



National Science Foundation

Excepted Position Vacancy

ANNOUNCEMENT NO: E20060026

OPEN: 12/01/05

CLOSE: 01/13/06

THIS IS A PERMANENT POSITION.

Individuals wishing to apply to the IPA, VSEE, or Temporary position see vacancy announcement E20060022-Rotator.

POSITION VACANT: Program Director AD-4. Annual salary ranges from \$88,369 to \$137,713.

LOCATION: Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Division of Physics, Nuclear Physics Program and Nuclear Astrophysics Program

RELOCATION: Expenses will be paid

BARGAINING UNIT STATUS: This position is included in the bargaining unit and will be filled in accordance with the merit staffing provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement Article VIII.

AREA OF CONSIDERATION: All Sources

THIS POSITION IS OUTSIDE THE COMPETITIVE CIVIL SERVICE

Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Candidates who do not have civil service status or reinstatement eligibility will not obtain civil service status if selected. Candidates currently in the competitive service will be required to waive competitive civil service rights if selected. Usual civil service benefits (retirement, health benefits, life insurance) are applicable for appointments of more than one year. Disabled veterans with 30% service-connected disabilities as well as other applicants with severe disabilities will be considered without regard to the closing date if applications are received prior to final selection.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

This position is located in the Nuclear Physics and Nuclear Astrophysics Programs, Division of Physics (PHY), Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences (MPS), Arlington, VA.

The mission of the Division of Physics is to support primarily university/college faculty and students in theoretical and experimental research and to develop unique facilities needed to advance the frontiers of understanding. Areas of primary emphasis are: atomic, molecular, optical, and plasma physics, biological physics, astrophysics and cosmology, nuclear physics, elementary particle physics, gravitational physics, and other emerging and interdisciplinary research. Primary mode of funding is to individual investigators or small groups. The division also funds the operation of two large-scale accelerator facilities (the Cornell Electron Storage Ring and the Michigan State University National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory), and the

Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory. More information about the Division and their programs can be found on their website at www.nsf.gov/mps/divisions/phy/start.htm.

The ***Nuclear Physics Program*** supports research on properties and behavior of nuclei and nuclear matter under extreme conditions; the quark-gluon basis for the structure and dynamics of nuclear matter (which is now given in terms of mesons and nucleons); phase transitions of nuclear matter from normal nuclear density and temperature to the predicted high-temperature quark-gluon plasma; and basic interactions and fundamental symmetries. This research involves many probes, including intermediate-energy to multi-GeV electrons and photons; intermediate-energy light ions; low-energy to relativistic heavy ions, including radioactive beams; and non-accelerator-based studies. Other important components of the program include accelerator physics, interdisciplinary efforts, and applications to other fields.

The ***Nuclear Astrophysics Program*** supports university groups conducting research in particle and nuclear astrophysics. Current supported activities are high-energy cosmic ray studies, solar and high-energy neutrino astrophysics, the study of gamma ray bursts, and searches for dark matter. Funding is also provided for accelerator-based nuclear astrophysics studies of stellar processes, nucleosynthesis, and processes related to cosmology and the early universe.

As Program Director, s/he directs in the implementation, review, funding, post-award management, and evaluation of the program and contributes to the intellectual integration with other programs supported by the Division. Designs and implements the proposal review and evaluation process for relevant proposals. Selects well qualified individuals to provide objective reviews on proposals either as individuals or as members of a panel. Conducts final review of proposals and evaluations, and recommends acceptance or declination. Manages and monitors on-going grants, contracts, interagency and cooperative agreements to ensure fulfillment of commitments to NSF. Evaluates progress of awards through review and evaluation of reports and publications submitted by awardees and/or meetings at NSF and during site visits. Contributes to the responsibility for establishing and meeting goals and objectives including those for human resource development, initiating new program thrusts and phasing out old projects. Recommends new or revised policies and plans in scientific, fiscal, and administrative matters to improve the activities and management of the Program. Serves as an integral member of the staff of the Division.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED: Applicants must have a Ph.D. or equivalent experience in experimental nuclear physics, nuclear astrophysics physics or in a related field, plus six or more years of successful research, research administration, and managerial experience beyond the Ph.D.

QUALITY RANKING FACTORS:

1. Broad knowledge and understanding of scientific research and of the scientific community in experimental nuclear physics and/or nuclear astrophysics.
2. Demonstrated achievement in research and managerial experience in experimental nuclear physics, nuclear astrophysics, or a closely related field.
3. Ability to organize, implement and manage a proposal-driven grant program, allocating resources to meet a spectrum of goals.
4. Ability to meet and deal with members of the scientific community and peers to effectively present and advocate program policies and plans
5. Research, analytical and technical writing skills, which evidence the ability to perform extensive inquiries into a wide variety of significant issues and to make recommendations and decisions based on findings.

BASIS FOR RATING: Final ranking is based on an evaluation of your experience, education and training as they relate to the knowledge, skills and abilities specified in the Quality Ranking Factors. Current performance appraisal, letter(s) of recommendation, and awards may also be used in the evaluation process.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT: Appointment to the position is contingent upon successful completion of the appropriate background investigation.

HOW TO APPLY: You may apply for this position with the *Optional Application for Federal Employment* (OF-612), the older *Application for Federal Employment* (SF-171), a resume, or other application format of your choice - so long as it contains the necessary information (summarized below). You must also submit a current Performance Appraisal or letter(s) of recommendation from professionals who can comment on your capabilities. In order to ensure full consideration, it is recommended that you submit a supplemental statement which specifically addresses how your background and experience relate to each Quality Ranking Factor listed on this announcement.

You must specify the job announcement number, and title and grade(s) of the job for which you are applying. You should also provide the following information: ♦ Your country of citizenship. ♦ Your social security number. ♦ Information about your education, including college/university information - your major, and type and year of degree(s). ♦ Information about all your work experience related to this job, including job titles, duties and accomplishments, employer's name and phone number, number of hours worked per week, starting and ending dates (month and year), and annual salary. If you held various positions with the same employer, describe each separately. ♦ If you have Federal civilian experience, indicate the highest grade held, the job series, and dates held. ♦ The brochure *Applying for a Federal Job* provides information on the Federal job application process; it is available by calling the number listed below. **If your application does not provide all the information requested in the vacancy announcement, you may lose consideration for this job.**

The National Science Foundation provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities on a case-by-case basis. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the point of contact listed on this vacancy announcement.

Applications may be submitted via e-mail to lcodario@nsf.gov or send all application material to National Science Foundation, Division of Human Resource Management, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 315, Arlington, VA 22230. Attn: Announcement Number E20060026. In addition to the required application materials, you are asked to complete and submit the attached Applicant Survey form. Submission of this form is voluntary and will not affect your application for employment. The information is used for statistical purposes only. **ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE CLOSING DATE OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.** For additional information call Lisa Codario on (703) 292-4351. For technical information contact Dr. Laura P. Bautz/PHY at (703) 292-7211. Hearing impaired individuals may call TDD (703) 292-8044.

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