Section Head, Section for Antarctic Sciences  
Office of Polar Program  
National Science Foundation (NSF)  
Alexandria, VA

NSF’s Directorate for Geosciences (GEO) seeks candidates for the position of Section Head, Section for Antarctic Sciences in the Office of Polar Program (OPP). The Head of the Section serves as a senior member of the Office of Polar Programs (OPP) management team, is responsible to the Office Director for the overall planning, management, and commitment of budgeted program funds for the Section. The incumbent provides leadership to the Section, which supports the discipline-based programs Antarctic glaciology, astrophysics and geospace sciences, ocean and atmospheric sciences, earth sciences, and organisms and ecosystems, as well as programs for Antarctic integrated system science, instrumentation and research facilities and cyberinfrastructure. The incumbent guides the Section in formulating and implementing its research objectives and manages its administrative, fiscal and personnel aspects. The incumbent also works in close collaboration with the Section Head for Antarctic Infrastructure and Logistics and with the OPP Front Office Integration Team on matters concerning environment, safety, health, communications, budget, and policy in implementing research objectives requiring an Antarctic presence, and with the Section Head for Arctic Sciences in supporting research activities occurring at both poles.

Appointment to this position is contingent on satisfactory completion of a physical examination according to the standards used for the USAP’s medical/dental screening for travel to Antarctica.

With a staff of approximately 60, consisting of three sections that is supported by a Front Office Integration Team. OPP administers an annual budget of about $450 million. The Office supports research in all areas of fundamental science and engineering in Polar Regions through research grants and awards to universities and other research organizations and through the provision for logistics support and infrastructure in the remote Polar Regions. Additional information about the Office’s activities may be found here.

Appointment to this Senior Executive Service position may be on a career or on a one to three-year limited-term basis, with a salary range of $172,508 to $189,500. Alternatively, the incumbent may be assigned under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) provisions. The job opportunity announcement (GEO-EXEC-2021-0006) with position requirements and application procedures may be viewed at: https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/586654000. Applications must be received by January 29, 2021.

NSF is an equal opportunity employer.