



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

### **4-Year Percival Lowell Postdoctoral Fellowship**

Lowell Observatory invites applications for the Percival Lowell Postdoctoral Fellowship, which aims to attract recent graduates to pursue independent research projects of their own choice in the fields of astronomy, planetary science, and astronomical instrumentation. Fellows are hired for four years, receive an annual salary of \$77,000, which will increase each year, relocation reimbursement up to \$5,000, and research funds of \$20,000 annually to support their scientific program.

Current research at Lowell Observatory spans a wide range of disciplines from planetary science and exoplanets to stellar astrophysics, Galactic and extragalactic astronomy as well as instrumentation. Fellows have access to the full range of resources of the Observatory, including the 4.3-m Lowell Discovery Telescope (LDT) and its instrument complement including EXPRES and RIMAS, several 1-m class telescopes, the Astrophysical Materials Lab at Northern Arizona University, and our instrumentation and engineering resources. Lowell's new Astronomy Discovery Center, opening in November 2024, and the award-winning Native American Astronomy Outreach Program offer additional opportunities for fellows to engage in science communication as part of the observatory's education and public outreach mission. Fellows have the opportunity to lead their own grant proposals during their time at the observatory.

## QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Applicants are expected to have a Ph.D. in astronomy, planetary science, or a related field. The PhD must have been awarded before they begin the fellowship, which can be no later than December 1, 2025. Applicants may not have more than the equivalent of 4 years of full-time postdoctoral research activities by the application deadline. Current employees of Lowell Observatory are not eligible. Lowell Observatory is committed to diversity and inclusion in its workforce; we particularly encourage applications from under-represented groups. Applicants will be assessed according to their scientific potential, their research plan and the feasibility of carrying out the proposed research at Lowell Observatory; interest in science communication and in engaging the public in astronomy and planetary science is a plus.

## WORKING CONDITIONS

Speaking, listening, and long periods of standing or sitting at a computer. Moving about our hilly campus at 7000' elevation, sometimes in low lighting.

**Compensation:** \$77,000/annual  
**Status:** Full Time, Temporary  
**Term:** 4 years  
**FLSA Classification:** Salary, Exempt  
**Benefit Eligible:** Yes\*  
**Location:** Flagstaff, Lowell Observatory's Mars Hill Campus

**To Apply:**

Please send the following documents in a single pdf to [sciencejobs@lowell.edu](mailto:sciencejobs@lowell.edu)

- Cover letter explaining the applicant's motivation to join Lowell Observatory
- A current CV with a full publication list
- A research plan (maximum 3 pages excluding references) tailored to the scientific environment that Lowell Observatory provides
- Lowell Application (<https://lowell.edu/about/career-opportunities>)
- The names and email addresses of three individuals who have agreed to send reference letters by November 17<sup>th</sup> 2024 to [sciencejobs@lowell.edu](mailto:sciencejobs@lowell.edu). Candidates should request the reference letters themselves.

**Complete applications received by November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 will receive full consideration.**

For further information, contact Gerard van Belle, Director of Science, at [gerard@lowell.edu](mailto:gerard@lowell.edu).

\*Benefits Overview: In addition to 11 scheduled paid holidays, Lowell Observatory offers a Flexible Paid Time Off policy for all full-time, benefit eligible employees which allows you to determine how much time you need to rest and enjoy yourself outside of work. Paid time off also includes paid Parental and FMLA leaves. The cost of premiums for medical, life & long term disability insurances for benefit eligible employees is 100% paid by the company. A portion of dependent medical insurance is paid by the company. Up to a 5% match on retirement contributions after 6 months of employment.

**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.

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