About the AAVSO

The American Association of Variable Star Observers (AAVSO) is an international nonprofit organization of citizen astronomers and professional astronomers who are interested in stars that change in brightness—variable stars.

The AAVSO educates anyone interested in observing. These individuals become skilled observers who contribute valuable data to the AAVSO databases, which professional astronomers use in their research.

The Ambassador Program

Ambassador Program Vision:

Our Ambassadors created a united vision for themselves: to be involved, love what you do, and showcase AAVSO.

Ambassador Program Goal:

To get diverse people interested and capable in beginning variable star astronomy with AAVSO. This helps the AAVSO achieve its mission to enable anyone, anywhere, to participate in scientific discovery through variable star astronomy.

AAVSO Ambassador Activities

Ambassadors create and provide astronomy education and promote the AAVSO to various communities, including astro clubs, online audiences, and schools. They also engage in star parties, AAVSO observing sections, conferences, and other AAVSO events and science. Ambassadors frequently interact with AAVSO’s social media platforms and forums. Some ambassadors also observe variable stars or exoplanet transits, and submit their observations to AAVSO’s databases, which are used by professional astronomers. These ambassadors then share their experiences and what they learn to help engage others in AAVSO astronomy.

Ambassadors are expected to:

* create or participate in at least 4 outreach/education activities a year
* attend monthly ambassador Zoom meetings
* regularly and respectfully interact with the AAVSO and public through social media, the AAVSO forum, and AAVSO activities
* actively engage as an AAVSO member

YOU can be a part of our team—join us!

The application is on the next page

Who are AAVSO Ambassadors?

Students and young professionals:

⭐ knowledgeable about astronomy, and passionate about science education
⭐ committed to building a diverse community of citizen scientists
⭐ producing work that exemplifies AAVSO’s mission and values
⭐ taking initiative with their outreach and education, and effectively communicating

Perks of Being an Ambassador

* Most activities can be done remotely
* Our Ambassadors are a community of students and young professionals who “geek out” about astronomy together
* Ambassadors develop valuable career skills through ambassador activities
* Projects can be implemented at a fairly self-directed pace, as long as deadlines are met
* Additional benefits

Let’s connect and explore
AAVSO Ambassador Application

Name: _______________________________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________

City: ____________________________ State or province: ______________________

Zip code or postal code: ______________ Country: ______________________

Telephone Number: ____________________________ ______________________

Age: __________ Your pronouns: ______________________________

Email: ____________________________________________________________

If under 18, the name and email of a parent or guardian: __________________

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About you (education, astronomy-related interests, & anything you want to share)

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Reference name and email: _________________________________________

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I agree to abide by the AAVSO policies: https://www.aavso.org/aavso-policies

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Applicant Signature

Please return completed application, or include above requested info in the body of an email to: Lindsay Ward, AAVSO Communications Manager: Lward@aavso.org