

Opportunity Title: Detection of Biosignatures by Liquid-Based Analysis

Opportunity Reference Code: 0276-NPP-MAR26-JPL-Astrobio

Organization National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

Reference Code 0276-NPP-MAR26-JPL-Astrobio

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:

The research for this position will involve the development of analytical protocols for detection of biosignatures using liquid based analysis. This includes extraction protocols and analysis by capillary electrophoresis coupled to multiple detection systems targeting a range of organic and inorganic compounds relevant to the search for life. This research will utilize both commercial capillary electrophoresis instruments and custom built hardware.

Candidates should have a Ph.D. in chemistry or a chemistry-related discipline with a strong background in analytical chemistry. Experience in capillary electrophoresis coupled to fluorescence detection and electrospray ionization-mass spectrometry is highly desirable. Experience analyzing natural samples is also a significant asset.

Field of Science:

- Astrobiology

Advisors:

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(818) 731-8800



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Applications from 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

Qualifications Doctoral degree in chemistry

Point of Contact [Mikeala](#)

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