



125 YEARS | 1894 - 2019

1400 West Mars Hill Rd | Flagstaff, Arizona 86001-4499 | USA

928.774.3358 | lowell.edu

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

RESEARCH ASSISTANT IN NEAR-EARTH OBJECT STUDIES

Lowell Observatory Research Assistants perform research in areas in support of astronomers. This position will be supervised by astronomer Nick Moskovitz. The astronomer will ensure the Research Assistant makes adequate progress, but the ability to independently solve problems will be required.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The research assistant will work in collaboration with Dr. Moskovitz and other project team members on the ongoing Mission Accessible Near-Earth Object Survey (MANOS). This survey is working to achieve comprehensive characterization for newly discovered NEOs using astrometric, photometric, and spectroscopic techniques. Observations will be conducted at a range of facilities including Gemini North and South, the SOAR 4m, Lowell's 4.3m LDT, and NASA's IRTF. In addition, the MANOS team is working to develop new software tools that will facilitate rapid target selection, observation, and data dissemination.

The assistant will be involved in some combination of the following tasks:

- Conducting telescopic observations, either remotely or on site.
- Astrometric, photometric, and/or spectroscopic data reduction and analysis.
- Preparation of data products for public dissemination.
- Contributing to publications.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

The Research Assistant should have experience in the use and programming of computers. Experience with Linux operating systems and software is strongly desired. Familiarity with the Python programming language is desirable.

Regular meetings with project team members are expected, but in general the Assistant will be encouraged to work independently. They must be able to prioritize tasks, set schedules, troubleshoot problems, and complete complex tasks on time and within deadlines.

This is expected to be a half time position; however, the Assistant will have flexibility in deciding the specific scheduling of hours in any given week. Applicants should specify in their cover letter why they are interested in this position and how it may fit with their long-term career plans.

The Research Assistant is expected to reflect the professional and collegial environment the Observatory strives to maintain.

EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

Minimum requirement for this position is current enrollment in an undergraduate program of study in physics, astronomy, planetary science, computer science, engineering, or other related areas. Alternatively, previous work experience in related areas may be sufficient.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Working at a computer and sitting for extended periods.

The candidate must have or be able to obtain a valid AZ Driver's license and have an excellent driving record. A Motor Vehicle department background check will be performed annually.

Compensation:	Starting at \$17/hour
Status:	Part Time, Temporary
Term:	1 year with possibility of annual renewal
Hours:	Approximately 20 hours/week
FLSA Classification:	Non-Exempt
Benefit Eligible:	Limited Part Time Benefits*
Location:	Flagstaff, Lowell Observatory's Mars Hill Campus

To Apply:

Please send *a single pdf document* to humanresources@lowell.edu that contains the following:

- Lowell Short Form Application (<http://lowell.edu/about/employment>)
- Letter of interest addressing your qualifications and interest in this position
- CV
- Phone numbers and e-mail addresses of three professional references

Review of applications will begin on December 31st, 2020.

*Part Time employees will receive sick time accrual according to AZ state law. After 6 months of employment, part time employees are eligible to participate in a 5% match if they contribute 5% or more to their retirement plan, as well as 2 paid personal days per year.

Employment is subject to passing a background check

Lowell Observatory is proud to be an equal opportunity workplace and is an affirmative action employer. We are committed to equal employment opportunity regardless of race, color, ancestry, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, age, citizenship, marital status, disability, gender identity or Veteran status. Lowell Observatory has always been, and always will be, committed to diversity and inclusion. We seek individuals from all backgrounds to join our teams, and we encourage our employees to bring their authentic, original, and best selves to work.

Lowell Observatory sits at the base of mountains sacred to tribes throughout the region. We honor their past, present, and future generations, who have lived here for millennia and will forever call this place home.

Lowell Observatory is committed to providing access, and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. Our non-smoking campus is at an elevation of 7,200ft/2200m. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the Human Resources office for assistance.

humanresources@lowell.edu