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Opportunity Title: Astrophysics: X-Ray Polarimetry
Opportunity Reference Code: 0090-NPP-MAR26-GSFC-Astrophys

Organization National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

Reference Code 0090-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 (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 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:

X rays from many astrophysical sources are expected to have some degree of polarization which depends on the emission mechanism and the source geometry. Polarization could provide definitive information about the structure of supernova remnants, active galactic nuclei, stellar black holes, and high magnetic field neutron star X-ray sources. We are developing gas micro-pattern detectors, which at the focus of mirrors in a SMEX or MIDEX mission provide measurements sensitive to expected polarization of x rays from relatively faint X-ray sources. We are also studying the use of large-area pixelized gas well detectors to enable polarization measurements up to 300 MeV. A balloon-borne instrument based on Comption scattering is being developed to measure time-resolved polarization in the 30-200 keV range from specific bright X-ray sources. There are opportunities for research both on these detectors and on astrophysical source models.

Location:
Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt, Maryland

Field of Science: Astrophysics

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Advisors:

Jeremy Schnittman
jeremy.d.schnittman@nasa.gov
301-286-8069

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 Requirements

- **Degree:** Doctoral Degree.