



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

**FAAM Project and Systems Specialist, FAAM Airborne Laboratory,  
National Centre for Atmospheric Science, Faculty of Environment**



**Salary: Grade 7 (£34,304 - £40,927 p.a.)**

**Reference: ENVEE1556**

**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 Project and Systems Specialist**

### **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 experience of working on technical development projects? 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 science 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. As Project and Systems Specialist you will lead the maintenance of science and support systems in this unique laboratory, support the operational team managing logistical and other requirements, provide field support for science projects throughout the world, and help co-ordinate daily aircraft activity. You will also provide project co-ordination and technical support to projects involving modification and introduction of new science capabilities.

An approachable and committed team player, your role will be central to the process of managing individual installations of science capability on the aircraft, and helping to deploy them on science missions. As such you will need to be an effective communicator, capable of co-ordinating a range of stakeholders from inside and outside the organisation. You will provide project support for the FAAM Engineering Co-ordinator, and be expected to have or develop a basic level of project management skill.

You'll also have the opportunity to fly on board aircraft science missions, developing your skills and experience at the facility to help deliver science missions and contribute to successful field projects with the aircraft.

*The FAAM Airborne Laboratory (FAAM) 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 Project and Systems Specialist your main duties will include:

- Managing the modification process for aircraft-installed science equipment, helping users within the FAAM team as well as external users to deliver packages of science equipment, managing the route to installation on the FAAM aircraft with support from FAAM's stakeholder partners;
- Ensuring key deliverables and budgets are met and that timetabling of modification and engineering work is compatible with the facility's routine science operations. This involves ensuring value for money, evaluating the quality of the outcome, and embedding good practice;
- Monitoring the operational serviceability of FAAM science equipment, leading the response to failures or maintenance; conducting science pre-flight setup for FAAM missions, diagnosing and fixing faults, and maintaining science support systems on and off the aircraft. Training will be provided;
- Managing the logistical information and packing requirements for field projects, ensuring that requirements are communicated to all parties and deadlines are met;
- Managing safe systems of work in FAAM's laboratories, including good tool control and safe working practices for visiting scientists;
- Managing the configuration control processes as agreed between FAAM and its suppliers. This includes administering and coordinating the supply and delivery of externally provided equipment, and the briefing and supervision of visiting staff. Again, training will be provided;
- Supporting instrument science from our UK base at Cranfield University as well as UK and overseas detachments (typically 2-3 such detachments, of 3-4 weeks each, travel/COVID-19 restrictions permitting).

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 Project and Systems Specialist you will have:

- Either an undergraduate degree in a science, earth science, engineering or related subject, or a lower level qualification combined with demonstrable technical or practical experience;
- Practical understanding and capability in mechanical/electrical equipment development and installation, and manufacturing and design techniques;
- Evidence of a methodical and persistent approach to problem solving with complex systems/equipment;
- An understanding of safe working systems in a research aircraft, laboratory or other safety-critical environment, with experience of maintaining facilities and developing working procedures to a high standard of safety;
- Constructive and supportive team player with excellent interpersonal skills;
- Good communication skills with the ability to convey often complex, logistical information to a range of audiences;
- 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:

- An understanding of systems development processes in an aviation or other safety-critical environment;
- Experience of working in aviation or another safety critical environment;
- Understanding of IT hardware and control systems;
- A project management qualification and/or project management experience.



## 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](mailto: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](#)

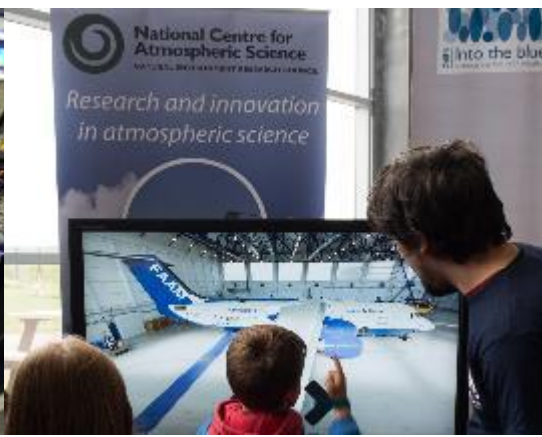
Find out more about the [Atmospheric Measurement and Observation Facility](#)

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](mailto: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.

