

# Job Title: Optical Engineer

Req ID 8671 - Posted 18/03/2019



## EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

Vacancy in the Directorate of Technology, Engineering and Quality.

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 Optical Engineer

This post is classified A2-A4 on the Coordinated Organisations' salary scale.

**Location**  
ESTEC, Noordwijk, The Netherlands

### Description

Optical Engineer in the Optics Section, Mechatronics and Optics Division, Mechanical Department, Directorate of Technology, Engineering and Quality.

The Optics Section provides functional support to ESA projects and carries out technological research (R&D) in the field(s) of passive optics encompassing optical component technology, micro-optics, passive integrated optics, x-ray optics, optical instrumentation, such as spectro-radiometric imaging instruments in the visible and infrared interferometers; testing, calibration and performance verification of optical systems.

### Duties

Reporting to the Head of Section and within the technical fields described above, the main tasks and responsibilities of the post holder will include:

- providing expert technical support and consultancy to ESA projects, programmes and general studies for the development of optical space instrumentation throughout all project phases;
- participating in feasibility studies, project reviews and evaluation of procurement proposals;
- identifying critical development problems and assisting in their resolution;
- contributing to the definition of technology development requirements and work plans for the Agency's technology programmes;
- defining, initiating and managing R&D activities covering both long- and short-term needs;
- fostering new application areas for multidisciplinary activities, placing emphasis on innovative concepts, cutting-edge technologies and system architectures;
- laboratory activities as required;
- monitoring applicable scientific and technological trends and maintaining a state-of-the-art expertise;
- contributing to the dissemination of the results of the activities performed and the transfer of knowledge across the Agency.

Duties may also include supporting other activities within the post holder's field of competence.

### Technical competencies

General background and specific experience in the technical domains covered by the position

Hands-on hardware experience

Experience with the design, development and application of relevant tools and methods

Understanding of related technologies, R&D trends and the industrial landscape  
Project support experience in a relevant domain  
Experience with laboratory or field testing of relevant technical equipment  
Experience in the management and monitoring of industrial activities, including participation in reviews

## Behavioural competencies

Communication  
Innovation & Creativity  
Problem Solving  
Results Orientation  
Planning & Organisation  
Continuous Learning

## Education

A Master's degree or equivalent qualification in optical engineering or applied physics is required.

## Additional requirements

- Candidates should have at least five years of industrial experience in the design and development of optical (space) instruments.
- Experience in optical component manufacturing technologies, associated challenges and knowledge of state-of-the-art performances is required.
- Ability to perform conceptual and detailed optical design and/or performance analysis of optical instrumentation using appropriate software tools is required.
- Knowledge of test and verification methods for optical components and instrumentation is an asset.
- Basic knowledge of other engineering areas (e. g. mechanical, thermal, materials) is desirable.

## Other information

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

The working languages of the Agency are English and French. A good knowledge of one of these is required. Knowledge of another Member State language would be an asset.

The Agency may require applicants to undergo selection tests.

### The closing date for applications is 15 April 2019.

If you require support with your application due to a disability, please email [contact.human.resources@esa.int](mailto:contact.human.resources@esa.int).

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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.

According to the ESA Convention the recruitment of staff must take into account an adequate distribution of posts among nationals of the ESA Member States. When short-listing for an interview, priority will first be given to internal candidates and secondly to external candidates from under-represented Member States. (<http://esamultimedia.esa.int/docs/careers/NationalityTargets.pdf>)

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.

Recruitment will normally be at the first grade in the band (A2); however, if the candidate selected has little or no experience, the position may be filled at A1 level.