



## **GTCR13\_22 Astronomer (Junior level)**

Closing date: 21-11-2022

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Gran Telescopio de Canarias S.A. (GRANTECAN) invites applications for one Astronomer position (Junior level) based in La Palma (Spain).

The Gran Telescopio Canarias (GTC), with a diameter of 10.4 metres, is the largest single aperture telescope in the world and it is in operation since March 2009. The GTC is sited at the Roque de los Muchachos Observatory (ORM) on the island of La Palma, Canary Islands, which is a world-class observatory for ground based optical/infrared astronomy.

GRANTECAN looks for people who demonstrate a range of far-reaching skills including integrity, initiative, motivation, honesty in the workplace, problem solving and leadership. Its staff must seek continuous improvement, the safety of people, the integrity of the facility, efficiency and innovation in their actions, as well as the responsible, sustainable use and primary objective in the care of the environment. To this end, it requires people of talent and exceptional skills that allow to operate, maintain and improve the GTC executing scientific projects of the highest quality in the field of astrophysics.

### **Duties:**

GTC Astronomers are integrated in the Science Operations Group that is responsible for the astronomical operations of the GTC. This position will report directly to the GTC Head of Science Operations.

GTC Astronomer (Junior level) will:

- regularly conduct service observing at the GTC (approx. 60-70 nights/year). This includes calibrations and preliminary data quality checks.
- perform data quality checks of the GTC observations prior to distribution.
- perform regularly instrument quality control checks under direct supervision of the GTC Support Astronomers (instrument specialists) or GTC Senior Astronomers.
- be involved, together with the engineering staff, in the integration and commissioning of new GTC science instruments, under direct supervision of the GTC Support Astronomers and Senior Astronomers.
- validate new tools for the GTC night operation, including new software releases functionalities.
- be expected to carry out competitive scientific research activity. A guaranteed fraction of his/her time (30%) will be devoted to his/her own personal research.

### **(Section A) Qualifications requirements:**

- Degree in Physics or related subject.
- Full, current driving license.
- Be able to communicate effectively in both English and Spanish.

### **(Section B) Essential knowledge and Experience:**

- Possess understanding of astronomical instrumentation.
- Have experience with night observing at optical/infrared telescopes.
- Be self-motivated and lively team players with effective problem-solving and inter-personal skills.
- Be able to maintain an established work schedule and to follow instructions precisely.

### **(Section C) Desirable knowledge and Experience:**

- Experience with proposing, acquiring, reducing and analysing data from optical/infrared telescopes.

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- Presentation of a competitive research program involving the use of GTC.
- Experience with instrument building and commissioning.
- Innovative ideas to exploit and enhance the observing capabilities of the GTC.

#### **Merits to value:**

- Section A: Candidates who do not meet these requirements will be discarded and not evaluated.
- Section B: Maximum score: 60 points. Candidates who score less than 30 points will be disqualified.
- Section C: Maximum score: 40 points

The evaluation will be based on the documentation provided by the candidate and a personal interview. GRANTECAN is fully committed to equal opportunities and non-discriminatory recruitment. Under equal conditions in terms of merit and ability, the incorporation of personnel of the sex less represented in the professional group to which the position belongs will be prioritized.

#### **Contractual Information**

This is a permanent position subject to a 6-month probation period. Successful candidate should be available by 31 December 2022 at the latest.

The contract will be signed with GRANTECAN, the organization executing the operation of the GTC on behalf of the IAC. The annual gross salary will be **31.326,00 Euros**, which is subject to Spanish income tax and social security deductions. Medical insurance under the Spanish National Health Service is provided for the candidate, including coverage for spouse and children. The day and night-time work based at the ORM has additional bonuses.

The work will be split between the telescope at the ORM and the sea-level office (CALP) located in Breña Baja, La Palma. Appointed individual should be available for night-time support on a rota system as part of a multi-disciplinary Operations Team.

#### **Non-UE citizens:**

Applicants who are not citizen of a country belonging to the European Union are invited to apply for this position, but, if selected, will be allowed to sign the contract with GRANTECAN only after obtaining the compulsory documentation required to live and work in Spain.

#### **Applications**

Interested applicants should send by **NOV 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 at 13:00 (WET)**, the following documentation: Application form (available on our web), Curriculum Vitae (including possible list of publications if exists), a brief statement of research interests, and two letters of recommendation to be sent directly from active researchers who are familiar with the candidate' previous experience, to: [r.personal@gtc.iac.es](mailto:r.personal@gtc.iac.es) quoting the relevant reference number in the subject line.

**Late applications or those that do not include the mandatory application form, will not be considered.** In case of incomplete applications, the applicant will have a period of three (3) days, starting from the date in which the missing documentation is required.

#### **Further information**

Further information on this position is available from the GTC Head of Science Operations Dr. Antonio Cabrera (0034 922 425 720 ext 747 or e-mail [antonio.cabrera@gtc.iac.es](mailto:antonio.cabrera@gtc.iac.es)). Further details about the GTC may be found at its web site: <http://www.gtc.iac.es>.