

**Opportunity Title:** Synthetic Biology in Support of NASA Science and Exploration

**Opportunity Reference Code:** 0045-NPP-MAR26-ARC-BioSci

**Organization** National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

**Reference Code** 0045-NPP-MAR26-ARC-BioSci

**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 \(orau.org\)](#).

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:**

Synthetic biology has the potential to revolutionize several of NASA's core missions, from aeronautics to basic science to human exploration. We seek candidates that will use synthetic biology techniques to approach basic questions in astrobiology, particularly focusing on the history and diversity of life on earth and beyond. In addition, we seek projects focusing on the use of synthetic biology to support human space exploration. Current projects in our lab range from re-evolving proteins and creating artificial extremophiles, to producing bricks from agglutinated regolith and biomining. In-house capabilities include testing on high altitude balloons. For the past year we have hosted the award-winning Stanford-Brown iGEM team, whose wikis will give additional background in lab activities.

<http://2011.igem.org/Team:Brown-Stanford>

<http://2012.igem.org/Team:Stanford-Brown>

**Location:**

Ames Research Center  
Moffet Field, California



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**Field of Science:** Biological Sciences

**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@oraui.org](mailto:npp@oraui.org)

**Point of Contact** [Mikeala](#)

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