



**Position:** Optics Senior Technician / Adaptive Optics Engineer

### Job Description

The Large Binocular Telescope Observatory (LBTO) is looking for candidates for the position of Adaptive Optics Senior Technician / Adaptive Optics Engineer.

The Large Binocular Telescope (LBT) represents a major advance in astronomical research capabilities. The LBT will be the largest, most powerful optical/infrared telescope in the world. LBT adaptive optics systems will provide diffraction-limited imaging capability with the resolution of a 22.8-meter telescope. Its unique binocular design and state-of-the-art optics technology provide opportunities for innovative engineers to expand their experience beyond typical applications.

The successful candidate will become part of the LBT Adaptive Optics Group. He or she will, after appropriate training, become responsible for maintenance and operations support of LBT Adaptive Optics system consisting of two Adaptive Secondary mirrors and associated Wavefront Sensing equipment. The ideal candidate will have experience with modern telescopes or similar projects, knowledge of and experience with Adaptive Optics systems, and must also be available for practical problem solving and extensive commissioning activities especially with the ARGOS laser guide star system on the Observatory site at Mt Graham, Safford, AZ. Experience with handling of fragile optics, optics alignment, modern electronic controls and/or adaptive optics software are considered strong assets. Assignments and position title depend on qualifications of candidate. Position reports to LBT Adaptive Optics group manager.

The work schedule will consist of regular shifts at the LBT site on Mt. Graham at an elevation of 10,470 feet as well as at the LBT Observatory offices in Tucson. The University of Arizona offers a superior benefits package including significant tuition reduction at all three of the State of Arizona public universities to employees, their spouses and children.

### Duties and Responsibilities

- Maintenance and Operations support of LBT AO systems.
- Active contribution to performance and reliability optimization of LBT Adaptive Optics system.
- Adaptive Optics System spare parts management.
- Support of optics handling and coating process.

- Interaction with staff at LBTO, Steward Observatory and other LBT partner institutions, including the Italian companies that developed key system components.
- Manage project assignments independently and interface with engineering and scientific staff to develop and meet specifications.
- Participation in future upgrade projects, and integration with Laser Guide Star system currently under development.

#### Minimum Qualifications

- Minimum three years of hands-on experience with Adaptive Optics systems.
- Proficiency with computers and electronic document archiving tools.
- Demonstrated ability to work with and/or control of delicate optics.
- Systematic, organized and efficient working approach.

#### Preferred Qualifications

- Degree in applicable field of Engineering or Physics.
- Demonstrated Engineering experience in the context of Adaptive Optics systems for large telescopes or similar projects; minimum is 5 years.
- Experience with modern telescope control systems software and hardware.

#### Application Details

<https://www.uacareertrack.com/applicants/jsp/shared/frameset/Frameset.jsp?time=1345582969350>