

Call for Applications: 3-Month Research Stay at the Technical University of Vienna (April–June 2026)

We invite motivated students to apply for a **3-month research stay at the TU Wien**, taking place from **April to June 2026** with a capacity of up to 6 students.

This program is designed for students who wish to **enhance their programming and research skills** at TU Wien. Participants will have the opportunity to work in an international research environment and gain hands-on experience with real-world scientific challenges. We are committed to gender balance and strongly encourage women and underrepresented groups in STEM to apply.

Who can apply

- UEM Master's and PhD students in computer science, environmental engineering, natural sciences, or related fields.
- Applicants should have **basic Python programming experience** and a strong interest in applying these skills to research problems.
- Good command of English is required.
- Experience working with ASCAT surface soil moisture data.
- Interest in developing drought indicators using soil moisture, vegetation indices or precipitation data
- Familiarity with in-situ soil moisture data from ground-based stations (e.g., ISMN network) or experience with soil moisture data validation techniques
- Background in spatial/temporal data analysis

Program details

- **Duration:** 3 months (April–June 2026)
- **Location:** Technical University of Vienna, Austria
- Participants will work under the supervision of TU Wien researchers aligned with their own interests and skills.
- The program emphasizes **independent work**, collaborative problem-solving, and **skills development in programming and applied research**.
- Financial support (for travel and living costs) is available - details will be provided to selected candidates.

Application requirements

Applicants must submit the following documents as a **single PDF file** to **drysat@geo.tuwien.ac.at**:

1. **Motivation Letter** (max. 1 page) describing your research interests and what you aim to achieve during the stay.

2. CV (max. 1 page) describing your education and work experience with particular attention to the calls requirements.
3. **Research Proposal** (1–3 pages). For your reference, please follow the provided template.

Important dates

- **Application deadline: December 18, 2025**
- **Notification of results: December 23, 2025**
- **Program dates: April 1 – June 30, 2026**

For questions or further information, please contact: **`drysat@geo.tuwien.ac.at`**

Template for research proposal (max 3 pages)

1. Applicant Information

- **Name:**
- **Home University:**
- **Degree Program and Year:**
- **Email Address:**
- **Programming Languages / Tools you are familiar with:**

2. Research Title

Provide a concise and descriptive title for your proposed research project.

3. Motivation

Briefly describe the research area or problem you are interested in (approx. 150–200 words).

- What is the central question or challenge you want to explore?
- Why is this topic relevant or interesting to you?
- How does it relate to your background or studies?

4. Objectives

List the main goals of your research stay.

5. Methodology and Tools

Describe the methods, datasets, or programming tools you plan to use.

- What steps will you take to address your research question?
- Are there specific algorithms, models, or frameworks you plan to implement?

6. Expected Outcomes / Benefits

Explain how the research stay at TU Wien will support or advance your own research.

- Do you intend to use this research stay as part of an independent research project or thesis?
- If yes, who is your supervisor at UEM?
- Which aspects of your project can be improved through this stay?
- What skills, knowledge, or results do you aim to bring back to your home institution?
- How do you expect this experience to impact your thesis or academic development?

7. Work Plan

Month	Planned Activities	Expected Outcomes / Goals
April 2026		
May 2026		
June 2026		

8. References