National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO)
Fall 2020 Cooperative Education Opportunity

Description:

Co-op Experience Summary
The National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) anticipates an opportunity for a Cooperative (co-op) Education assignment at the Very Large Array (VLA). Educational assignments typically involve electrical design, computer programming, electronic assembly and/or testing. The co-op student will participate in the program for 40 hours per week. This particular experience will involve RFI and EMC testing at the VLA. Related educational assignments will include the collection, analysis and presentation of monitoring system data, the location, identification and mitigation of detected RFI, performing RF power measurements in a RF reverberation chamber, and the installation and checkout of VHF/UHF receivers and antennas on VLA antenna support structures. The position will be based at Very Large Array (VLA), 50 miles west of Socorro, NM. The assignment expected to begin on or about August 17, 2020 and continue through December 18, 2020.

Environment
Assignment will take place in an indoor lab setting and outdoors on the instrument at a high altitude of 7,000 feet.

Additional Information
- Stipend support (issued biweekly)
- Transportation provided to the VLA from Socorro
- Application deadline: July 1, 2020

Position Requirements:

For consideration, applicants must:
- Be enrolled for the Spring 2020 (current) semester as a full-time student at a participating school;
- Be an undergraduate student
- Enrolled in the Cooperative Education Program at the participating school during the experience;
- If applicable, meet visa or citizenship requirements of the participating school;
- Have the approval of the student's advisor and/or department chair;
- Be of "late Freshman" through "early Senior" standing.
- Have at least one semester remaining before graduation.
- Follow-on Coop appointments are encouraged.

Minimum Education
- Completed 30 semester hours of college credit before appointment begins;
- Earned at least a 2.6 grade point average;
- Completed at least 20 credit hours of electrical engineering, physics, and mathematics, and be a student in good standing in one of those departments.

Physical Demands
Ability to lift and carry up to 50 pounds, unassisted; climb ladder and stairs up to 100 feet.

For Consideration
To be considered, Co-op applicants must email all of the following documents by July 1, 2020, in a single file (file name format should conform to "LastName_FA2020Co-op"), to cgallego@nrao.edu:
- Current CV/Resume
- Letter of application
- Unofficial, current transcripts
- Letter of recommendation from student's academic advisor (optional)

The NRAO provides equal opportunities to all qualified applicants (M/F/D/V)