

**Universities Space Research Association
Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy
Ames Research Center
Moffett Field, California**

**Engineering Technician
Job Posting S0803**

Universities Space Research Association (USRA) is inviting applications for an Engineering Technician as a part of the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA) program.

SOFIA is a premier observatory for infrared and submillimeter astronomy. A 747-SP aircraft will carry a 2.5-meter telescope designed to make sensitive infrared measurements on a variety of astronomical objects. It will fly at an altitude up to 45,000 feet. First light is expected in early 2009 and regular observing is expected to begin in 2010. SOFIA is a joint project between NASA and German Aerospace Center, DLR. USRA will operate the SOFIA Science Center at NASA's Ames Research Center for NASA. The aircraft observatory will be based at NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center at Edwards Air Force Base.

USRA is seeking an Engineering Technician to join the SOFIA Mission Operations Group. The Mission Operations group is responsible for operating the Mirror Coating Facility (MCF) at the SOFIA Science Center (SSC), and ground and flight support of mission systems at the SOFIA Operations Center (SOC). Current activities of the Mission Operations Group include: preparation of the MCF and coating the Primary Mirror, set-up of mission system and instrument support labs, development of processes and procedures for operations of mission systems, participation in Integration, Test and Validation for Early Science flights. This position is based at NASA Ames Research Center at Moffett Field, CA. with travel to Dryden Flight Research Center at Edwards, CA.

Qualifications and experience required for this position:

- Several years of lab experience in a scientific and/or research environment
- Bachelor's degree in science or technical field or equivalent certificate(s) or work experience
- Ability to read and understand technical manuals, engineering and manufacturing drawings, including schematics, wiring diagrams and optical designs and layouts
- Familiarity with Engineering Design software
- Ability to work with a diverse group of scientists, engineers, technicians, and administrators

Compensation for this position is competitive, and based on candidates' experience and expertise.

Applicants should submit a copy of their CV, list of publications, and a description of their research interests, if applicable to position. Applicant should provide names and contact information of three references.

Please submit your resume in Word or PDF with your last name and job number as the document title.
Please specify in your cover letter if you will require an employer sponsored Visa and your salary requirements.

Example SmithS0803 at: <http://www.sofia.usra.edu/Employment/employment.html>

E-Mail Resume to: MOETposition@sofia.usra.edu

USRA is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Applicants selected will be subject to a government security check. USRA performs detailed background investigations on all candidates as a condition of hire.

Open until filled.

POSTED: 3/17/2008

