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Telescope Access Program Call for Proposals

Semester 2023B

Proposal Deadline:

21 March 2023 23:59 China Standard Time

Proposed Semester:

CFHT, P200: 1 August 2023 to 31 January 2024

TAP Overview for 2023B

The Telescope Access Program (TAP) is now open for applications. TAP is a program to give China-based astronomers direct access to competitive instrumentation on intermediate-and large-aperture optical/infrared telescopes. We estimate that the following amount of time will be available in the 2023B semester:

<u>Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope</u> (3.6m, CFHT): 4-7 nights [August 2023 - January 2024] <u>Palomar Hale Telescope</u> (5.1m, P200): 16-18 nights [August 2023 - January 2024]

Important Notes

- **All proposals** should be uploaded to <u>tap.china-vo.org</u> (<u>user guide</u>). The completed proposal PDF file should be uploaded before the deadline.
- *CFHT 2023B note:* Please note that CFHT has a system outage scheduled for the 11, 12 and 13th of March 2023. However, Kealahou K1 should be available during the outage. You will find more details about the outage and the affected systems here.
- **CFHT proposals** should be *first* submitted through CFHT's Call for Proposal page: https://www.cfht.hawaii.edu/en/science/Proposals/, *then* uploaded to tap.china-vo.org (the official version with CFHT generated proposal numbers) before the deadline.
- CFHT nights are converted from instrument hours as follows: 1 night = 5 hrs WIRCam/MegaCam = 6.5 hrs SITELLE = 7 hrs SPIRou = 7.5 hrs ESPaDOnS. *Please indicate both the hours and nights* (e.g. SITELLE 3.5 hrs, 0.5 nights) *in your application cover sheet.*
- **P200 proposals** should use the latest LaTeX proposal template (v1.3.3), available here (zip). The zip package contains a blank template, a .cls file, and an example proposal. The uploaded pdf should also include the **Cover Sheet** at the beginning of the pdf: https://sites.astro.caltech.edu/observatories/coo/solicit/2023B/C200.html (available around 01 March, please do download the latest Cover Sheet!!!)

- If you or your CoI have successful TAP proposals before, relevant records should be added to 'My Report' and 'My Papers' at tap.china-vo.org. Missing report may affect your proposal's final evaluation.
- Near-infrared observations should request bright time. Any request for dark or gray time for near-infrared observations may cause the proposal to be rejected unless the request is justified explicitly with clear exposure time comparisons.
- Please check the available instruments on the telescope sites before applying! Some instruments may not be available in the upcoming semester.
- P200-CWI is a PI instrument and you will need to attach the PI's approval along with your proposal to be fully considered.
- If scheduling a time constrained proposal (e.g., exoplanet transit), it is good to check with the observatory if the instrument being requested can be scheduled at that time.
- The TAC will expect to see updates on any previously approved TAP programs. Please include such updates in the proposal, if applicable. Any proposals that do not list the current status of previous allocations to investigators will be penalized.
- Please read the full instructions before submission.

Time Allocation Policy

Starting 2020A, TAP is employing a new time allocation policy, listed as follows:

- 90% of the time equivalent to the total funding will be allocated among member institutes: CAMS, XMU, PKU, THU, USTC, NJU, YNU & SYSU.
- The remaining 10% of the total time are open to all Chinese-based institutes.

Advices for writing proposals

Please avoid these common mistakes in your proposals:

- No justification for the proposed instrument.
- No justification for lunar phase. In particular, any IR programs requesting time other than bright time **must justify very clearly** why.
- No justification for requested image quality/seeing for CFHT queue programs
- No justification for depth and signal-to-noise required for the science. It is **not** sufficient to simply say, "We require 2300s exposure time to reach S/N=10 for g=24 mag" if g=24 and S/N=10 are not also justified.
- No justification for sample size or survey area. Why does the program need 66 galaxies? Why not 50? Why not 20?
- What **specific** science question(s) will be answered by the program?
- No mention of the current status of the field, work done by others, or why the proposal would be a significant advancement over what has already been done.
- **Do not exceed the page limits**, or put information in the wrong sections of the proposal in order to circumvent page limits.
- Please include an update on all programs where the investigators have received TAP time

Any proposals that makes the above mistakes will have a much lower chance of being accepted.