



1400 W Mars Hill Rd, Flagstaff, AZ 86001-4499 | USA
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PUBLIC TELESCOPE OPERATOR AND ASTRONOMY INTERPRETER

RESPONSIBILITIES

Set up and operate telescopes for the public; explain how they work and provide information about the objects that are being viewed

Greet visitors in a professional and courteous manner; maintain a professional image with appropriate dress, conduct and language

Maintain accurate, up-to-date time sheets for your volunteer service

QUALIFICATIONS

- No previous astronomy experience is necessary
- Possess good public speaking and interpersonal skills
- Must enjoy interacting with visitors
- Must be effective at dealing with large, diverse groups of people
- Must pass a background check

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN AS A LOWELL OBSERVATORY VOLUNTEER

You will be provided with an overview of the Observatory's history and mission (including related reading material); facility orientation; introduction to department supervisors; timekeeping procedures, scheduling and attendance, dress code

Hands-on telescope training will be provided by the nighttime public program volunteer liaison

Familiarity with a variety of celestial objects that are favorable for viewing and be able to locate those objects with the telescope.

Point out constellations, stars, planets and other objects visible to the naked eye during each of the four seasons

Ability to explain mythology and science of the night sky to visitors

Ability to answer questions about Lowell history, current research and basic astronomy

WORKING CONDITIONS

Activities are performed outside at night, with long periods of standing. Winter weather is cold; appropriate dress and footwear is essential for comfort and safety.

This role requires good physical mobility, with walking and bending to set up telescopes, and dexterity to train them on objects