

Telescope Access Program

TAP Guide to Open Time Observing Proposal Opportunities

Because the Telescope Access Program cannot fulfill all the observing needs of the Chinese community, we encourage astronomers to propose for open time on international facilities. Although the following telescopes are not part of the Telescope Access Program, they all accept proposals from non-partner institutions through open time. The following is a partial list of optical-IR facilities compiled as a resource for our community. We encourage you to submit proposals if these facilities are matched to your science.

US NOAO: 31 March 2014, 11:59pm, MST (<http://ast.noao.edu/observing/proposal-info>)

In 2014B, NOAO provides access to KPNO, WIYN, CTIO, SOAR, Gemini, Subaru and the AAT. Note that proposals can also be made directly to Subaru and AAT (see below).

US Gemini: 31 March 2014, 11:59pm, MST (<http://www.gemini.edu/node/12176>)

US time on Gemini (~50% of total time) is "open skies", which means that PIs from any country can apply for the US share. Proposals must be submitted through the Phase I Tool (PIT). Oversubscription for Gemini-South has traditionally been lower than that for Gemini-North. This may be a consideration for programs with equatorial targets.

Subaru Normal/Intensive Program: 7 March 2014, 12:00 (noon), Japan Standard Time

Subaru Service Program: 11 April 2014, 12:00 (noon), Japan Standard Time

<http://subarutelescope.org/Observing/Proposals/Submit/call.html>

Roughly 20% of Subaru time is open to the international community.

European Southern Observatory: 27 March 2014, 12 noon, CET

ESO has a large suite of telescopes and instruments. Proposals are judged on scientific merit, irrespective of institutional affiliation.

<https://www.eso.org/sci/publications/announcements/sciann14006.html>

Australian Astronomical Observatory: 17 March 2014, 17:00 (UTC+10)

<http://www.aao.gov.au/astro/applying.html>

The AAT has classical and service observing modes. Service observing is for programs requiring < 6 hours of observing time and are accepted every three months (for details, see

<http://www.aao.gov.au/local/www/service/service.html>). The newly-commissioned HERMES spectrograph is now available.

Isaac Newton Group of Telescopes (ING):

UK deadline: 24 March 2014, 24:00 UT

Spain deadline: 1 April 2014, 17:00 Canarian local time

http://www.ing.iac.es/Astronomy/observing/INGinfo_home.html

The ING has the 4.2m William Herschel and 2.5m Isaac Newton telescopes. The UK and Spanish TACs both receive international proposals.

Gran Telescopio Canarias: 1 April 2014, 17:00 Canarian local time

<http://www.gtc.iac.es/observing/calls.php>

This 10.4m telescope is still being developed, but some infrared instruments have been in use for a few years, and ~80% of its time in the coming semester will be dedicated to science observations. 5% of time on all Canary Island Telescopes is available for international teams.