

# OPPORTUNITY: APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR ESA YOUNG GRADUATE TRAINEE PROGRAMME



ESA's YGT Programme offers young graduates the opportunity to gain valuable on-the-job experience in the development and operation of space missions in an international environment. Deadline for applications: 28 February 2023.

ESA's high-calibre YGT Programme lasts for one year and is a launchpad for many exciting professional opportunities within Europe's space sector, renowned research institutes or, of course, ESA itself.

Every year in February, ESA publishes around 100 YGT opportunities in science and engineering, information technology, natural and social sciences and business.



### ***Who can apply?***

To be eligible for the YGT Programme, you must be:

- A student in the final year of a Master's degree at university or having just graduated.
- A citizen of one of the ESA Member States, including Latvia.

Please note that basic eligibility pre-screening questions regarding nationality and degree are asked on completion of the ESA online application form.

YGTs are required to have completed their master's degree by the time they start work at ESA. Should you already hold a PhD or be about to complete one, please have a look at ESA's Research Fellowship Programme, which is more in line with your academic background and level of qualification.

### ***What does ESA offer?***

- A unique professional experience as part of a team of scientists, engineers and business professionals from all over Europe, working together on inspiring space missions in an international, multicultural and friendly environment.
- A great opportunity to gain extensive experience that could open doors to a career within Europe's space sector.
- A one-year contract (with possible extension for a second year) with 2.5 days paid leave per month.
- Excellent employment conditions, including a monthly salary exempt from

national income tax in ESA Member States.

- Travel expenses reimbursed at the beginning and end of the contract.
- Expatriation allowance and/or an installation allowance on arrival if you move from another country. Excess luggage costs are also reimbursed.
- Comprehensive health cover under ESA's social security scheme. Please note that Young Graduate Trainees do not contribute to ESA's pension scheme and may wish to opt for alternative solutions.

### ***More about life at ESA***

Find out everything you need to know about life at ESA and work-life balance on our pages.

For more information about ESA sites, check out the ESA establishments.

What is it like to be a YGT at ESA? Watch the 2019 video interviews of ESA Young Graduate Trainees to find out more about our YGT programme and life at ESA.

### ***Recruitment process***

- Explore our Young Graduate Trainee opportunities [here](#).
- Select the opportunity that most interests you and fits best with your academic background and aspirations. Due to the high number of applications received each year, we can only accept a maximum of two applications per person. Should you apply to more vacancies, all your applications will be disregarded. If your profile is well-suited to another position, we will share it with the hiring manager.
- Register and create your candidate profile with your CV and motivation letter.
- Apply! You will be able to track the status of your application throughout the process.

Throughout the year, additional YGT posts may be published. Be sure not to miss a single chance to launch your career at ESA by [signing up](#) to receive job alerts.

Towards the end of the traineeship period, trainees are asked to submit a report on their activities and the accomplishments achieved during the year.

### ***ESA YGT recruitment timeline:***

February – March: Publication of YGT opportunities on Careers at ESA

March – May: Pre-selection and interviews of shortlisted candidates

June: Outcome of interviews and final selection made by ESA



September – October: Take up duty for successful candidates

Tip: set up a job alert to be informed as soon applications are open!

### ***Join our live information sessions***

We have three online information sessions in which you can learn more about the YGT Programme and submit any questions you may have. These sessions are free and open to all, so save the date and join us!

16 February  
12:00 CET  
[Join us here](#)

Hosted on Webex

Join current YGTs as they share the work they do on ESA projects, their own personal experience of the application process and the tips and tricks they learned when applying to ESA.

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### ***More information: Young Graduate Traineeship FAQ***

Check out our Young Graduate Traineeship dedicated FAQ page.

### ***Looking for more learning and hands-on opportunities?***

ESA Academy is open to university students from undergraduate to PhD level coming from ESA Member States, Associated Member States and Cooperating States. ESA Academy collaborates with European universities, space institutes and national space agencies to offer exceptional learning and hands-on opportunities in a vast portfolio of programmes. ESA Academy is designed to complement academic education. Its objective is to enhance students' educational experience and help them develop both practical and theoretical knowledge in various disciplines, ranging from space sciences to engineering, space medicine, spacecraft operations, project and risk management, product and quality assurance, standardisation and much more.

Learn more about ESA Academy.

### ***Find your path at ESA***

ESA offers a number of entry-level programmes targeting students (Master or PhD), recent graduates and young professionals, alongside its vacancies for experienced professionals. One of them could be your path to space! Quickly find out which programme could be the best fit for you by following the pathways at ESA on our entry-level flowchart.

Source: European Space Agency

