How Do I Get Started?

You can get a variety of information from AMSAT to get you started in amateur radio satellites.

The Getting Started with Amateur Satellites book is nearly 200 pages of essential information available at the AMSAT Store.

Join Amateur Radio in Space...

Join AMSAT!

As a member of AMSAT, you are helping to sustain amateur radio’s presence in space. Benefits of membership include:

- Subscription to The AMSAT Journal
- Discounted price on certain items in the AMSAT Store
- Opportunity to serve on committees and gain valuable professional experience
- Be nominated for awards
- Voting rights in elections
- Opportunity to run for office

Membership Levels

Annual Basic.............................. $44.00
Annual Student.......................... $22.00
Lifetime (paid in full)..................... $880.00
Lifetime Provisional*.................... $74.00
*Paid in 12 monthly installments

For further information contact AMSAT at:

Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation
712 H Street, Ste 1653
Washington, DC 20002
info@amsat.org

AMSAT

Keeping Amateur Radio in Space for over 50 Years!

AMSAT® is dedicated to keeping Amateur Radio in space. Its membership includes a worldwide group of radio hams who use satellites for two-way communications. Some members even design and build the satellites and control them once in orbit.

Our vision is to deploy satellite systems with the goal of providing wide area and continuous coverage. AMSAT will continue active participation in human space missions and support a stream of Low Earth Orbit and Highly Elliptical Orbit satellites developed in cooperation with the educational community and other amateur satellite groups.

Using these satellites is easier than you think!
The Equipment You Need... You May Already Own!

Many satellites work like easy-to-use FM repeaters with a 70-meter uplink and 2-meter downlink (or vice versa). Some can be operated with as little as a dual band HT and hand-held antenna. You may also consider using one radio to receive and a second radio to transmit for full-duplex operation.

Other satellites are digipeaters that receive your 2-meter APRS or packet message and retransmit it to be heard thousands of miles away. A simplex 2-meter radio, a soundcard interface and a laptop using free software is all you need.

Satellites with transponders repeat SSB and CW transmissions between different VHF and UHF bands. These satellites provide enough bandwidth so that several QSO’s can take place simultaneously.

Tracking software is available from AMSAT that shows you when the satellites will be over your QTH.

Fifty Years of Innovation in Space... And Counting!

AMSAT’s FOX-1 series of low earth orbit satellites beginning in 2015 became an immediate hit by providing easy access to space communications via Amateur Radio.

The FOX-Plus satellites will continue the tradition of providing easy access to two-way communications for experimenters with inexpensive radios and simple antennas. These satellites are designed with advanced software defined radios that will provide high flexibility to support advanced educational and scientific experiments.

The GOLF (Greater Orbit for Larger Footprint) program means flying satellites in extended orbits in order to provide wider geographical coverage. Building satellites for these far-out orbits means constructing them to survive the increased rigors of outer space.

Be a Part of Amateur Radio’s Exciting Future in Space!

We couldn’t keep Amateur Radio in space without a large team of dedicated volunteers. You don’t need to have a technical or science background to be of service.

AMSAT Ambassador – Be the face and the voice of AMSAT at hamfests and club meetings,

AMSAT Communications – Write and edit for The AMSAT Journal and the weekly AMSAT News Service bulletins.

Website Support – We’re always looking for web developers with experience in WordPress, database management, and Wild Apricot.

Satellite Development – If you have hardware or software technical skills, and proven experience directly applicable to satellite design, you might have what it takes to help the engineering team specify, design, build, test, and launch our amateur satellites.

Educational Activities – AMSAT needs volunteers with a background in education and classroom lesson development.

For information about volunteering go to: https://www.amsat.org/volunteer-for-amsat/