



1400 W Mars Hill Rd, Flagstaff, AZ 86001-4499 | USA
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POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Lowell Observatory Research Assistants perform research in support of Lowell scientists. This position will be supervised by Dr. Will Grundy who 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. Grundy and other project team members in development of a prototype field-portable photogoniometer system to measure how light is scattered by natural and artificial surfaces as a function of illumination and observation geometry. The research assistant will solve engineering challenges in construction of a prototype device, write software to control the device and to collect and process data, and perform calibration tests, followed by scientific demonstrations involving actual surfaces. The research assistant will document hardware, software, and procedures developed in support of the project.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

The Research Assistant must have experience in the use and programming of computers, particularly Linux and Python. Previous experience with computer-hardware interfacing, with quantitative measurement of light, and with goniometry is highly 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 part time temporary position lasting approximately 2.5 months. 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, planetary science, remote sensing, 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, and also working with hand tools and measurement devices in a laboratory environment.

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| Compensation: | \$18 - \$19.50/hour |
| Status: | Part Time, Temporary |
| Term: | Through start of 2022 fall semester |
| Hours: | Approximately 20 to 30 hours/week |
| FLSA Classification: | Non-Exempt |
| Benefit Eligible: | Limited Part Time Benefits* |
| Location: | Flagstaff, AZ |

To Apply:

Please send the following documents to jobs@lowell.edu

- Lowell Standard 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

The deadline to apply is Sunday, May 22nd at midnight.

*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. Additionally, after 6 months, funds in a lifestyle spending account will be available to the employee.

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, and the LDT is 40 miles south of Flagstaff at an elevation of 7,800 ft/2370m. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the Human Resources office for assistance.

VERSION 2022 May 6