

Opportunity Title: Extraterrestrial Sample Analysis

Opportunity Reference Code: 0244-NPP-MAR26-GSFC-PlanetSci

Organization National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

Reference Code 0244-NPP-MAR26-GSFC-PlanetSci

How to Apply All applications must be submitted in [Zintellect](#)

Please visit the NASA Postdoctoral Program website for application instructions and requirements: [How to Apply | NASA Postdoctoral Program \(oua.org\)](#).

A complete application to the NASA Postdoctoral Program includes:

1. Research proposal
2. Three letters of recommendation
3. Official doctoral transcript documents

Application Deadline 4/2/2026 6:00:59 PM Eastern Time Zone

Description About the [NASA Postdoctoral Program](#)

The [NASA Postdoctoral Program \(NPP\)](#) offers unique research opportunities to highly-talented scientists to engage in ongoing NASA research projects at a NASA Center, NASA Headquarters, or at a NASA-affiliated research institute. These one- to three-year fellowships are competitive and are designed to advance NASA's missions in space science, Earth science, aeronautics, space operations, exploration systems, and astrobiology.

Description:

The focus of this research opportunity is to study the chemical dynamics of extraterrestrial samples through a combination of laboratory techniques. Several systematic studies are underway that utilize separate unique ultrahigh vacuum apparatus. Analysis includes post-irradiation mass spectrometry of deposited prebiotic molecules, laser-induced thermal desorption of volatiles, reflectron time-of-flight analysis of sputtered neutrals and ions, photon/electron stimulated desorption of surface atoms, and FTIR reflectance spectroscopy. A candidate must demonstrate experience and publications with vacuum technology and chemistry or physics.

Location:

Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt, Maryland

Field of Science: Planetary Science

Advisors:

Jason Lee McLain
jason.l.mclain@nasa.gov



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Applications with citizens from Designated Countries will not be accepted at this time, unless they are Legal Permanent Residents of the United States. A complete list of Designated Countries can be found at: <https://www.nasa.gov/oiir/export-control>.

Eligibility is currently open to:

- U.S. Citizens;
- U.S. Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR);
- Foreign Nationals eligible for an Exchange Visitor J-1 visa status; and,
- Applicants for LPR, asylees, or refugees in the U.S. at the time of application with 1) a valid EAD card and 2) I-485 or I-589 forms in pending status

Questions about this opportunity? Please email npp@oraui.org

Point of Contact [Mikeala](#)

Eligibility Requirements • **Degree:** Doctoral Degree.