



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

**FAAM Airborne Laboratory Technician, FAAM Airborne Laboratory,
National Centre for Atmospheric Science, Faculty of Environment**



Salary: Grade 6 (£27,924 - £33,309 p.a.)

Reference: ENVEE1555

The post will be employed by the University of Leeds and will be based within the FAAM Airborne Laboratory team on the campus of Cranfield University in Bedfordshire.

We will consider job share / flexible working arrangements

FAAM Airborne Laboratory Technician

FAAM Airborne Laboratory, National Centre for Atmospheric Science, School of Earth and Environment, Faculty of Environment

Would you like to work with a unique flying science laboratory? Do you have technical skills supporting laboratory, IT or other equipment? Do you have either a degree in a numerate subject, or equivalent experience in a hands-on, technical environment? Are you up for the challenge of helping to deliver field projects around the world?

The FAAM Airborne Laboratory is a unique, highly modified 4-engine jet aircraft adapted to carry a payload of scientific instrumentation to observe the atmosphere. The payload is extensively reliant on state-of-the-art scientific instrumentation, often uniquely customised for use on the FAAM aircraft. Supporting the equipment and staff on board this laboratory is central to the position.

FAAM's Airborne Laboratory Technician has a varied role, encompassing daily, routine activities around the aircraft and facility both at its home base and at locations around the world. The post holder will support care of the scientific equipment, including pre-flight setup, maintenance and fault-finding, and will help support the safe and effective work of the FAAM team and visiting scientists around the facility. The role will require working closely with the aircraft's engineering support provider, teams of visiting researchers, and FAAM's team of in-house scientists and planning staff. Organisation and communication are key to ensure the right kit is available for each mission.

The successful candidate will also be part of the team providing support to field projects and technical activities alike. Training, development and experience gained by the successful applicant at FAAM will ultimately also help them develop the installation of science systems on the aircraft, and could lead to a flying role operating instrumentation in support of world-leading scientific research.

The FAAM Airborne Laboratory is a national research facility dedicated to the advancement of atmospheric science, managed by the National Centre for Atmospheric Science and funded by the Natural Environment Research Council.



What does the role entail?

As a FAAM Airborne Laboratory Technician your main duties will include:

- Working as part of a team to supply technical support for the Facility's scientific systems, on the aircraft, in the laboratory and in the field. You will be working with other FAAM staff, visitors and aircraft engineering support providers to ensure that needed science equipment is made available and serviceable;
- Supporting the maintenance, calibration, documentation and configuration of scientific systems, for which full training will be provided;
- Conducting science pre-flight setup for FAAM missions, diagnosing and fixing faults and providing post-flight support;
- Working as part of a logistics team to support scientific campaigns away from the home base;
- Managing spares and key supplies and maintaining safe systems of work around the aircraft and in FAAM's laboratories, including good tool control and safe working practices for visiting scientists;
- Travelling on detached duty, fulfilling the above roles on science projects at home or on projects elsewhere in the UK or potentially overseas for typically 8 weeks a year, including the potential to fly as science crew if required.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

What will you bring to the role?

As a FAAM Airborne Laboratory Technician you will have:

- Either a degree in a numerate subject, or equivalent hands-on technical experience;
- Experience supporting technical facilities in a research or industrial environment, ideally undertaking technical work as part of a multidisciplinary team;
- Proven hands-on technical skills and evidence of a methodical and persistent approach to problem solving with complex technical equipment;



- An understanding of safe working systems in a relevant industrial/research environment, experience maintaining facilities and working procedures to a high standard of safety;
- Good written and especially verbal communication skills and experience of communicating with different audiences;
- Personal resilience and a flexible, constructive approach;
- Willingness to work on board the FAAM research aircraft (essential requirement of this post). Candidates must be able to move through a typical aircraft cabin, be able to use a headset to communicate and use a computer to interpret data on board the aircraft.

You may also have:

- Relevant experience of the logistics necessary to support field projects.

How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information page. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the advertised closing date.

Please note: *If you are not a British or Irish citizen, from 1 January 2021 you will require permission to work in the UK. This will normally be in the form of a visa but, if you are an EEA/Swiss citizen and resident in the UK before 31 December 2020, this may be your passport or status under the EU Settlement Scheme.*

Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

[Alan Woolley](#), Head of the FAAM Airborne Laboratory

Email: alan.woolley@faam.ac.uk



Additional information about the National Centre for Atmospheric Science

Find out more about the [National Centre for Atmospheric Science](#) and [its relationship with the School of Earth and Environment](#)

Find out more about the [Facility for Airborne Atmospheric Measurements](#)

Find out more about the [Atmospheric Measurement and Observation Facility](#)

Find out more about the [School of Earth and Environment](#)

Find out more about the [Faculty of Environment](#)

Find out more about our [Research and associated facilities](#)

Find out more about [equality](#) in the Faculty.

A diverse workforce

As an international research-intensive university, we welcome students and staff from all walks of life and from across the world. We foster an inclusive environment where all can flourish and prosper, and we are proud of our strong commitment to student education. Within the Faculty of Environment we are dedicated to diversifying our community and we welcome the unique contributions that individuals can bring, and particularly encourage applications from, but not limited to Black, Asian and ethnically diverse people; people who identify as LGBT+; and people with disabilities. Candidates will always be selected based on merit and ability.

The Faculty of Environment has received a prestigious Athena SWAN silver award from [Advance HE](#), the national body that promotes equality in the higher education sector. This award represents the combined efforts of all schools in the Faculty and shows the positive actions we have taken to ensure that our policies, processes and ethos all promote an equal and inclusive environment for work and study.

NCAS is committed to proactively encouraging an environment where diversity is celebrated and everyone is treated fairly, regardless of gender, gender identity,



disability, ethnic origin, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marital or transgender status, age, or nationality.

Applications from under-represented groups in science research and administration are especially encouraged.

Candidates with disabilities

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our [Accessibility](#) information page or by getting in touch with us at hr@leeds.ac.uk

Criminal record information

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

A criminal record check is not required for this position, however, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be, in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information.

