Visiting Scientist Program

The Visiting Scientist Program (VSP) seeks to recruit domain specialists engaged in scholarly scientific research relating to the theory, observation, analysis, and modeling of geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) technologies, processes and methodologies.

The VSP deepens the partnership among the U.S. academic research community, national laboratories, and NGA’s GEOINT research efforts.

As a Visiting Scientist you will:

Learn GEOINT requirements, data, standards, and processing

Collaborate with NGA’s GEOINT technical experts using advanced tools and technologies

Publish your research in detailed reports, technical papers, documented software code, or delivered capabilities

Contribute directly to the national security mission.

Who Can Be a Visiting Scientist?

NGA considers applicants with a variety of experiences that intersect with more than one traditional discipline.

Only U.S. citizens may apply for a VSP position

Some positions require a Top Secret security clearance with access to Sensitive Compartmented Information (TS/SCI)

Appointments can range from 6 months to 5 years.

What Benefits Are Included?

NGA provides all resources, including equipment, data, and data services as well as a monthly stipend.

Statement of Research Interest

Applicants will need to describe previous research experience and outline the relevance to the project for which they are applying.

NGA and the selected candidate will work cooperatively to define research assignments and goals that mutually support the NGA mission and the Visiting Scientist’s educational pursuits.

Research Disciplines

- Geospatial Information Science
- Physics
- Mathematics
- Statistical Forecasting
- Geography
- Computer Science
- Visual Cognition
- Data Science & Data Analytics
- Computational Modeling
- Human Computer Interaction
- Astrophysics
- Remote Sensing

How Do You Apply?

Descriptions of open projects, links to the application, and application requirements can be found on the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) web site:

https://orise.orau.gov/nga

At NGA, visiting scientists work within one or more of our eight Research pods:

Radar, Automation, Geophysics, Spectral, Environment & Culture, Geospatial Cyber, Anticipatory Analytics, GEOINT Assurance
The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) is a unique combination of both an intelligence agency and combat support agency that delivers world-class GEOINT to policymakers, warfighters, intelligence professionals, and first responders.

NGA Research works with visiting scientists to increase our sources of innovation. We connect with technical talent, ingenuity, and experts from national laboratories, universities, and business to identify fresh ideas, novel research techniques, and path-breaking scientific opportunities. Geospatial Research and Development (R&D) Scientists apply the scientific method in one or more scientific disciplines to advance Geospatial Sciences and enhance Agency tradecraft through systematic experimentation and exploration. We harness the best abilities to tackle our hardest problems.

NGA Research Strategic Objectives

**Automate** – Augment analytic capabilities to gain advantage from the rapidly increasing volume and variety of data as well as the limited supply of GEOINT experts

**Transition** – Integrate new technologies, insights, and knowledge into operations

**Enrich** – Extend the definition and use of GEOINT beyond traditional mapping, charting and geodesy

**Assure** – Maintain the U.S. GEOINT advantage

For more information, contact  
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NGA Visiting Scientist Opportunities  
www.orau.org/maryland  
https://orise.orau.gov/nga