

Space Ground Segment Lead (0346U), Space Sciences
Laboratory - 78252
University of California, Berkeley

Direct Link: <https://www.AcademicKeys.com/r?job=259316>

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Posted Jul. 15, 2025, set to expire Nov. 1, 2025

Job Title	Space Ground Segment Lead (0346U), Space Sciences Laboratory - 78252
Department	Space Sciences Laboratory
Institution	University of California, Berkeley Berkeley, California
Date Posted	Jul. 15, 2025
Application Deadline	Open until filled
Position Start Date	Available immediately
Job Categories	Professional Staff
Academic Field(s)	Computer/Information Sciences Astronomy and Astrophysics
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Job Description

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Space Ground Segment Lead (0346U), Space Sciences Laboratory - 78252

About Berkeley

At the University of California, Berkeley, we are dedicated to fostering a community where everyone feels welcome and can thrive. Our culture of openness, freedom and belonging make it a special place for students, faculty and staff.

As a world-leading institution, Berkeley is known for its academic and research excellence, public

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mission, diverse student body, and commitment to equity and social justice. Since our founding in 1868, we have driven innovation, creating global intellectual, economic and social value.

We are looking for applicants who reflect California's diversity and want to be part of an inclusive, equity-focused community that views education as a matter of social justice. Please consider whether your values align with our [Guiding Values and Principles](#), [Principles of Community](#), and [Strategic Plan](#).

At UC Berkeley, we believe that learning is a fundamental part of working, and provide space for [supportive colleague communities via numerous employee resource groups](#) (staff organizations). Our goal is for everyone on the Berkeley campus to feel supported and equipped to realize their full potential. We actively support this by providing all of our full-time staff employees with at least 80 hours (10 days) of paid time per year to engage in professional development activities. Find out more about how you can [grow your career](#) at UC Berkeley.

Departmental Overview

The Space Sciences Laboratory (SSL) is an Organized Research Unit (ORU) of the Berkeley campus reporting to the Vice Chancellor for Research. SSL's primary goal is to foster research in space-related sciences and to provide education for the next generation of space scientists. Research at SSL, led by Berkeley faculty and SSL Senior Fellows, focuses on experiments and observations carried out in space as well as theoretical and basic research.

The Mission Operations Team at the Space Sciences Lab operates multiple NASA science spacecraft now and is funded to operate additional ones through this decade, and beyond. In fact, later this decade we will be operating spacecraft in Low Earth orbit, Lunar Orbit, at Earth-Sun Lagrange distance, and Mars, **all at the same time**. We are looking for a new Ground Segment Lead. As the leader of our ground segment, you will be in charge of the team that manages all hardware and software in our mission operations system that we use to communicate with the spacecraft. This includes interaction with various government and commercial ground station providers, our own Berkeley Ground Station, and NASA's TDRSS and Deep Space Network. You will have the responsibility of ensuring that we stay at the bleeding edge of technology, on par or ahead of any "new space" companies (as we currently are). This role is for a highly motivated individual who wants to bring their vision to this position and lead junior engineers in executing our ambitious science goals.

Having wide-ranging satellite ground systems experience, covering both hardware (in charge of large Berkeley Ground Station facility) and specialized and esoteric software programming. Has an in-depth hardware knowledge to resolve the most complex issues with SSL's spacecraft missions and entire

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ground station network, including most of the hardware in the Mission Operations Center. Also required to work with NASA TDRS and the Deep Space Network. Works on the most complex Aerospace software and hardware issues with little or no campus precedent, where analysis of situations or data requires an in-depth evaluation of variable factors and often in a time- critical manner. Exercises judgment and independence in selecting methods, techniques and evaluation criteria for obtaining results, often in support of safeguarding a multi-million dollars flight mission. Is considered a critical subject matter expert at SSL and on campus and recognized as an expert in the eyes of SSL partners. Also manages the tasking of up to 5 employees.

Application Review Date

The First Review Date for this job is: May 23, 2025

Responsibilities

Mission Operations and Ground Systems Engineering

- Supervises and maintains the Berkeley Ground Station facility (hardware and software).
- Ultimately responsible for maintaining both the hardware and software that connects the Berkeley Mission Operations Center to third-party ground station networks around the world.
- Advanced Software Programming
- Performs the most complex and advanced software programming in the Mission Operations System at the Space Sciences Laboratory (SSL).
- Develops custom code unique to the SSL, or code that integrates SSL software tools with commercial or government-furnished tools.
- Oversees two-way encryption with space assets.

Systems Design and Development

- Designs, develops, modifies, and evaluates software and supporting hardware for functional areas that are highly complex and have broad, mission-wide impact.
- Helps maintain and evolve the multi-mission Mission Operations Center at SSL, as well as the Backup Mission Operations Center on the main campus.

Program and Partner Support

- Supports the flight mission's Program Manager, Systems Engineer, and Mission Operations leads at meetings with NASA and subcontractors as the lead presenter.

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- Travels for troubleshooting of hardware and software systems as required.

NASA and Mission Collaboration

- Supports all NASA reviews and ongoing meetings with spacecraft partners (across all missions) as the subject matter expert on Mission Operations System ground systems.
- Leads multiple lower-level professional engineers, technicians, and students.

Technical Oversight and Compliance

- Works with spacecraft management to meet technical requirements within schedule and budget.
- Revises the design and verification as needed.
- Provides all design and verification data to NASA for integration with the spacecraft.

Required Qualifications

- Expert-level (system architect) knowledge (full stack) of software/applications programming relevant to all parts of a satellite ground systems network. This includes experience with space asset encryption and anomaly resolution.
- Experience working with IT people and assets (hardware and software) that interface with space ground systems network and Mission Operations Center (e.g., dockers, virtual machines, use of cloud vs. on-prem, failover scenarios, etc.)
- Experience working with Ground Station providers as this position will require engaging with such providers around the world (both commercial and government) to develop the hardware or software capabilities needed to interface with these other provider networks.
- Skills in supervising staff and establishing work objectives.

Education/Training:

- Advanced degree in related area and / or equivalent experience / training.

Preferred Qualifications

- Knowledge of the latest software and hardware advances in the field as a means to keep UCB SSL at a competitive edge in the industry.

Education/Training:

- Post-graduate level course work in related area preferred.

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Salary & Benefits

For information on the comprehensive benefits package offered by the University, please visit the University of California's Compensation & Benefits website.

Under California law, the University of California, Berkeley is required to provide a reasonable estimate of the compensation range for this role and should not offer a salary outside of the range posted in this job announcement. This range takes into account the wide range of factors that are considered in making compensation decisions including but not limited to experience, skills, knowledge, abilities, education, licensure and certifications, analysis of internal equity, and other business and organizational needs. It is not typical for an individual to be offered a salary at or near the top of the range for a position. Salary offers are determined based on final candidate qualifications and experience.

- The budgeted salary range that the University reasonably expects to pay for this position is \$175,000.00 - \$210,000.00. The full pay scale for this job classification is \$134,200.00 - \$263,400.00. This is an exempt, monthly-paid position.
- This is a full-time, Career position that is eligible full UC benefits.
- This is an on-site position at the University of California, Berkeley - Space Sciences Laboratory.

How to Apply

To apply, please submit your resume and cover letter.

Conviction History Background

This is a designated position requiring fingerprinting and a background check due to the nature of the job responsibilities. Berkeley does hire people with conviction histories and reviews information received in the context of the job responsibilities. The University reserves the right to make employment contingent upon successful completion of the background check.

SB 791 and AB 810 Misconduct Disclosure

As a condition of employment, the final candidate who accepts a conditional offer of employment will be required to disclose if they have been subject to any final administrative or judicial decisions within the last seven years determining that they committed any misconduct; received notice of any

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allegations or are currently the subject of any administrative or disciplinary proceedings involving misconduct; have left a position after receiving notice of allegations or while under investigation in an administrative or disciplinary proceeding involving misconduct; or have filed an appeal of a finding of misconduct with a previous employer.

"Misconduct" means any violation of the policies or laws governing conduct at the applicant's previous place of employment, including, but not limited to, violations of policies or laws prohibiting sexual harassment, sexual assault, or other forms of harassment, discrimination, dishonesty, or unethical conduct, as defined by the employer. For reference, below are UC's policies addressing some forms of misconduct:

[UC Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment Policy](#)

[UC Anti-Discrimination Policy](#)

[Abusive Conduct in the Workplace](#)

Other Information

This is not a visa opportunity.

Equal Employment Opportunity

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, protected veteran status, or other protected status under state or federal law. For more information about your rights as an applicant, please see the [U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission](#) poster.

The [University of California's Affirmative action policy](#).

The [University of California's Anti-Discrimination policy](#).

To apply, visit

https://careerspub.universityofcalifornia.edu/psc/ucb/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/HRS_HRAM_FL.HRS.CG_S

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Contact Information

Please reference Academickeys in your cover letter when
applying for or inquiring about this job announcement.

Contact

N/A

University of California, Berkeley

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