

# EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

## Project Controller

**Job Req ID:** 15016  
**Closing Date:** 30 March 2022  
**Publication:** Internal & External  
**Vacancy Type:** Permanent  
**Date Posted:** 02 March 2022

Vacancy in the Directorate of Earth Observation Programmes.

ESA is an equal opportunity employer, committed to achieving diversity within the workforce and creating an inclusive working environment. We therefore welcome applications from all qualified candidates irrespective of gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, beliefs, age, disability or other characteristics. Applications from women are encouraged.

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

### **Location**

ESRIN, Frascati, Italy

### **Description**

Project Controller in the Project Control and Management Support Office for EOP-G, Earth Observation Business Unit Controlling Office, in the Directorate of Earth Observation Programmes.

### **Duties**

This post assumes key responsibilities in the preparation, procurement and monitoring of complex procurement actions, from tendering to closure of contracts, and for management, financial and planning aspects. If selected for this role, you will have multiple interfaces inside and outside of ESA including negotiations with industrial contractors and will play a key role in supporting the Mission/Project Manager(s) in programmatic decision making.

Typical project control duties and activities include:

- preparing, developing and maintaining the overall programmatic aspects of the project/missions, including ground segment, space segment, payload and Agency-provided services; the programmatic aspects include cost, financial commitments, procurements, schedule, risks, progress control and geographical return, as well as general project administration;
- preparing and maintaining Cost Plans covering industrial and operating, including workforce-related, costs;
- implementing and operating planning and control procedures to provide full visibility on the progress of all activities using established procedures and information systems; this includes maintenance in the ESA ERP system of project-related data;

- supporting inventory control and asset management for the assigned projects;
- assisting in the preparation of tender documents with respect to cost, management and schedule/planning requirements and participating in the evaluation of proposals; preparing information required for subsequent contract negotiations and participating in all tasks related to the placing of contracts, including negotiations with industry;
- monitoring assigned contracts and ensuring industry's compliance with established formal requirements for management, costs, schedule, risks, industrial return, and reporting, including deviations from plans and trends;
- acting as the main interface with industry on financial matters.

For the above, active monitoring is expected, identifying and reporting trends, deviations from plans, potential problem areas and proposing remedial actions in coordination with the Mission/ Project Manager(s); compliance with budgetary provisions and financial regulations are also expected.

- supporting the closure of industrial contracts and the financial year closure exercise;
- implementing, within the framework of Agency-wide risk management policy, risk management procedures and identifying potential problem areas therein, proposing mitigation actions and preparing risk reports, as required;
- ensuring compliance with specific rules and regulations for information and financial management, audits, reporting and control (ESA and European Commission);
- providing inputs for periodic reporting to Department and project management, business unit controller as well as external bodies (e.g. European Commission).
- participating in the establishment and maintenance of the Directorate's project control procedures and computerised information systems;
- supporting the Head of the Project Control & Management Support Office and Senior Financial Controller in the execution of their duties.

### **Technical competencies**

Understanding of the relevant ESA/EU procurement regulations

Cost and financial regulatory framework, including accounting standards and auditing

Understanding of space system architectures

Project and risk management

Budgeting, cost control and resources and activities planning

Strong analytical and reporting skills

Expert knowledge of a SAP based ERP systems and related queries

### **Behavioural competencies**

Result Orientation

Operational Efficiency

Fostering Cooperation

Relationship Management

Continuous Improvement

Forward Thinking

### **Education**

A Master's degree in engineering or business administration is required for this post.

### **Additional requirements**

You should also have:

- an ability to rapidly assimilate and synthesise complex information;
- previous professional experience as a controller in a project or programme preferably at Agency or industry level; experience in another function in finance, controlling and auditing will be considered a (key) asset;
- substantial experience is essential in the application of project management and project control principles and advanced project control techniques, as well as in the preparation, negotiation and implementation of industrial procurements;
- knowledge of EU regulations will be considered an asset;
- knowledge of computer systems and information/planning/coordination tools (e.g. esa-p, Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Project, Tableau) is essential;
- familiarity with modern dashboard tools will be considered an asset.

### **Other information**

For behavioural competencies expected from ESA staff in general, please refer to the [ESA Competency Framework](#).

For further information please visit: [Professionals](#), [What we offer](#) and [FAQ](#)

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.

At the Agency we value diversity and we welcome people with disabilities. Whenever possible, we seek to accommodate individuals with disabilities by providing the necessary support at the workplace. The Human Resources Department can also provide assistance during the recruitment process. If you would like to discuss this further please contact us 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, Latvia, Lithuania 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 or balanced Member States\*. (<https://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 conducted by an external background screening service.

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.  
\*Member States, Associate Members or Cooperating States.