

Opportunity Title: General Astrophysics with the TESS Mission

Opportunity Reference Code: 0199-NPP-MAR26-GSFC-Astrophys

Organization National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

Reference Code 0199-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 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 Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite, TESS, is a NASA Explorer class mission that has been performing a wide-field nearly-all-sky survey since 2018 to search for transiting exoplanets around bright, nearby stars. With its capability for high-precision photometry in a broad red-optical bandpass, TESS has a rich data set that allows for a wide variety of time-domain astrophysics investigations beyond the discovery of transiting exoplanets. Examples of such investigations include the study of eclipsing binary stars, microlensing planets, stellar variability (e.g., rotation, flares, pulsations), extragalactic transients (e.g., supernovae, gravitational wave counterparts, AGN), and solar system objects (e.g., asteroids, comets).

We seek a postdoctoral candidate to use TESS data to pursue an astrophysics topic relevant to NASA's science goals and that goes beyond the original mission goal of transiting exoplanet discovery. NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center also hosts several other time-domain astrophysics missions currently in operation (e.g., Swift, Fermi, NICER) and others in development (e.g., the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope, LISA). Proposals that capitalize on more than one resource are encouraged.

Qualifications for this opportunity include a Ph.D. in astronomy, physics, data science or a related discipline. Prior experience with time-domain astrophysics analyses, high-precision photometry, and other relevant skills are desirable.



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Interested applicants should reach out to at least one of the advisors listed here in advance of the application deadline to express interest and discuss potential research projects.

Location:

Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt, Maryland

Field of Science: Astrophysics

Advisors:

Joshua Schlieder
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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/oiiir/export-control>.

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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 Requirements • **Degree:** Doctoral Degree.