

**Opportunity Title:** Science of Water in the Universe  
**Opportunity Reference Code:** 0217-NPP-MAR26-JPL-Astrophys

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

**Reference Code** 0217-NPP-MAR26-JPL-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 \(orau.org\)](#).

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:

The Jet Propulsion Laboratory has undertaken a multi-year program aimed at exploring the synergies between radio astronomy spectroscopy and space-based infrared observations of the Galactic interstellar medium. Specific topics include, but are not limited to, astrochemistry of galactic star forming regions, the effects of stellar radiative feedback and magnetic fields in regulating star formation, as well as understanding the role of metallicity in protoplanetary disk formation.

The program combines spectroscopic observations using the 70-m Deep Space Network antenna at Canberra, Australia and the JPL ASTHROS stratospheric balloon with analysis of archival observations from SOFIA, Herschel, and JWST, as well as astrochemical modeling.

The successful applicant will work at the forefront of observational or theoretical astrophysics, is expected to lead the publication of results, develop science cases for proposing new observations or modeling efforts, and will be encouraged and facilitated to engage with relevant far-infrared mission formulation and mission concept studies.

The postdoctoral researcher will benefit from a multi-disciplinary and collegiate environment offered by JPL, with its vigorous science community (Earth, Planetary, Astrophysics) and mission and technology activities, as well as JPL's affiliation with Caltech.

Applicants with observational, astrochemical modeling, theoretical and computational expertise in any areas of investigation within the topics described above are encouraged to apply.



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**Location:**  
Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
Pasadena, California

**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/oir/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](mailto:npp@orau.org)

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

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