

Training Opportunity for Polish National Trainees

Reference	Title	Duty Station
PL-2023-HRE-OA	European Astronaut Crew Operations Support	EAC, Cologne

Overview of the mission:

The European Space Agency (ESA) is Europe's gateway to space. Its mission is to shape the development of Europe's space capability and ensure that investment in space continues to deliver benefits to the citizens of Europe and the world.

ESA's European Astronaut Centre (EAC) in Cologne, Germany, is the European centre of excellence for astronaut training, operations and space medicine. Home to ESA's astronaut corps, it equips Europeans to fly to the International Space Station today, while preparing for an exciting future of space exploration beyond low Earth orbit.

The crew support team is an integral part of the Astronaut Operations team. Crew Support team members working out of EAC ensure astronauts are able to focus on their missions by taking care of details such as the development of space food, launch and return preparations, and communications between astronauts and their families during space missions.

Overview of field of activity proposed:

As a Polish National Trainee, you will be tasked with supporting astronauts on mission at launch and landing campaigns, as well as coordinating activities outside of their spaceflight missions. The support you provide to Astronauts will extend to their families as well. Your ability to maintain a high level of confidentiality when dealing with Astronauts, internal Human Spaceflight topics and VIPs is paramount.

As part of your on-the-job learning, you will undergo training to qualify as EUROCOM (Astronaut Communicator) and an ECOS (EAC Crew Operations Support) Flight Controller by testing technologies that support astronauts in their work in space.

You will also further develop and revise crew support procedures and documents. Administrative support to the current ESA Mission crew, project astronauts and the Astronaut Reserve will be a key element of your role.

You will gain a thorough understanding of ESA as an organization as well as the function of the crew support team in enabling ESA's human spaceflight missions.

You will also gain in-depth knowledge about basic spacecraft design aspects, processes, project milestones, and real-time operations on ISS.

Required Skills and Qualifications:

- Recently earned Master's degree in an engineering, medical or scientific discipline preferred, though other disciplines will also be considered.
- Fluency in English.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills.
- Ability and affinity to work in a multicultural environment, both autonomously and as part of a team.
- Ability to discreetly handle sensitive and confidential information relating to astronauts and internal matters.
- Highly organised with excellent time management skills.
- A high level of emotional intelligence.
- A critical thinker with strong problem-solving capability.
- A proactive operator with can-do attitude.
- Adaptable with a high level of flexibility to adjust to changing timelines and protocols, willingness to sometimes support activities after hours and on weekends.
- Willingness to travel internationally, sometimes on short notice.

Desirable (non-mandatory) attributes:

- Fluency in a language (additional to English) that is represented in the European Astronaut Corps or Reserve.
- Familiarity with ESA and human spaceflight operations.