

Opportunity Title: Science Preparations for the Habitable Worlds Observatory

Opportunity Reference Code: 0276-NPP-MAR26-GSFC-Astrophys

Organization National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

Reference Code 0276-NPP-MAR26-GSFC-Astrophys

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 3/1/2026 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:

This NPP opportunity is to work on scientific topics that help prepare for the Habitable Worlds Observatory (HWO). HWO is a future flagship space telescope whose science goals include the direct imaging and characterization of potentially habitable exoplanets and their systems, as well as a broad range of general astrophysics and solar system investigations. Applicants will work with an advisor involved in the mission's development as well as the broader Technical Assessment Group (TAG) charged with studying HWO trade options. We are interested in applicants that complement GSFC's existing skill sets in exoplanet modeling, exozodiacal dust and debris disk science, transit spectroscopy, general astrophysics, planetary science, and mission design as it relates to HWO. This gives applicants a wide variety of options to support our team. Research thrusts could include analysis of possible HWO science investigations, study of how various observations impact observatory or instrument design, and/or investigation of how existing or near-term observations and facilities can inform HWO.

Field of Science: Astrophysics

Advisors:

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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@orau.org

Point of Contact [Mikeala](#)

Eligibility • **Degree:** Doctoral Degree.

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Requirements