Earth Science
University of Colorado Boulder



November News & Fall Break Approaching

November is here, and Fall Break is just around the corner! There's plenty happening in Earth Science this week, including department updates, upcoming events, research opportunities, funding announcements, and important deadlines. Take a look at what's new, mark your calendars, and get ready for a well-deserved break!

Important

Spring 2027 Registration!

Registration for Spring 2027 is about to be underway, make sure you're ready to enroll in your next round of classes! Check your Buff Portal for your assigned enrollment date and any registration holds. We strongly encourage you to reach out to your academic advisor to review your degree progress and course plans ahead of time. Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule a meeting soon to stay on track for a smooth registration process.

Guest Speakers & Events

Earth Sciences Colloquium:
Dr. Anne Fetrow



Topic: Tracking Mono Lake Evaporation across the Common Era using Triple Oxygen Isotope Geochemistry

Join us on **11/11/26** in room **380** for our weekly colloquium featuring Dr. Anne Fetrow from Colorado College!

Dr. Fetrow will present research on the history of evaporation at Mono Lake throughout the Common Era, using triple oxygen isotope geochemistry to investigate changes in lake conditions over time.

As always, snacks and drinks will be available starting at 12:00 PM, and the talk will be held from **12:20–1:20 PM**.

Coffee Social

This next Coffee Social will be held on the **2nd floor landing** area instead of 380. It will still begin at 10:30 and go until 11:30. Feel free to swing by grab some coffee, tea, donuts, and bagels!



Career Opportunities

SEG Professional Development and Research Opportunities

The Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG) offers several programs to help student geoscientists develop professional skills, gain hands-on experience, and connect with industry professionals.

- **SEG EVOLVE Program:** A six-month, mentor-guided program where students work with real energy datasets in Energy Exploration or Carbon Solutions. **Applications due November 8th, 2026**.
- **SEG Field Camps:** Gain hands-on geophysics and fieldwork experience while applying classroom knowledge to real-world projects. **Applications due February 1st, 2027**.

- **SEG Near Surface Research Award Grant:** Funding for near-surface geophysics research expenses, including fieldwork, laboratory studies, equipment, travel, and data processing. **Applications open January 1st, 2027**.

Explore program details and application information through the **Society of Exploration Geophysicists**.

Learn More & Apply Here!

Find More Information Here!

CU Science Discovery: Summer 2027 Instructor Applications

CU Science Discovery is recruiting K–8 and high school instructors for Summer 2027. This STEM education outreach program at CU Boulder offers an opportunity to engage students in hands-on science, technology, engineering, and math activities while connecting them with research and inspiring future scientists and innovators. Applicants can review specific high school subject areas and submit their applications through the link below.

Apply: **Summer 2027 Instructor Application**

Questions? Contact Kaylyn Murphy at **kaylyn.murphy@colorado.edu**.

CU Science Discovery: STEM Pathfinders Guide Opportunity



CU Science Discovery is seeking CU Boulder graduate students, postdocs, and faculty to serve as Department Guides for STEM Pathfinders, a two-week summer program introducing high school students to bioscience and engineering pathways. Guides develop and facilitate a two-day, eight-hour interactive experience highlighting their field through activities such as research presentations, career panels, lab tours, and hands-on demonstrations.

Summer 2027 program dates:

- **Engineering Pathfinders: June 21–July 2**
- **Biosciences Pathfinders: July 12–23**

Guides receive a $800 stipend for planning and facilitating one two-day session, or $1,000 for two sessions, plus a $500 materials budget. Enrollment is capped at 24 students.

Get involved: **Complete the Guide Interest Form**.
See the **Department Planning Guide** for additional details.

Questions? Contact Steven Denham at **steven.denham@colorado.edu**.

CU Science Discovery: Mentor High School STEM Researchers

Learn More & Apply Here!

CU Science Discovery is recruiting CU Boulder and CU Anschutz faculty, research staff, and graduate students to mentor high school students interested in gaining hands-on STEM research experience. Each mentor works with two students on a project that supports the lab's current research activities, helping students explore research and develop scientific skills.

Apply: CU Research Mentor Application

For questions about mentoring or the STEM Pathfinders Guide opportunity, contact Steven Denham at **steven.denham@colorado.edu**.

Paid Summer Internship Opportunities with the Bureau of Reclamation

The Bureau of Reclamation's Technical Service Center in Lakewood, Colorado, offers an **11-week paid summer internship** program for undergraduate and graduate students, with competitive pay based on education level. Past intern projects have included reservoir sedimentation modeling, geomorphic mapping, river restoration, paleo-seismology, hydraulic modeling, applied hydrology, and GIS and remote sensing.

Meet Reclamation representatives at the CU Earth Science Symposium on **November 7th** to learn more about these opportunities.

Application deadline: January 3rd
Learn more: **Bureau of Reclamation Internship Program**

Questions? Contact Melissa Foster at **mfoster@usbr.gov**.

Postdoctoral Position in Space Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis

Washington University in St. Louis invites applications for a postdoctoral position through the McDonnell Center for the Space Sciences (MCSS), beginning in July 2027. Research areas include astromaterials, cosmochemistry and meteoritics, astrophysics, planetary science, particle and nuclear physics, cosmology and gravitation, and Earth as a planet. The position offers an initial one-year appointment, with the possibility of renewal for a second year, along with funding for research expenses and travel.

Eligibility: Applicants must hold a PhD or expect to graduate by May 2027.

Application deadline: *Saturday, December 5th, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. ET.*

View the full position description and application instructions

Postdoctoral Researcher — Uranium Chemistry & Nuclear Forensics

Oak Ridge National Laboratory is seeking a postdoctoral researcher in uranium chemistry and nuclear forensics. The position is well suited for candidates with mineralogy skills, despite the position title. The postdoc will be supervised by Tyler Louise Spano, PhD.

Learn More!

Cecil H. and Ida M. Green Foundation Postdoctoral Scholars

The Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics (IGPP) at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego, is accepting applications for up to two Cecil H. and Ida M. Green Foundation Postdoctoral Scholar positions starting in 2027.



Appointments are for one year, with the possibility of renewal for a second year based on satisfactory

performance and available funding.

Compensation includes a $75,000 annual salary, benefits, and $3,000 per year in discretionary research funds.

Application Deadline: Sunday, November 8th, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time
View position details and apply

Questions? Contact Matti Morzfeld at greenfound@ucsd.edu.

Application (Here)

Postdoctoral Research Fellow — University of Bergen

UNIVERSITETET I BERGEN

The University of Bergen is seeking a fully funded Postdoctoral Research Fellow for a 3-year position studying the long-term interactions between tectonic deformation and glacial erosion in mountain belts, with a focus on the Southern Andes. The project will use coupled geodynamic and glacial erosion models as part of the interdisciplinary ICICLE project.

Learn More & Apply

Career Opportunity

Lakehead UNIVERSITY

Tenure-Track Assistant Professor in Petrology & Geochemistry

Lakehead University is hiring a tenure-track Assistant Professor with research interests in petrology and geochemistry. The position emphasizes field-based research complemented by quantitative analysis, laboratory experiments, and/or computational modeling, with preference for expertise complementing strengths in critical metal systems and Precambrian geology.

Application deadline: Jan. 12th, 2027

View the job posting

PhD Fellowship Opportunities in Geoscience Education Research at Auburn University

Learn More & Apply Here!

Auburn University's Geocognition Laboratory is recruiting two PhD fellows in Geoscience Education Research (GER) through the NSF Education Graduate Fellowship Program (EGFP).

Applicants must be U.S. citizens and have previously received an honorable mention in the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) in any field.

Interested students can contact Professor Karen S. McNeal at **kryker@seoe.sc.edu** with questions.

Learn more and apply: **NSF ETAP Fellowship Opportunity**

PhD Position in Geoscience Education Research at the University of Copenhagen

Learn More & Apply Here!

The University of Copenhagen's Department of Science Education is seeking applicants for a PhD position in Geoscience Education Research (GER) at the University Science Education Center.

Applicants must hold a master's degree in geoscience or geoscience education research and a bachelor's degree in geoscience.

Application deadline: Sunday, November 29th, 2026

View the position details and apply

For questions, contact Professor Kristine Cecile Harper at **kch@ind.ku.dk**

Open-Rank Faculty Positions in Geosciences at Virginia Tech

Learn More Details & Apply Here!

Virginia Tech's Department of Geosciences is seeking faculty applicants at the assistant, associate, or professor level to advance research on critical, strategic, and economically important elements and mineral resources.

Areas of interest include: *mineralogy, geochemistry, ore-forming processes, fluid-rock interactions, mineral exploration, and environmentally responsible resource development.*

Application review begins **December 14th, 2026**, and continues until the positions are filled. Required materials include a cover letter, CV, detailed research plan, teaching philosophy statement, and contact information for at least 3 references.

For questions about the search, contact Mark J. Caddick at **caddick@vt.edu**.

Tenure-Track Assistant Professor Position in Structural Geology/Tectonics

Learn More & Apply!

Northern Illinois University's Department of Earth, Atmosphere and Environment invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor in structural geology, tectonics, geophysics/geodynamics, or a related field, beginning in August 2027.

The successful candidate will develop an externally funded research program, teach structural geology and other courses aligned with departmental needs, and mentor undergraduate and graduate students. Applicants should have research interests that complement existing departmental strengths in mineralogy, petrology, geochemistry, or mineral physics.

Application Deadline: Review of applications begins December 1st, 2026, and continues until the position is filled.

Application Materials: Letter of interest, CV, teaching statement, research statement, and contact information for 3 references.

Faculty Position in Stable Isotope Geochemistry | University of New Mexico

Learn More & Apply!

The Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at the University of New Mexico invites applications for a full-time faculty position in Stable Isotope Geochemistry at the Assistant or Associate Professor level, beginning in August 2027.

The successful candidate will establish an externally funded research program using stable isotope methods to investigate Earth or planetary systems, contribute to the

University's Center for Stable Isotopes, and teach and mentor undergraduate and graduate students.

Candidates should have hands-on experience with stable isotope instrumentation, laboratory techniques, and analytical workflows. A Ph.D. in geochemistry, geology, Earth and planetary sciences, chemistry, or a related field is required by the start date.

Priority Deadline: December 13th, 2026
Position Requisition Number: 37944

Assistant Professor in Critical Minerals / Economic Geology at UT San Antonio

Learn More & Apply Here!

The Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at the University of Texas at San Antonio invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in Critical Minerals/Economic Geology, beginning in Fall 2027.
Applicants should have a Ph.D. in Geological Sciences or a related field by the time of appointment, with expertise in economic geology, mineralogy, or a related area. The successful candidate will develop a research program focused on mineral resource formation, exploration, extraction, and sustainability, and teach undergraduate and graduate courses, including Mineralogy.

Application review begins November 15th, 2026, and continues until the position is filled.

Two Tenure-Track Geosciences Faculty Positions



Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction, Colorado, is hiring for two tenure-track Assistant Professor of Geosciences positions beginning in August 2027. The department is seeking applicants with expertise in the following areas:

- **Hydrology and Water Resources: Assistant Professor of Geosciences**
- **Structural Geology: Assistant Professor of Geosciences**

Applications are due December 13th, 2026, at 11:59 PM MST. These opportunities may be of interest to graduate students and researchers considering academic faculty positions.

Institution: Colorado Mesa University, Grand Junction, CO

Hydrogeology & Water Resources

Structural Geology

Paid Summer 2027 Internships

The Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) Nuclear Explosion Monitoring (NEM) program is seeking master's and Ph.D. students for paid summer 2027 internship opportunities through the AFRL Scholars Program. Available research projects include:

- Modeling Nuclear Explosions Using Advanced Numerical Methods
- Nuclear Explosion Monitoring
- AI/ML Approaches for Seismic Source Estimation and Geophysical Processing

Interns will have the opportunity to work on research projects related to nuclear explosion monitoring, seismic analysis, and advanced computational methods.

Eligibility: Applicants must be U.S. citizens, as internship positions are located at an Air Force Base.

Deadline: January 11th, 2027

Learn More & Apply Here!

Scientific Writing Course Offering - Spring 2027!

ATOC 6800: Scientific Writing -- Spring 2027

Tuesdays 8:45am-11:15am in SEEC S126

Instructor: Dr. Aneesh Subramanian (**aneeshcs@colorado.edu**)
Communicating scientific results is a critical part of our work, yet it often feels overwhelming, inefficient, and stressful. Without a systematic approach, it is easy to fall into a cycle of procrastination and frustration.
This course is designed to change that. By exploring practical strategies and the underlying psychology of communication, we will demystify the writing process, help you overcome cognitive biases, and ultimately make sharing your science an enjoyable experience.

In this course, you will:

- **Develop a systematic writing habit that minimizes procrastination and maximizes efficiency.**
- **Identify and overcome cognitive biases (like the "curse of knowledge") that prevent you from seeing your work from an audience's perspective.**
- **Tailor your message to highlight the importance and validity of your results for specific audiences.**
- **Refine your visual and oral communication, developing high-quality posters and PowerPoint presentations.**

Course Requirement: This is a hands-on, active workshop. Enrolling students **must** have an active research project ready to be written up and be willing to share drafts and participate in peer review with classmates. You will leave the course with a polished piece of scientific communication ready for impact.

Funding & Fellowship

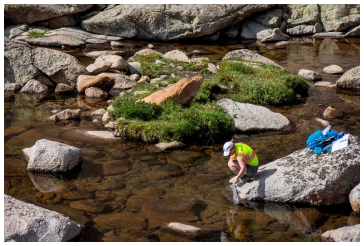
SEG Scholarships

The Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG) offers scholarships to support students pursuing studies in geophysics and related fields. Awards are available to students at different stages of their education and can help cover educational expenses, allowing students to focus on coursework, research, and professional development.

Application Deadline: March 1st, 2027

Learn More & Apply Here!

2027 Bailey Research Fellowship – Rocky Mountain National Park



Rocky Mountain National Park and the Rocky Mountain Conservancy are accepting applications for the 2027 Bailey Research Fellowship, which supports graduate students conducting research in Rocky Mountain National Park. The fellowship provides park housing, a living stipend, and funding for research supplies and conference attendance.
Fellows will conduct research that supports park management and decision-making and communicate their findings to the public.

Application Deadline: January 4th, 2027

For eligibility requirements and application information, visit the:
Bailey Research Fellowship website

Apply Here!

Nov. 6 — Graduate Student Research Grants Deadline

The Graduate School is accepting applications for research grants of up to **$1,200** to support graduate student research, scholarship and creative work across disciplines; applications are due Nov. 6 at 11:59 p.m. MT. **Why it matters:** These grants can help NSCI graduate students cover targeted research expenses associated with thesis and dissertation projects, and faculty mentors may want to encourage students to begin preparing applications now!

Graduate Student Research Grants Information

DoD SMART Scholarship

The SMART Scholarship provides funding opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students pursuing STEM degrees. Applicants must be citizens of the U.S., Australia, Canada, New Zealand, or the United Kingdom.

Deadline: 5 p.m. ET on the first Friday in December

Learn more

Fellowship Resources

Looking for more funding opportunities?

Pathways to Science provides fellowship listings, while the **CU Boulder Graduate School National Fellowship Opportunities page** and **Awards & Grants page** feature external and internal funding opportunities.

Learn More

WHOI Postdoctoral Scholarships

(WHOI) is accepting applications for 18-month Postdoctoral Scholarships for recent PhD graduates in fields including oceanography, geology, geophysics, chemistry, engineering, biology, physics, and related disciplines. Special 2027 scholarships will also support research in Marine Policy and Ocean Carbon Cycling.

Learn More & Apply!

Amelia Earhart Fellowship



The Zonta International Amelia Earhart Fellowship supports women pursuing Ph.D./doctoral degrees in aerospace engineering and space sciences. The **$12,000 fellowship** may be relevant to students in fields such as geological sciences, astrobiology, remote sensing, planetary science, and geodesy whose research is applied to space sciences. Applicants must be enrolled full-time in a doctoral program and have completed at least one year of study or hold a master's degree in an aerospace-applied field. **Applications are due November 15th, 2026!**

Learn More & Apply!

SPIKE Center Sustainability Education Grants



CU Boulder's SPIKE Center is offering grants to support the development of experiential learning and sustainability education activities. Graduate teaching assistants and postdoctoral researchers can apply for Tier 1 grants of **$2,000** to develop and incorporate sustainability-focused teaching activities, including potential summer student support. Applicants must identify a faculty member who can continue the activity in future years to ensure its long-term sustainability. Learn more and explore eligibility requirements at the **SPIKE Center Grants page**.

Kahn Family Community Teaming Fund: Proposals -- Due December 11th

The College of Arts and Sciences invites faculty, staff, and undergraduate and graduate students to apply for the Kahn Family Community Teaming Fund, which provides up to $1,500 for community outreach activities involving College of Arts and Sciences faculty, staff, and students.

View More Information

Eligible activities may include community service initiatives, K–12 school programs, public-facing university events, conferences, and workshops. Funded activities must use the funds by June 30, 2028.

Proposal deadline: ***Friday, December 11th, 2026, at 5 p.m. MT.*** Applications must include a description of the proposed activity (up to 1,000 words) and a brief budget (up to one page). Submit proposals and questions to Dana Takeuchi at **Dana.Takeuchi@colorado.edu**.

Graduate School Student Travel Grant

Learn More & Apply!

CU Boulder's Graduate School offers travel grants to eligible graduate students presenting their own research at conferences, meetings, or similar events outside Colorado.

Awards provide up to $650 for travel within the U.S., $800 for travel to Canada or Mexico, or $1,000 for other international destinations.

Application deadline: December 4th, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. MT. This application cycle supports travel occurring January 15–May 30, 2027.

Graduate Fellowships for STEM Development (GFSD)

The Graduate Fellowships for STEM Development (GFSD) supports graduate students pursuing advanced degrees in STEM through financial assistance, professional experiences, mentorship, and connections with sponsoring organizations. The fellowship program offers up to six years of support, including tuition, fees, and an annual stipend, for eligible U.S. citizens pursuing doctoral degrees in the physical sciences and related engineering fields.

GFSD
Advancing Research, Building Discovery

Application:

Application Deadline: January 31, 2027

Laura Bassi Scholarship: Winter 2026

Laura Bassi Scholarship

The Laura Bassi Scholarship provides editorial assistance to graduate students and junior academics researching neglected topics of study across all disciplines. Currently enrolled master's and doctoral students, as well as academics within their first five years of full-time employment, are eligible to apply.

Application deadline: November 15th, 2026
Results announced: December 4th, 2026

Applicants must submit a completed application form and CV through the online application portal. Visit the **Laura Bassi Scholarship website** for eligibility details and application instructions. The **scholarship poster** is also available.

Additionally, the Bassi Foundation Press, an open-access publisher, is now accepting book proposals. Learn more at **bassi.foundation**.

Apply Here!

NASA SCoPE: Science Engagement Funding and Opportunities

NASA SCoPE at Arizona State University is offering funded opportunities for graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, research scientists, and early-career faculty interested in science communication and public engagement. Opportunities include SCoPE Link, a funded year-long science-engagement cohort for astrophysics graduate students and postdocs offering stipends of up to $6,000 (applications open December 1), and outreach mini-grants of up to $10,000 for Ph.D. candidates, postdocs, research scientists, and faculty conducting NASA-aligned research (Notices of Intent open December 15). Researchers can also join the NASA SCoPE community for monthly discussions, networking, and collaboration opportunities.

Free Information Session: **Tuesday, November 17th**, at 11 a.m. Arizona time / 10 a.m. Pacific / 1 p.m. Eastern. Attend to learn more about eligibility, funding, and opportunities to get involved.

Register for the free information session

Public Speaking Workshop

Elevate Your Public Speaking Voice

Want to strengthen your public speaking skills? Join Audra Barber on:

Wednesday, November 11th, from 1–2:30 PM in the C4C Flatirons Room (N301) for a workshop covering strategies for managing nerves, improving vocal delivery, and capturing your audience's attention.

Learn practical techniques to communicate your research more clearly and make your next presentation more impactful. Open to all graduate students.

Register here

Writing Workshop

Grad+ Writing Boost: One-Day Session

Looking to make progress on your writing before fall break? Join Grad+ on **Wednesday, November 18th, from 9 AM–3 PM in the C4C Flatirons Room (N301)** for a focused day of goal setting, dedicated writing time, and support from fellow graduate students. Whether you're working on a dissertation, article, proposal, or coursework, this is an opportunity to build writing momentum before the break. Coffee and lunch will be provided for those who RSVP, while supplies last.

Register here

Opportunities Outside the Department

Learn More & Apply!

Head Tenure-Track Assistant Professor in Hydro-geophysics at Louisiana State University

Louisiana State University's Department of Geology and Geophysics is seeking a tenure-track Assistant Professor specializing in hydro-geophysics. The department welcomes applicants who study water-related geophysical processes or apply geophysical

methods to hydrogeology, across a broad range of Earth and planetary settings. Candidates should have a Ph.D. in hydrology, hydrogeology, geophysics, Earth science, or a related field by the time of appointment. Postdoctoral experience and a record of independent research are preferred.

Application review begins January 1st, 2027, with an anticipated start date of August 2027.

Application materials include a cover letter, CV, research and teaching statements, and contact information for three references.

Applicants must also complete a screening questionnaire after submitting their materials.

SEG Student Chapter Leadership, Outreach, and Recognition Opportunities

The Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG) offers several opportunities for student chapter members to build leadership skills, organize outreach activities, and receive recognition for their work.

Learn More & Apply Here!

- Student Chapter Report & Best Student Chapter Award: Submit your chapter's annual report and apply for recognition of its activities and accomplishments. **Deadline: December 31st, 2026.**
- SEG/Chevron Student Leadership Symposium: Develop practical leadership skills and connect with other student chapter leaders. **Applications open November 15th, 2026.**
- SEG Student Chapter Outreach Grant: Receive funding for geoscience outreach projects serving K–12 students and community colleges. **Applications open December 1st, 2026.**

Visit the **Society of Exploration Geophysicists** for additional information.



Spring 2027 Virtual Marine Geology & Geophysics Course

Interested in marine geology or geophysics? Applications are open for a 10-week virtual course focused on mid-ocean ridge processes and the tools scientists use to study the seafloor. The course is equivalent to a 1-credit online lecture/discussion course and is open to advanced undergraduate and graduate students.

- When: Tuesdays, 2–3 PM ET, February 9–April 13, 2027
- Where: Online via Zoom
- Topics: Mid-ocean ridges, seafloor spreading, lithosphere structure, hydrothermal vents, fault mechanics, and marine science careers.
- Methods: Multibeam bathymetry, marine seismology, seafloor sampling, geodesy, and deep-submergence techniques.

Application Deadline: December 31st, 2026
Apply Here

Questions? Contact Shreya Kanakiya at **shreya.kanakiya@bc.edu**.

Map Library Events & Exhibitions

Something Missing From the Newsletter?



Have an announcement, event, opportunity, publication, or other news you'd like to share with the graduate community? Submit it for consideration in an upcoming newsletter! Please use the Newsletter Submission Google Form to send us your information.

Be sure to submit your announcement by **5 p.m**. **Tuesday** to be considered for that week's newsletter.

Add to Newsletter!

Miss a Newsletter?
Check out past newsletters at **this link**!

Just So You Know...

The graduate newsletter will be sent out each Thursday, so check back weekly for news, job and funding opportunities, and messages from your faculty. If you have something you would like to share in a future edition of the newsletter, please email **earthscience@colorado.edu**.

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