

**Research Associate II or III  
(Linux System Administrator)  
24-120**

**Position Summary:**

The Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere (CIRA), located on the CSU Foothills Campus approximately 5 miles northwest of CSU's main campus, seeks to fill a Research Associate II or III position to support CIRA's computing research efforts and IT infrastructure. CIRA conducts research on the use of satellite data to improve analysis, forecasts, and warnings for regions and mesoscale meteorological events. The individual in this position will report to CIRA's IT Director and manage the CIRA's Linux systems and data storage located at Foothills Campus and the Walter Scott, Jr. College of Engineering Data Center (SDC) on the CSU main campus.

This position requires a NOAA Common Access Card (CAC) ID badge for computer access and is therefore open ONLY to citizens of the United States and lawful permanent residents in possession of a physical USCIS "Green Card." This position also requires the ability to pass a National Agency Check with Inquiries (NACI) Tier 1 federal background check for computer access, a valid driver's license or the ability to obtain a driver's license or access to a licensed driver, and the ability to lift objects that weigh more than 50 pounds in order to move computing equipment between CIRA and the SDC. The individual in this position will be expected to work onsite at CIRA in Fort Collins. A hybrid telework/onsite schedule will be considered for well qualified candidates. Occasional travel to attend meetings/conferences/trainings may be required.

This position will be classified Research Associate II or III according to the credentials of the finalist selected for hire as follows:

- For position classification Research Associate II: Bachelor's Degree in Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, or related STEM field plus 3-4 years of experience working in Linux system administration –OR- a Master's Degree in Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, or related STEM field;
- For position classification Research Associate III: Bachelor's Degree in Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, or related STEM field plus 5 or more years of experience working in Linux system administration -OR- a Master's degree in Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, or related STEM field plus 2 or more years of experience working in Linux system administration –OR- a Ph.D. in Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, or related STEM field.

**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. The individual in this position will normally receive little instruction on day-to-day work and will receive general instructions on new assignments. They will set priorities that accurately reflect the relative importance of job responsibilities and established deadlines, and provide technical expertise 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 Linux computing in semi-operational computing environment;
- set meetings with developers, researchers and stakeholders to discuss and develop evaluation methodologies for effectiveness of new and existing infrastructure and then decide how to evaluate and implement the results;
- facilitate work with colleagues on computing server and storage best practices.

**Essential Job Duties:**

Linux System Administration (50%)

- install, configure, patch, and upgrade RHEL (Rocky, Alma) operating systems;
- configure and troubleshoot system networking;
- implement server and network security measures;

- manage users and access permissions;
- install and maintain application software;
- document development plans, system configuration, user instructions, issues, and maintenance activities;
- provide user technical support.

#### System Engineering (50%)

- manage and troubleshoot multi-petabyte storage systems;
- system backup and recovery;
- install, manage, and relocate computer and network systems in a data center environment.

#### **Required Qualifications:**

In your cover letter, please specifically address EACH required qualification as it relates to your experience. An application without a cover letter that addresses each of the required qualifications for this position will not be considered further.

- For Research Associate II: Bachelor’s Degree in Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, or related STEM field plus 3-4 years of experience working in Linux system administration –OR- a Master’s Degree in Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, or related STEM field;
- for Research Associate III: Bachelor’s Degree in Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, or related STEM field plus 5 or more years of experience working in Linux system administration -OR- a Master’s degree in Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, or related STEM field plus 2 or more years of experience working in Linux system administration –OR- a Ph.D. in Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, or related STEM field;
- ability to pass a National Agency Check with Inquiries (NACI) federal background check and receive a NOAA Common Access Card (CAC) ID badge.
- Ability to lift objects that weigh 50 pounds several times per week, and sometimes multiple times in one day. The individual will have access to a dolly, but rarely will receive assistance from a fellow colleague.
- valid driver’s license or the ability to obtain a driver’s license or access to a licensed driver by the start of the position;
- experience managing networked servers;
- experience with command line management of RedHat, Rocky, or Alma operating systems;
- experience with shell scripting and interpreted languages (e.g., bash, Python, Perl);
- familiarity with network storage solutions;
- excellent oral and written communication skills;
- Occasional travel to attend meetings/conferences/trainings may be required.
- Must be a citizen of the United States or Lawful Permanent Resident with a physical USCIS “Green Card.”

#### **Preferred Qualifications:**

In your cover letter, please specifically address the applicable preferred qualifications for this position. A cover letter that fails to address the preferred qualifications for this position will not be considered further after review by the search committee.

- Degree related to Atmospheric Science or Meteorology;
- experience with Linux container development (e.g., Docker, Podman, Apptainer, Singularity);
- experience with RAID, Ceph storage systems, ZFS file systems;
- experience configuring a high performance computing (HPC) environment (e.g., slurm, wawulf, pxe booting environment, Kubernetes);
- experience managing web servers (e.g., nginx, Apache) and SSL certificates
- experience managing GitLab servers;
- experience troubleshooting and installing computing hardware components (memory, disk, CPU, GPU).

**Annual Salary:**

Commensurate with experience and qualifications as follows:

- Research Associate II: \$63,900 - \$81,100
- Research Associate III: \$72,800 - \$90,000

**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.

**Background Check:**

Colorado State University 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 history, sex offender registry, motor vehicle history, financial history, and/or education verification. Background checks will also be conducted when required by law or contract and when, in the discretion of the University, it is reasonable and prudent to do so.

**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, December 22, 2024. For full position announcement and to apply, please click "Apply to this Job" at the following website: <https://jobs.colostate.edu/postings/153937>.

**Applications must be submitted via online portal.** We will not accept materials sent via email or other mode.

**NOTE:** In your cover letter, please specifically address the required and preferred qualifications of this position. A cover letter that fails to address the qualifications of this position may not be further considered after review by the search committee. Likewise, an online application with a generic cover letter or missing a cover letter, and/or an application that does not include current/correct reference contact information 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/expression, or pregnancy in its employment, programs, services and activities, and admissions, and, in certain circumstances, marriage to a co-worker. The University 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 and equal access institution and 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 Director of the Office of Title IX Programs and Gender Equity, 123 Student Services Building, Fort Collins, CO 80523-0160, (970) 491-1715, [titleix@colostate.edu](mailto:titleix@colostate.edu). The Section 504 and ADA Coordinator is the Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity, 101 Student Services Building, Fort Collins, CO 80523-0160, (970) 491-5836, [oeo@colostate.edu](mailto:oeo@colostate.edu). The Coordinator for any other forms of misconduct prohibited by the University's Policy on Discrimination and Harassment is the Vice President for Equity, Equal Opportunity and Title IX, 101 Student Services Building, Fort Collins, Co. 80523-0160, (970) 491-5836, [oeo@colostate.edu](mailto:oeo@colostate.edu). Any person may report sex discrimination under Title IX to the [Office of Civil Rights, Department of Education](#).