

# Job Title: Moon Exploration Scientist

Req ID 9224 - Posted 08/04/2020



## EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

Vacancy in the Directorate of Human & Robotic Exploration Programmes.

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

#### **Moon Exploration Scientist**

This post is for a limited duration of 4 years non-renewable and is classified in the A2-A4 grade band of the Coordinated Organisations' salary scale.

### Location

ESTEC, Noordwijk, The Netherlands

### Description

Moon Exploration Scientist in the SciSpacE Team, Research & Utilisation Group, Directorate of Human & Robotic Exploration Programmes.

The primary role of the Moon Exploration Scientist will be to provide project and study scientist support to ESA's science and research activities at the Moon. ESA's activities include providing payloads on missions led by international partners and the development of ESA led missions, which are currently entering the study phase. Activities will also include support for the definition and implementation of ESA scientific contributions to human lunar missions.

Focus areas for research to be conducted at the Moon in the next decade include:

- analysis of new lunar samples;
- characterisation of cold trapped polar volatiles;
- geophysical measurements of the lunar interior;
- plasma, exosphere and dust environment and effects;
- near surface geology, geophysics, mineralogy, and geochemistry;
- biological and physiological effects of the lunar environment;
- physics and astronomy from the Moon;
- understanding potential lunar resources.

### Duties

Reporting to the SciSpacE Team Leader, your primary duties include::

- science management of science and research activities associated with ESA payloads and research at the Moon;
- leading science definition for Moon payloads and associated research activities within ESA including preparing and maintaining scientific requirements;
- providing scientific expertise and support to the development of ESA elements of the Gateway and associated technology developments and tracking the expected scientific performance;
- coordinating associated science teams and chairing associated meetings with science teams, committees and working groups;
- advising project managers on technical and operational aspects that may affect the ability of payload and mission development activities to meet science and research objectives;
- providing scientific input and guidance to the execution of mission operations including both crewed and uncrewed operations;

- representing the interests of the European scientific community, organising activities related to their participation in research at the Moon;
- preparing reports for presentation internally and externally, including to the ESA advisory structure;
- providing support to other ESA studies or projects linked to the science of human and robotic exploration;
- actively pursuing personal scientific research, participating in research activities;
- supporting ESA outreach, communication and education activities in planetary and space science and exploration, promoting ESA's activities and scientific results to a variety of audiences, including the general public.

## Technical competencies

Understanding of the current state of scientific knowledge at the given destination and an awareness of priorities for future research

Experience with experiments and payloads flown in space or returned samples

Experience of the organisation of international scientific projects or campaigns

Experience of the management of scientific teams

Research/publication record

## Behavioural competencies

Ambassadorship

Communication

Relationship Management

Systems & Broader Business Thinking

Teamwork

Innovation & Creativity

## Education

You should have a PhD in space science, planetary science, space science instrumentation or a closely-related discipline.

## 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 26 April 2020.

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 view of the limited duration of this post, internal candidates are strongly advised to contact their HR advisor before applying.

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.