-delivery, indefinite-quantity contract with a combined maximum contract value of \$2.6 billion through November 2028.

How



Under an individual task order, the awardee is responsible for end-to-end commercial payload delivery services, including all activities necessary to safely integrate, accommodate, transport, and operate NASA payloads using contractor-provided assets, including launch vehicles, lunar lander spacecraft, lunar surface systems, earth re-entry vehicles (when applicable), and associated resources. To stimulate private demand, companies are encouraged to fly commercial payloads in addition to the NASA payloads. In the future, NASA's goal is to be only one of many payload providers seeking flight service to the lunar surface or cis-lunar space.

Astrobotic

Concept image of the Astrobotic Peregrine robotic lander, which will launch on an United Launch Alliance Vulcan Centaur rocket, and deliver 11 NASA payloads to the Moon.

Credits: Astrobotic



Why

The CLPS procurement objectives are to:

Return Science

- Reduce costs and risk for high priority planetary science
- Ensure the strength of the lunar science community

Benefit Exploration

- Water, ice and other volatile deposits may be key to future exploration architectures
- Characterizing the nature of volatile deposits across lunar locations

Encourage Industry Participation

- Expand the economic sphere to include the Moon
- Foster initial R&D for lunar resource acquisition and processing
- Leverage investments in commercial lunar landers

Demonstrate Technologies

- Precision Landing/Hazard Avoidance and Ascent
- Improvements in power generation and storage
- Extreme environment instruments/systems for lunar day/night survival/operations which is relevant to the technologies needed for robotic missions to the Icy Moons of the outer solar system

Advance Planning for Mars and Other Destinations

- Enables deep-space architectures
- Reduces logistics chain from Earth
- Flight qualifies critical technologies such as precision landing and ascent vehicles

CLPS is vital to NASA's efforts to send the first woman and first person of color to the Moon later this decade, establish sustainable lunar exploration, and prepare for human exploration of Mars.

Additional information on CLPS can be found at <https://www.nasa.gov/content/commercial-lunar-payload-services-overview>.