The Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere (CIRA) on the Foothills Campus at Colorado State University (CSU) in Fort Collins, CO, seeks to hire a Research Associate to start October 1-November 30, 2021 and support research on development of satellite cloud retrieval algorithms, evaluation, and visualization for several satellite data applications as a member of CIRA's MetSat Group for Satellite Algorithm Development, Training, and Education. Position title of Research Associate II will apply to the finalist with a Bachelor’s Degree in meteorology, atmospheric sciences, or a closely related field plus 3-4 or more years of experience working in atmospheric sciences or a related field, or a Master’s Degree in meteorology, atmospheric sciences, or a closely related field plus 1-2 years of experience working in atmospheric sciences or a related field. Position title of Research Associate III will apply to the finalist with a Bachelor’s Degree in meteorology, atmospheric sciences, or a closely related field plus 5 years or more years of experience working in atmospheric sciences or a related field, or a Master’s Degree in meteorology, atmospheric sciences, or a closely related field plus 2 or more years of experience working in atmospheric sciences or a related field.

The objective of this position is to provide an opportunity for a motivated researcher to explore innovative approaches while working in a highly stimulating and interdisciplinary team environment. The individual in this position will report to the CIRA Atmospheric Scientist in Meteorological Satellite Remote Sensing and Algorithm Development and support projects funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as related to the Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) of the Joint Polar Satellite System (JPSS) program, and the Advanced Baseline Imager (ABI) of the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES) program. Target projects will include improving satellite cloud retrieval algorithms to estimate cloud vertical structure and related cloud properties from VIIRS and ABI data, supporting algorithm implementation and evaluation for NOAA operations, and developing training/display tools of cloud products. Specifically, the individual in this position will work on observation of clouds using various satellite data sets. This work is toward applications for product end users and support operational algorithm implementation and validation, and is expected to establish strong partnerships with both CIRA research staff and sponsors.

Decision Making:
Decision making depends on the analysis of the subject, phase, or issues involved in each assignment; the chosen course of action may need to be selected from many alternatives. This individual in this position will normally receive little instruction on day-to-day work and receives general instructions on new assignments. They will set priorities that accurately reflect the relative importance of job responsibilities and established deadlines, and provide technical leadership to their teams, including making technical recommendations and decisions. Specific examples of decisions the individual in this position will make include the following:

- decide how to implement and automate products in CIRA/NOAA operational computing environments;
- set up meetings with team members to discuss and develop strategies to solve problems;
- decide the best way to implement these strategies and visualize results;
- prioritize work efforts between multiple projects;

Essential Job Duties:
Applied Research 60%
- conduct data processing and analysis to support the improvement and validation of satellite data algorithms;
- develop training and display tools of products with other team members for operational users;
- support research using various satellite remote sensing data for weather and climate applications;
- contribute to scientific studies that serve the CIRA mission.

Collaborative Research 40%
- support algorithm implementation and evaluation for NOAA operations;
- collaborate with operational partners and product end users;
- collaborate with CIRA and NOAA scientists working on similar research projects.
Required Qualifications:
Please detail each of these items in your cover letter.

- for Research Associate II: Bachelor’s Degree in meteorology, atmospheric sciences, or a closely related field plus 3-4 or more years of experience working in atmospheric sciences or a related field, or a Master’s Degree in meteorology, atmospheric sciences, or a closely related field plus 1-2 years of experience working in atmospheric sciences or a related field;
- for Research Associate III: Bachelor’s Degree in meteorology, atmospheric sciences, or a closely related field plus 5 or more years of experience working in atmospheric sciences or a related field, or a Master’s Degree in meteorology, atmospheric sciences, or a closely related field plus 2 or more years of experience working in atmospheric sciences or a related field;
- experience with meteorological programming, data processing, and data visualization, like IDL, Python, or MATLAB;
- experience in reading, writing, and manipulating scientific datasets in the Linux environment;
- experience working collaboratively in a team environment;
- must be legally authorized to work in the United States by the proposed start date of position, October 1 - November 31, 2021

Preferred Qualifications:
Please highlight applicable preferred qualifications in your cover letter.

- Master’s degree in meteorology, atmospheric sciences, or a closely related field;
- fluent coding skills preferably using Python;
- experience working with weather/climate data preferably using satellite data;
- experience communicating in reports and/or journals.

Background Check:
Colorado State University (CSU) strives to provide a safe study, work, and living environment for its faculty, staff, volunteers and students. To support this environment and comply with applicable laws and regulations, CSU conducts background checks. The type of background check conducted varies by position and can include, but is not limited to, criminal (felony and misdemeanor) history, sex offender registry, motor vehicle history, financial history, and/or education verification. Background checks will be conducted when required by law or contract and when, in the discretion of the university, it is reasonable and prudent to do so.

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion:
Reflecting departmental and institutional values, candidates are expected to have the ability to advance the Department's commitment to diversity and inclusion.

Application Deadline and How to Apply:
Applications will be accepted until the position is filled; however, to ensure full consideration applications should be submitted by 11:59 PM MT on Sunday, September 19, 2021. References will not be contacted without prior notification of candidates. Apply electronically by clicking “Apply to this Job” at the following website: https://jobs.colostate.edu/postings/91351. NOTE: In your cover letter, please specifically address the required and preferred qualifications of this position. A cover letter that fails to address the required and preferred qualifications of this position may not be further considered after review by the search committee.

Colorado State University is committed to providing an environment that is free from discrimination and harassment based on race, age, creed, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or pregnancy and will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against employees or applicants because they have inquired about, discussed, or disclosed their own pay or the pay of another employee or applicant. Colorado State University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action employer fully committed to achieving a diverse workforce and complies with all Federal and Colorado State laws, regulations, and executive orders regarding non-discrimination and affirmative action. The Office of Equal Opportunity is located in 101 Student Services. The Title IX Coordinator is the Executive Director of the Office of Support and Safety Assessment, 123 Student Services Building, Fort Collins, CO 80523 -2026, (970) 491-7407. The Section 504 and ADA Coordinator is the Executive Director of Human Resources and Equal Opportunity, Office of Equal Opportunity, 101 Student Services Building, Fort Collins, CO 80523-0160, (970) 491-5836.