

Job Title: Internal Research Fellow (PostDoc) at ESTEC

Req ID 2101 - Posted 01/09/2017



EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

Research Fellowship Opportunity in the Directorate of Science.
ESA is an equal opportunity employer, committed to achieving diversity within the workforce and creating an inclusive working environment. Applications from women are encouraged.

Post

Internal Research Fellow (PostDoc) at ESTEC

This post is classified F2 on the Coordinated Organisations' salary scale.

Location

ESTEC, Noordwijk, The Netherlands

Description

The Internal Research Fellow will be based in the Science Support Office at ESTEC. Both the Science Support Office at ESTEC and the Science Operations Department at ESAC offer the opportunity for the successful candidates to conduct research programmes covering many areas of Space Science. These research activities are co-ordinated by the ESA Science Faculty, a body consisting of scientists from both establishments. Research Fellows are encouraged to participate in these programmes, led by the scientific staff and with engineering, technical and administrative support. Research Fellows are in principle fully dedicated to scientific research and have no functional duties. However, they may spend up to 20% of their time on scientific activities in support of an ESA mission. Additionally, they are encouraged to take an active part in the scientific life of the establishments.

Field(s) of activities/research

The proposed research topic should be related either to ESA's scientific missions, to the space research programmes of the ESA member states or to the scientific activities of the ESA Science Faculty. A brief summary of the research activities carried out by Faculty members can be found on the [ESTEC faculty research](#) and [ESAC faculty research](#) pages or at the [research programme overview page](#). Candidates should consult these pages to identify which of the two establishments offers the most relevant environment for the candidate's research proposal and to identify one or more staff members with whom to work. While certain research programmes can be pursued at both establishments, in most cases the location of the mentor defines where a fellowship is held.

Technical competencies

Ability to conduct research autonomously
Breadth of exposure coming from past and/or current research
Publication record
Interest in space and space research
Field of research relevant to mentor's activities

Behavioural competencies

Continuous Learning
Self Motivation
Communication
Problem Solving
Relationship Management
Cross-Cultural Sensitivity

Education

The Research Fellowship is aimed at scientists in the early stage of their career. The programme is open to applicants who have completed their PhD (or equivalent) or will have completed it by the start of the fellowship. Preference will be given to applications submitted by candidates within five years of receiving their PhD.

Specificities

Research proposals will be reviewed and assessed based on the following criteria:

- Scientific value (state-of-the-art in the field and value for the ESA Science faculty)
- Realism of the proposal and schedule
- Proven record of the candidate

Please take into account that research proposals will be reviewed by a panel of space scientists who may not be an expert in your field of expertise.

RF's will be joining a group of diverse scientific staff members embedded in a large space agency, in contrast to a more specialised, focused research group with close or similar competencies.

Internal Research Fellows have the opportunity to receive funding for visitors, trainees and participation in conferences.

Appointments for an ESA Research Fellowship are for 2 years, with a possibility for a 3rd year extension.

Dates of interviews will take place on 20-22 November at ESAC and 12-14 December at ESTEC. Invited candidates will also be asked to give a 20-minute presentation of their proposed research.

Please refer to:

Call for applications: <https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/science-faculty/research-fellowship>

Careers at ESA website: http://www.esa.int/About_Us/Careers_at_ESA/Post_Docs_Research_Fellowship

Other information

For behavioural competencies expected from ESA staff in general, please refer to the ESA Competency Framework.

The Agency may require applicants to undergo selection tests.

The closing date for applications is 02 October 2017.

In addition to your CV and your motivation letter, please add your proposal of no more than 5 pages outlining your proposed research in the "additional documents" field of the "application information" section. Candidates are asked to arrange for three reference letters, to be sent by the referees themselves, before the closing date to temp.htr@esa.int. Please ensure your name is mentioned in the subject of the e-mail.

If you require support with your application due to a disability, please email contact.human.resources@esa.int.

Please note that applications are only considered from nationals of one of the following States: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Canada and Slovenia as well as Bulgaria, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia as European Cooperating States (ECS).

Priority will first be given to candidates from under-represented Member States.

In accordance with the European Space Agency's security procedures and as part of the selection process, successful candidates will be required to undergo basic screening before appointment