

Exploration Science Summer Intern Program

Become an Exploration Science Intern!

The Lunar and Planetary Institute (LPI) is hosting a special summer intern program to involve students in activities with NASA and its partners in academia, industry, and the international community are examining options for a new era of robotic and human exploration using the Orion vehicle and other new assets that are being developed for missions beyond low-Earth orbit. A new program, called Artemis, is scheduled to land two astronauts near the lunar south pole in 2025, followed by a series of crew landings that broaden our exploration of the lunar surface. These and other efforts are contributing to the international community's Global Exploration Roadmap.

This summer, students will be involved in activities that support Artemis missions to the Moon that utilize the Orion crew vehicle, the Deep Space Gateway, the Human Landing System, and robotic assets on the lunar surface. It is a unique opportunity to integrate scientific input with exploration activities in a way that mission architects and spacecraft engineers can use. Activities may involve assessments of landing sites and traverse plans for multiple destinations that are responsive to NASA objectives. The LPI invites applications from graduate students in geology, planetary science, and related programs. The Exploration Science Summer Intern Program builds on the success of the Lunar Exploration Summer Intern Program that was designed to evaluate possible landing sites on the Moon for robotic and human exploration missions. Over a five year period (2008–2012), teams of students worked with Lunar and Planetary Institute (LPI) science staff and their collaborators to produce A Global Lunar Landing Site Study to Provide the Scientific Context for Exploration of the Moon. Student teams also produced a series of influential journal articles (O'Sullivan et al. 2011; Flahaut et al. 2012; Lemelin et al. 2014; Potts et al. 2015; Steenstra et al. 2016; Allender et al. 2019; Bickel et al. 2019; Sargeant et al., 2020; Bickel and Kring 2020; Gawronska et al. 2020; Halim et al. 2021; Czapinski et al. 2021; Kumari et al. 2022). The program for 2023 is designed to have the same impact on future exploration activities.

We are currently planning to host the program in Houston. However, if the pandemic continues to restrict on-site activities, a virtual edition of the program will persevere.

The 10-week program runs from May 30, 2023, through August 4, 2023. Selected interns will receive a \$6,300 stipend, and up to a \$1,000 travel expense reimbursement for U.S. citizens, or up to \$1,500 for foreign nationals.

www.lpi.usra.edu/exploration_intern

Application Deadline: January 20, 2023

Applications are only accepted by using the electronic application form found on the LPI's Exploration Science Summer Intern website.

For more information, contact:

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