



GTCR_07_25 DATA SCIENTIST.

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Closing date: 10-09-2025

Gran Telescopio de Canarias S.A. (GRANTECAN) invites applications for one position as Data Scientist for the implementation of new observational capabilities of the Gran Telescopio de Canarias (GTC).

GRANTECAN looks for people with outstanding talent and skills to operate, maintain and improve the GTC by executing scientific projects of the highest quality in the field of astrophysics. To this end, it requires people with integrity, responsibility, transparency, respect and honesty in their work, who seek continuous improvement, personal safety, the integrity of the facility, efficiency and innovation in their actions, as well as responsible and sustainable use, with the primary objective of caring for the environment.

The GTC is located on La Palma, Canary Islands (Spain), an island with an exceptional quality of life, combining a relaxed and safe environment with breathtaking natural landscapes. It is ideal for nature lovers, outdoor enthusiasts, and those seeking a peaceful lifestyle. The island also hosts one of the world's most important astrophysical observatories, making it a unique place to live and work for professionals in science and technology.

Duties:

The person selected will report hierarchically to the Head of Engineering Operations or Science Operations, depending on the selected candidate's background. **The main function and activity of the selected person will be within the following scientific-technical services:**

1) Astronomical observations at high spatial resolution.

A priority of the GTC telescope is the implementation of observing capabilities at its diffraction limit. This implies the commissioning of the GTC Adaptive Optics (GTCAO), Laser Guide Star system, and corresponding scientific instrumentation (GRANCAIN and FRIDA), but also requires the improvement of the telescope optical quality and operational procedures to achieve the nominal performance. GRANTECAN seeks a person with expertise in data analysis to contribute to the implementation of algorithms and procedures to improve the optical performance of the GTC (wavefront sensing, mirror alignment, segments fine phasing, segments deformation, closed-loop active optics, adaptive optics, and the corresponding operation and maintenance procedures). The selected candidate will also contribute to the commissioning of the new science instrumentation.

2) Digital transformation.

In 2021 GRANTECAN started a profound digital transformation aimed to optimize the telescope's operational processes and increase its efficiency and performance. This includes innovative aspects based on digital enablers typical of the Industry 4.0 paradigm such as the Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Big Data, Digital Twins, ... Within this process, the main function of the selected candidate will be to contribute to the implementation of the analytical layer, adding artificial intelligence solutions for GTC data analytics, participating in the modification of systems to add a cyber-physical layer, building an operative digital twin, and enabling prescriptive maintenance.

(Section A) Minimum qualifications required:

- First level university degree [QF-EHEA](#) (MECES level 2) in Software Engineering, Data Science, Physics, Mathematics, or equivalent.
- Full current driving license (level B or higher).

(Section B) Experience, knowledge and specific core competencies

- Big Data and Data Analytics.
- Programming in C, C++ or Python.
- Development or operation of optical/infrared telescopes.
- Effective communication in English.

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- Effective communication in Spanish.

Section C (Experience and/or knowledge in specific complementary skills)

- MECES 3 or 4 (Official Master's Degree or Doctorate in the disciplines listed in Section A).
- Visualization platforms such as GRAFANA.
- Artificial Intelligence.
- Cloud computing.
- Ability to work in a multidisciplinary team environment.
- Leadership, organisational skills with emphasis on adapting to change, transparency, self-organisation and collaboration.

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 40 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

The selected person will sign an open-ended full-time employment contract with GRANTECAN, subject to a six-month probationary period. The duration of this contract will be indefinite, starting the employment relationship on the contract start date, with the duration linked to the scientific-technical service object of the contract detailed in the "Functions" section. It is estimated that the implementation of this scientific-technical service will be completed around 2030-2031. This is in accordance with article 23 bis of Law 14/2011, of 1 June, on Science, Technology and Innovation.

The work centre will be GRANTECAN's operations base in Breña Baja (La Palma), with frequent work stays at the Roque de Los Muchachos Observatory (GTC) at 2400 m altitude. Occasional work may be required at the Tenerife site in San Cristobal de La Laguna.

The gross salary will be of 38.339,62€ (level E). Additional economic compensation will be paid for work at the Roque de los Muchachos Observatory in La Palma.

GRANTECAN will also contribute to relocation costs for candidates residing outside the island of La Palma. The maximum contribution will be:

- Up to 2.000 € for international candidates
- Up to 1.300 € for candidates from mainland Spain
- Up to 800 € for candidates from other Canary Islands

The contract entitles the employee to contributions to the Spanish national pension scheme, inclusion in the public healthcare system, and access to social benefits provided by GRANTECAN.

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 their applications by 10 September 2025 at 15:00 (WEST) to r.personal@gtc.iac.es, indicating the relevant reference number in the subject line. Applications must contain the following documents (in PDF format):

- Cover letter, describing the motivations for applying for this call.
- Application form (available on our website).
- Curriculum vitae.

Late applications or those that do not include the required documents, 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 GRANTECAN Head of Operations Engineering, Luis Rodríguez García (0034 922425720 ext. 734 or e-mail luis.rodriquez@gtc.iac.es) or the Head of Science Operations, Antonio Cabrera Lavers (ext. 734 or e-mail antonio.cabrera@gtc.iac.es). Further information about the recruitment process is available from the GRANTECAN Head of Administration, Lourdes González Rodríguez (0034 922425720 ext. 721 or e-mail lourdes.gonzalez@gtc.iac.es). Further details about GTC may be found at its web site: <http://www.gtc.iac.es>.