

# BECOME A BELGIAN SPACE AMBASSADOR

## Contents

BECOME A BELGIAN SPACE AMBASSADOR.....	1
About this document.....	1
Why is ESERO creating this Ambassadors network?.....	1
Who can become Belgian space ambassador?.....	2
What should I do to become Belgian Space Ambassador?.....	2
What is my advantage?.....	3
Registering your activities.....	3
List of activities.....	4

*Last update: 11/12/2024*

## About this document

Teachers and educators who are interested in space education, this document is for you! You can become a member of our Belgian Space Ambassadors network. In this document we explain:

- What is a space ambassador?
- How can you join?
- Why would you want to join?

## Why is ESERO creating this Ambassadors network?

- The general mission of ESA Education and ESERO Belgium is very similar to many other STEM organizations and STEM professionals. We all want to promote science and technology to the new generation. Together we are stronger, and helping each other in an **active and coherent Belgian Community** is a win-win concept for all of us. The Space Ambassadors network is building such a community, and you can be part of it.
- The European ESERO network wants to inspire young people (5-19 years old) by using the popularity of space topics. The ambition is to stimulate their interest in STEM studies and STEM careers. Our program is designed to reach this goal, but **we need your help to reach more people** than we currently do.

- Giving **visibility** to your contributions as a volunteer and stimulating **group communication** and live **meetings** between active members is helping everyone to enlarge the impact and to feel supported by a living network.
- You as an ambassador can make a difference in **training other teachers and educators**, in engaging more students and children in space education projects and in lowering the threshold for newcomers to participate. Creating an organized context will help you **enlarge the impact** and efficiency of your work.
- The **Space Teachers network** of Euro Space Society, formerly developed by Belgian astronaut Dirk Frimout, has currently a very low level of activity. We agreed with Dirk to start up this new network with similar goals, so active members of the old network can find a new living network again to feel supported and recognized.
- ESERO Belgium needs to have a formal framework to **reward active space educators** whenever we have the opportunity.

## Who can become Belgian space ambassador?

- The network of Space Ambassadors is created **for teachers** in the first place.
- Other profiles – for example **informal educators, youth supervisors, youth volunteers** – that regularly do ambassadors activities can also get the label
- **Space professionals** contributing to the ESERO program as **experts** are not labeled as ambassadors. However, their contribution and profile will still be visible on the esero.be website on the space careers page.

## What should I do to become Belgian Space Ambassador?

If you are already doing space education activities, then we don't ask for any extra work from you to earn the label of Space Ambassador.

### Report your current space education activity

Attached to this document you will find a **list of activities** defined as valuable for the Belgian Space Ambassadors community. Anytime you are completing one of these activities, you can **register it** on the ESERO Belgium Ambassadors webpage (online form). Some activities have more weight than others.

If you reach a minimum level of **validated activities**, you will **get the label** of Ambassador for that school year. 'Validated' means: the type of activity you reported is in our list of valuable activities and the target audience (one or more teachers or students) can confirm that the activity was carried out as reported.

Once you get the Ambassadors label, you will automatically stay in the community for **several years**. However, your profile on the ESERO website will mention in what school years you have been an active ambassador, and in what years you have been inactive. Only after 3 successive

years of inactivity, you will lose the label and your profile will no longer be visible on our ambassadors page.

If you have done **space education activities** that is **not in our list**, please let us know. We might validate them if they are considered as contributing to the general ESA Education or ESERO Belgium mission.

## What is my advantage?

- **Formal community:** We want to turn the group of ambassadors into an active **Belgian community** that exchanges experiences and tips with each other. ESERO Belgium supports this community by:
  - Creating a formal framework and membership
  - Creating meeting opportunities for the members
  - Creating and updating online visibility of the members and their activity
  - Reimburse expenses or provide volunteers compensations for some activities
- **Visibility:** Each recognized ambassador gets a **profile on our website**: description, photo (if allowed), list of activities realized per school year, confirmed recognition per school year: your efforts get visible and you can refer to it when meeting other people.
- Additional **volunteer compensation** is possible for some specific activities that are defined as added value to the ESERO program and helping us increase the impact of the program (higher numbers of people reached).
- You will always be the first to be **invited** when there are **Space related events or other activities** of interest through ESERO Belgium.
- Receive and wear a Belgian Space Ambassadors **T-shirt or Hoody** - provided for free by ESERO Belgium once you get the ambassadors label – that shows visibly that you are an active part of the precious STEM volunteers community inspiring young people. Other **goodies** can occasionally be distributed for free to all our active ambassadors when available.
- Receive a color printed ambassadors **certificate** for your own administration or to hang in the school.
- ESERO Belgium is considering organizing a yearly ‘Ambassador of the year’ **award** and maybe extra **prizes** for other ambassadors who deliver remarkable contributions.

## Registering your activities

On the ESERO Belgium Ambassadors webpage you will find a **form to enter your space education activities**. Any individual activity can be entered immediately after finishing it, so you don't have to write any report or submit a list at the end of the school year.

ESERO Belgium is managing a database of all registered activities per person. We will let you know when you have reached enough activity to get the ambassadors label. Once you have the label, you will get a **public profile** on our Belgian Space Ambassadors **webpage**, and any new

activity you enter will be added to your profile. We will ask you to send a profile picture (unless you don't want to appear in a picture on the website) and permission (optional) for other ambassadors to contact you when they want to exchange any experience, ideas or questions about your activities.

The information you will put into the online form is the following:

- Your personal information (name, function, contact details, ...)
- Your school or organization, your function
- Click the type of activity you want to enter (we provide a list)
- Number of participants in this activity (teachers, students, other)
- Age of the participants
- Date, location, starting and ending hour
- General description of the activity
- Online link, picture (upload) or videolink to illustrate the activity (optional)

## List of activities

The following list of activities is indicative. The school year 2024-2025 is a try-out year. We will evaluate the list in the summer of 2025 after first experiences, and adapt if needed. You might also be doing space education activities that are not mentioned yet in the list, but that can still become a validated activity. ESERO Belgium will consider it one by one as the 'new' activities are reported by individual teachers.

There are 3 types of validation ("value"):

- **Sub-step:** you will need more than 1 of such activities to earn the label of ambassador
- **Full step:** this 1 activity will be enough to get the ambassadors label
- **Full step (paid):** this 1 activity will be enough to get the ambassadors label, and we will pay a volunteers fee for it

Activity	Description	Value
<b>1) STEM PROJECTS</b>		
STEM projects participation Mission X	You are team coach, your team has earned some steps in the "Walk to the Moon Challenge"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1st participation: <b>Sub-step</b></li> <li>● 2nd participation or more: <b>Full step</b></li> </ul>
STEM projects participation Climate detectives	You are team coach, your team has reached 3rd phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1st participation: <b>Sub-step</b></li> <li>● 2nd participation or more: <b>Full step</b></li> </ul>
STEM projects participation Climate detectives junior	You are team coach, your team has registered minimum 1 activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1st participation: <b>Sub-step</b></li> <li>● 2nd participation or more: <b>Full step</b></li> </ul>
STEM projects participation CanSat	You are team coach, your team has reached semi-final or final	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1st participation: <b>Sub-step</b></li> <li>● 2nd participation or more: <b>Full step</b></li> </ul>
STEM projects participation La Rentrée des Sciences	You have participate to the final contest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1st participation: <b>Sub-step</b></li> <li>● 2nd participation or more: <b>Full step</b></li> </ul>
STEM projects participation ASGARD	You are team coach, your team has flown an experiment on the balloon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1st participation: <b>Sub-step</b></li> <li>● 2nd participation or more: <b>Full step</b></li> </ul>
STEM projects participation Astro Pi Mission Space Lab	You are team coach, your team has submitted the code on the ISS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1st participation: <b>Sub-step</b></li> <li>● 2nd participation or more: <b>Full step</b></li> </ul>
STEM projects participation Moon Camp	You are team coach, your team has submitted a Moon Camp design on the European platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 2nd participation: <b>Sub-step</b></li> <li>● 3rd participation or more: <b>Full step</b></li> </ul>
STEM projects share good practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mission X</li> <li>● Climate Detectives</li> <li>● Climate detectives junior</li> <li>● CanSat &amp; PreCanSat</li> <li>● ASGARD</li> <li>● Astro Pi Mission Space Lab</li> </ul>	Share your team coach experiences with other teams or train other teachers in a dedicated meeting	<b>Full step</b> <b>Paid</b> if >5 teachers trained
STEM projects: Feedback for ESERO	Have feedback meeting with ESERO team after	<b>Sub-step</b>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mission X</li> <li>● Climate Detectives</li> <li>● Climate detectives junior</li> <li>● CanSat &amp; PreCanSat</li> <li>● ASGARD</li> <li>● Astro Pi Mission Space Lab</li> </ul>	participation	
Astro Pi Mission Zero workshops	Give Mission Zero workshop to other teams	<b>Sub-step</b>
Astro Pi Mission Zero training for coaches	Train other teachers in a dedicated meeting	<b>Full step</b> <b>Paid if &gt;5 teachers trained</b>
Mentoring a team in an ESERO STEM project	Being mentor for a team participating in ASGARD, CanSat, PreCanSat, Climate Detectives (mentorship for the whole duration of the project). This can be done in their school or in rooms of your own organisation (example: at freetime Makers lab)	<b>Sub-step</b>
Volunteer problem solver for student teams	ESERO STEM projects: You go visit any team who is in need for help, you are a stand-by regional problem solver that can be asked for support on request	<b>Sub-step</b>
<b>2) CLASSROOM RESOURCES AND SPACE LESSONS</b>		
Repeated use ESA/ESERO resources	You use ESA/ESERO resources in your classroom more than once, and you give feedback about it to the ESERO team	<b>Sub-step</b>
Share good practice	You make a video or manual about your own experiences and this way you are sharing good practice in Space Education activities	<b>Full step</b>
<b>3) OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>		
Representing ESERO program at public events	For experienced ambassadors: explain and promote Space education	<b>Full step (paid)</b>

	STEM projects at public info sessions, fairs, ... or be contact person at an ESERO promo stand	
--	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--