

Cislune Inc. – LaSPACE Summer 2026

Industry Internship Opportunities



Host Organization	Cislune Inc.
Primary Work Site	Virtual / remote
Host Location	Rosemead / Greater Los Angeles, California
Point of Contact / Mentor	Erik Franks, CEO, Cislune Inc. — erik@cislune.com
Number of Placements	Up to 3 Louisiana Space Grant interns for Summer 2026, subject to LaSPACE funding availability and applicant fit.

About Cislune

Cislune is a Los Angeles-area aerospace company developing lunar surface technologies for NASA-funded work in in-situ resource utilization (ISRU), regolith handling, rover mobility, site preparation, and simulation / digital twin systems.

- GRASP – rover mobility, site preparation, autonomy, and geotechnical characterization.
- CISORT – regolith sorting / beneficiation for lunar resource utilization.
- SimMoon – digital twin / VR tools for planning, training, and testing lunar surface operations.

Internship Term, Hours, and Compensation

Baseline period of performance: June 1, 2026 – August 7, 2026 (10 weeks). To accommodate Louisiana university calendars, start and end dates may be adjusted in coordination with LaSPACE and the selected student.

The standard target format is a full-time summer internship of 400 total hours (40 hours per week for 10 weeks). Shorter or reduced-hour appointments may also be considered if LaSPACE prefers.

Compensation follows LaSPACE internship stipend guidelines based on approved hours and duration. Interns are employed by the host company but paid by LaSPACE under the pilot structure.

Internship Format and Site Information

These internships are designed to be completed virtually / remotely. If useful later, and only if permitted by LaSPACE and desired by the student, Cislune may be able to discuss an optional in-person component in Los Angeles.

Dedicated Supervision and Work Planning

All interns will be directly supervised by Erik Franks, CEO, Cislune Inc., with support from relevant Cislune technical staff as needed for each project track.

Before the internship begins, each selected student will be assigned a primary project track, a defined technical or research objective, a high-level work plan with milestones, and expected deliverables aligned with LaSPACE reporting needs.



Project Tracks

Applicants may apply to one or more tracks.

Track C – CISORT Cyclonic Regolith Beneficiation

Support concept development and analysis for cyclonic regolith beneficiation focused on lunar feedstocks such as icy regolith, KREEP-rich materials, and ilmenite-bearing regolith.

Possible tasks may include:

- Literature review and technical concept support.
- Process flow and experimental planning.
- Data analysis for particulate / beneficiation concepts.
- Test support and documentation.
- Technical writing and reporting.

Mandatory / core expectations:

- Ability to review technical material and synthesize findings clearly.
- Ability to work independently in a remote environment.
- Interest in materials, processes, or lunar resource utilization.

Preferred backgrounds / experience:

- Mechanical engineering, chemical engineering, materials science, mining / geological engineering, or physics.
- Process engineering, CAD, lab testing, or data analysis experience.

Additional Open-Ended Areas

- SimMoon digital twin / VR using Unity for Apple Vision Pro and Quest.
- Communications, website updates, and outreach.

Deliverables and Reporting

- A clearly defined technical or research task aligned with the selected track.
- Regular progress updates with the mentor.
- A final written report.
- Any required LaSPACE documentation or reporting materials.
- Support for any required LaSPACE stories, photos, or outreach materials, if requested.

- Participation in additional reporting or presentation requirements, including poster participation at the 2026 LaSPACE Annual Meeting, if requested by LaSPACE.

Benefits to the Intern

- Experience supporting active NASA-relevant research and development in lunar surface systems.
- Technical skill development in robotics, analysis, testing, simulation, or process development depending on project track.
- Professional skill development in remote collaboration, documentation, problem solving, and project execution.
- Exposure to real aerospace engineering workflows and mentored industry practice.

Who Should Apply

Cislune welcomes applications from undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at Louisiana universities. Students who are earlier in their academic careers are encouraged to apply. Prior aerospace experience is not required.

- Curiosity and willingness to learn.
- Strong follow-through.
- Clear written communication.
- Ability to work independently in a remote setting.
- Interest in NASA-relevant research and development.

Eligibility

- U.S. citizenship.
- Enrollment at a Louisiana university.
- Any additional LaSPACE internship requirements, forms, or participant documentation.

Application Materials

Applicants should be prepared to submit the materials required by LaSPACE and Cislune, including:

- Cover letter / statement of interest.
- Resume / CV.
- Academic transcript.
- Any LaSPACE-required forms, including eligibility confirmation and participant materials.

Application and Review Timing

Cislune can review applications on a rolling basis and move quickly on interviews and selections in coordination with LaSPACE. A priority review structure is preferred so that qualified students can be considered promptly and LaSPACE can plan stipend allocations efficiently.