

The German Center for Astrophysics (DZA) is a new research center in Lusatia, Saxony, that is currently being established. The decision to create the center was made on 29.09.2022 as part of the competition "Wissen.Schafft.Perspektiven für die Region!" ("Science Creating Prospects for the Region!"), which was launched by the Federal Government, represented by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), the Free State of Saxony and the Land of Saxony-Anhalt as part of the Act on Structural Change in Coal Mining Areas (Strukturstärkungsgesetz Kohleregionen, StStG) to strengthen Germany's position as a leading location for science and innovation as well as the economic development of the regions affected by the coal phase-out. As a globally visible sign of innovation, the DZA will create new opportunities for strategic leadership roles in German astrophysics and have a lasting impact on structural change in Lusatia.

A three-year start-up phase began in 2023 with the aim of establishing the DZA as an independent institution in 2025. The start-up phase is organized jointly by TUD Dresden University of Technology and the Deutsches Elektronen Synchrotron (DESY). There is a unique opportunity to actively contribute to the establishment of a large research center and to become involved in shaping future structures.

For TUD and DZA diversity is an essential feature and a quality criterion of an excellent university. Accordingly, we welcome all applicants who would like to commit themselves, their achievements and their productivity to the success of the whole institution.

The **DZA** offers, as part of the development, two positions located in Görlitz as

**Research Associate for Radio Astronomy (m/f/x)**

(subject to personal qualification employees are remunerated according to salary group E 13 TV-L)

starting **as soon as possible**. The positions are initially limited until December 31, 2025 with the option of extension/permanence at the DZA after its foundation. The period of employment is governed by the Fixed Term Research Contracts Act (Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz - WissZeitVG). Balancing family and career is an important issue. The positions are generally suitable for candidates seeking part-time employment. Please indicate the request in your application.

**Tasks:** Scientific research and development activities with the radio astronomy projects being pursued at the DZA. These include the MeerKAT+ extension in preparation for SKA, a VLBI station in preparation for VLBI with SKA-mid, the DSA-2000 project and a test array for radio astronomical surveys in Lusatia. The employees conduct research in a team dedicated to the following activities:

- technical and scientific commissioning of radio telescopes and telescope arrays
- planning and implementation of radio astronomical observations, in particular in extensive surveys
- planning and implementation of multi-frequency research projects, particularly in the field of time-domain astrophysics, including the use of open-access telescopes and satellites.
- research on detector and receiver systems
- preparation of the scientific use of the SKA
- publication of the results obtained at internationally recognized conferences and in peer-reviewed journals
- guidance of young scientists

**Requirements:**

- university degree (masters, diploma) in physics, astronomy or a comparable course of study
- several years of professional experience or a doctorate in one of the above-mentioned fields
- ability to work under pressure, flexibility and adaptability in an evolving organization
- strong communication skills, ability to work in a team and initiative

- interdisciplinary way of working
- willingness to travel on business
- business fluent in English; knowledge of German is advantageous
- knowledge of at least 3 of the following areas is also required:
  - high-frequency technology
  - radio astronomical calibration and analysis methods
  - modern data information techniques
  - multi-frequency or multi-messenger astrophysics
  - operation of astronomical telescopes and instrumentation

**We offer:**

- the chance to contribute to the development of the largest research center for astrophysics in Germany
- the opportunity to play an active role in shaping structural change in Upper Lusatia
- the opportunity to establish the personnel requirements to support the discovery of groundbreaking research results and to contribute to the realization of research projects
- a dynamic, committed, international and interdisciplinary environment with renowned experts from science and industry
- remuneration according to TV-L, as well as conditions and social benefits of the public sector
- compatibility of family and career
- The possibility of permanent employment after the start-up phase.

The TUD and the DZA strive to employ more women in academia and research. We, therefore, expressly encourage women to apply. The University is a certified family-friendly university. We welcome applications from candidates with disabilities. If multiple candidates prove to be equally qualified, those with disabilities or with equivalent status pursuant to the German Social Code IX (SGB IX) will receive priority for employment.

Please submit your detailed application with the usual documents quoting the **reference number "w25-112"** by **June 18, 2025** (stamped arrival date of the university central mail service or the time stamp on the email server of TUD applies), preferably via the TUD SecureMail Portal <https://securemail.tu-dresden.de> by sending it as a single pdf file to [dza@tu-dresden.de](mailto:dza@tu-dresden.de) or to: Deutsches Zentrum für Astrophysik (**DZA**), **Mr. Alexander Welk**, Postplatz 1, 02826 Görlitz, Germany. Please submit copies only, as your application will not be returned to you. Expenses incurred in attending interviews cannot be reimbursed.




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**Reference to data protection:** Your data protection rights, the purpose for which your data will be processed, as well as further information about data protection is available to you on the website: <https://tu-dresden.de/karriere/datenschutzhinweis>.