



NORDIC OPTICAL TELESCOPE



Research Studentships

The Nordic Optical Telescope (NOT) at La Palma, Spain, invites applications for Research Studentships starting at any time from June 2018 onward.

NOT is a modern 2.6-m telescope with state-of-the-art optical and near-IR instruments. Our staff of ~18, including astronomers, engineers, and students, and informal, hands-on style of operation offer attractive training opportunities for young Nordic scientists and engineers.

The NOT Research Studentship programme offers support for a limited number of PhD or advanced MSc astronomy or engineering students who wish to profit from these opportunities. Stipends cover living expenses on La Palma for periods of typically a year; in return, students spend ~25% of their time contributing to the operation or development of NOT, with the rest devoted to thesis work. Thesis subjects may be astronomical and include observations with the NOT, or they may concern developments in optics, detectors, electronics, or software. Our staff will monitor the progress of each student and provide scientific and technical guidance as appropriate in each case. An extension of the studentships by 6 months is normally granted.

Applicants should (see <http://www.not.iac.es/general/studentships/> for further details):

1. Be enrolled in a PhD or MSc programme in astronomy or a related technical discipline at a recognised university or similar academic institution. Preference is given to PhD students and applicants from the Nordic countries.
2. Have a strong interest in observational astrophysics and/or astronomical instrumentation.
3. Be capable and willing to work during night- as well as daytime, occasionally also on weekends or public holidays, at an altitude of 2400 metres above sea level, and to take up residence on La Palma for the duration of the Studentship.
4. Have a good knowledge of English, the working language at NOT. Knowledge of Spanish is an advantage. A valid driving license is normally required.

Comprehensive information on the NOT, its instrumentation and research staff is provided at <http://www.not.iac.es>. Our office in San Antonio, close to the main town of Santa Cruz, is next door to the offices of the Telescopio Nazionale Galileo, and is an hour's drive from the observatory. NOT students may also rent rooms at favourable rates in the NOT apartments in Santa Cruz.

The application deadline is **Monday, May 21, 2018**. Applications received later will only be considered if not all available positions are filled.

No specific application form is needed, but applications should specify the candidate's past and present experience, compliance with the above requirements, motivation for seeking to come to NOT (e.g. future education or career prospects), and any other information the candidate wishes to submit for consideration. A CV and an endorsement by the student's supervisor should be attached. 1-2 letters of reference from persons familiar with the student's work are welcome, but not required. Applications should be sent by e-mail to the address below. Any queries about the studentships may be directed to the same address.

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