

Axiom Space to set up headquarters at Houston Spaceport

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Space City is about to be home to the world's first commercial space station builder.

Axiom Space plans to build a 14-acre headquarters campus at the Houston Spaceport, Houston Airports announced Dec. 22. Houston Spaceport, an \$18.8 million project, completed construction in December; [the Houston Airport System broke ground on the spaceport June 28, 2019](#).

Axiom Space's campus will train private astronauts and begin production of its Axiom Station — the world's first free-flying, internationally available private space station that will serve as a hub for research manufacturing and commerce in low Earth orbit, Houston Airports said.

“While we have confronted the challenges of a global pandemic this year, our work to move our city forward never stops,” said Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner. “Today's announcement is another leap that demonstrates how Houston embraces humankind's boldest challenges and lives up to every bit of its namesake — the Space City.”

Axiom Space's headquarters campus will be a 322,000-square-foot facility, designed to accommodate Axiom Station modules, terminal building space to house private astronauts, operations, engineering and other requirements.

Turner expects the project will “energize (Houston's) workforce by adding more than a thousand high-quality jobs and engage our communities that are focused and dedicated to the STEM fields.”

“We had a vision of Houston Spaceport bringing together a cluster of aviation and aerospace enterprises that would support the future of commercial spaceflight,” said Houston Airports Aviation Director Mario Diaz. “Today, we have an urban center for collaboration and ideation, a place where the brightest minds in the world can work closely together to lead us into the next frontier of space exploration.”

Axiom Space landed a [major contract with NASA in January](#) and announced [plans to build a spaceport a month later](#) — just before the Covid-19 pandemic hit Houston.

The Houston Spaceport’s first phase streets, water, wastewater, electrical power and distribution, fiber optics and communications facilities, HAS said in 2019. Houston Spaceport is the nation’s 10th commercially-licensed spaceport.

It was designed to attract and support companies across a variety of industries and foster and accelerate key aerospace engineering activities, such as:

- Component and composite development and fabrication
- Space vehicle assembly
- Zero-gravity scientific and medical experiments
- Microsatellite deployment
- Astronaut training and development
- Space tourism