



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 areas in support of specific research projects. This position will be supervised by astronomers Nick Moskovitz and Stephen Levine. The astronomers 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 Drs. Moskovitz and Levine on several projects.

- (1) Investigating the parameter space associated with stellar occultations by Main Belt asteroids from a single observing site.
- (2) Contribute to curation of data from an ongoing NASA-funded effort to digitize portions of the Lowell photographic plate archive.
- (3) Contribute to the deployment of meteor cameras in support of an ongoing NSF-funded project focused on characterizing the nightly flux of meteors over Arizona.

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

- Developing and running computer models.
- Supporting data and database curation.
- Design, assembly, and deployment of camera hardware.
- Contributing to publications.
- Travel and presentation at scientific conferences.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

The Research Assistant should have experience in the use and programming of computers. Experience with Linux operating systems and software is desired. Familiarity with the Python programming language is strongly desired. Familiarity with minor planet orbit calculations and large catalog database queries (e.g. Gaia) are desired.

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 full 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 an undergraduate degree in physics, astronomy, planetary science, computer science, engineering, or other related areas.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Often sitting, standing, bending, and working at a computer for extended periods of time. Frequently moving throughout the campus, on sometimes uneven terrain. Speaking and listening, both in person and while using the telephone. Occasional driving and driving at night may be necessary. Climbing ladders to access elevated areas may be required. Occasional exposure to the elements and inclement weather can be expected.

Status:	Full time, Temporary
Benefit Eligible:	Yes*
FLSA Classification:	Non-Exempt
Compensation	\$24-\$26 per hour DOE
Location:	Flagstaff, Lowell Observatory's Mars Hill Campus

To Apply: Please send the following documents to jobs@lowell.edu

- Standard Application (www.lowell.edu/careers)
- Resume
- Letter of interest addressing your qualifications
- Phone numbers and e-mail addresses of three professional references

The deadline to apply is 11/27/2024.

*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. The cost of premiums for medical, life & long term disability insurances for benefit eligible employees is 100% 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 opportunities 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 one of the mountains sacred to indigenous 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 November, 2024/HR