FSU | DEPARTMENT OF EARTH, OCEAN & ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Postdoctoral Scholar (Remote Sensing of Clouds and Aerosols)

Role & Responsibilities

The Department of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Science (EOAS) at Florida State University seeks a highly motivated postdoctoral research associate to conduct research in the area of remote sensing, aerosol-cloud interactions, and Arctic climate. The project will have implications for determining the feasibility of mixed-phase cloud seeding, a proposed climate intervention method to cool the polar regions, and thus preserve sea ice, by artificially glaciating clouds containing supercooled liquid water.

The successful candidate will work on developing retrievals of cloud phase during polar night, utilizing advanced new passive and active satellite remote sensing products (e.g., ESA/JAXA EarthCARE). Tasks may include running radiative transfer simulations and collocating data across various satellites and/or field campaigns.

The successful candidate will work under the direction of Dr. Michael Diamond at Florida State University, with co-mentoring from Dr. Colten Petersen at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, to conduct original research, write manuscripts for publication, participate in professional meetings, and collaborate with faculty and graduate students at FSU, UMBC, and team members at the University of Colorado Boulder (Dr. Ivy Tan, Dr. Sebastian Schmidt, and their groups).

Research in the group involves investigating the climate effects of aerosols and clouds from the microphysical to planetary scales, utilizing everything from aircraft data and satellite retrievals to large eddy simulations and Earth system models. Trainees are mentored to gain professional skills such as research design and communication, grantsmanship, group management and leadership training, networking, and navigating the faculty job market.

Qualifications

Required qualifications for the position include: (1) a PhD in atmospheric science, oceanography, Earth and planetary science, physics, engineering, applied mathematics, or a related field (by the time of appointment); (2) demonstrated ability of computer programming in languages such as Fortran 90/95, C, Python, and MATLAB; (3) a track record of high-quality scientific output (including peer-reviewed publications and/or conference presentations at major meetings); and (4) strong oral and written communication skills and the ability to work collaboratively in a team.

Desired qualifications include experience with remote sensing, cloud and aerosol physics, and/or Arctic climate.

How to Apply

Please send a single PDF file by February 18, 2026 to Dr. Michael Diamond (msdiamond@fsu.edu) containing the following: 1) a cover letter describing your interest in the position and qualifications, 2) a CV, 3) the name and contact information for at least 3 professional references, and 4) a 1-2 page statement describing your research goals and major accomplishments in research and teaching/mentoring. Potential applicants are welcome to contact Dr. Diamond with questions prior to applying.

University and Department Information

One of the nation's elite research universities, Florida State University preserves, expands, and disseminates knowledge in the sciences, technology, arts, humanities, and professions, while embracing a philosophy of learning strongly rooted in the traditions of the liberal arts and critical thinking. Founded in 1851, Florida State University is the oldest continuous site of higher education in Florida. FSU is a community steeped in tradition that fosters research and encourages creativity.

The FSU Meteorology Department was founded in 1948, making it one of the oldest meteorology programs in the nation. On Earth Day, 22 April 2010, the Departments of Geological Sciences, Oceanography, and Meteorology merged to form the Department of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Science (EOAS). On 12 February 2020, the new EOAS Building was dedicated, bringing together the component groups into one state-of-the-art building. EOAS's goals are to contribute to scientific knowledge by conducting world-class research, and to be a source of information for the public and decision makers.

Employment Information

The position covers an annual stipend ranging from $60-70k (depending on experience) with a benefits package including health insurance with dental and vision options. The successful applicant would be anticipated to start a 12-month position in March 2026. Re-appointment for additional time is possible based on satisfactory performance and the availability of funds.

The preference is for candidates who can report in-person at the EOAS building in Tallahassee, Florida, but options for remote work can be negotiated.

This is an OPS/temporary job. Based on the duties, this position may require completion of a criminal history background check.

FSU is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.