

# Biographical Data Form

**Note: This is not a GSE Team Member Application (161-EN). Please obtain that application from the GSE chair of your sponsor district.**



Please print or type.

I am a GSE (check one)  Team leader  Team member

5440 SPONSOR DISTRICT NUMBER USA COUNTRY

Joanne FIRST NAME Skidmore LAST NAME (none) MIDDLE INITIAL

Male  Female Date of Birth 25 / 09 / 1974  
DAY MONTH YEAR

Geospatial Data Analyst VOCATION

1 YEARS IN VOCATION Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing TYPE OF INDUSTRY

970-402-4040 TELEPHONE RESIDENCE 970-482-4400 TELEPHONE BUSINESS

970-482-4499 FAX joanne.skidmore@gmail.com E-MAIL

English NATIVE LANGUAGE none ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES

single MARITAL STATUS (FOR HOST DISTRICT USE) none CHILDREN: HOW MANY?

NAMES AND AGES OF CHILDREN

Special accommodations

**None**

Special dietary or medical needs

**I don't drink alcohol – for personal reasons.**

My responsibilities at my job include

**I provide technical support and customer service for various aspects of acquisition, processing, analysis, streaming, and distribution of satellite imagery data through the DataDoors system.**

I would like to undertake the following vocational activities during the tour

**I would like to visit commercial businesses working in the remote sensing industry as well as any satellite-based engineering or space research institutions. I would really love to see a ground receiving station if there are any in Finland!**

I would prefer to be placed in the same homestay as a fellow team member.  No preference

## SUBMIT TO THE GSE CHAIR THREE MONTHS BEFORE DEPARTURE

The GSE chair should send copies of the team members' Biographical Data forms to the host district immediately upon selection of the team.

## A Short Biography – Joanne Skidmore

For the first 18 years of my life I lived in Kansas, a vast flat farmland in the middle of the US, all the time dreaming of how I was going to see the rest of the world and create a thrilling career along the way.

I graduated from university in Texas with a degree in Bioenvironmental Sciences that included studies in chemistry, biology, soil science, microbiology, ecology, genetics, physics – and still didn't know exactly what I wanted to pursue. Eventually I found the perfect fit in studying the atmosphere. Because of its role as mediator of the carbon exchange between oceans, soils, and plants, it is possible to understand how everything in the earth system is related with this perspective.

After three years of studying under a Graduate Research Fellowship and graduating with a Master of Science degree in Atmospheric Science at Colorado State University, I was invited to work at the Space Research Institute of the Netherlands by a Dutch colleague who was familiar with my research. I applied the same analysis techniques of inverse modeling to atmospheric data of carbon, only this time I had access to satellite-retrieved columns of information instead of grab data from the Earth's surface observational network. While working so close to the engineering of detectors and platforms, seeing firsthand the calibration and validation of raw photons remotely sensed from space and turned into geophysical data products – I became totally intrigued by all things related to satellites.

Since then I have taken a job in Fort Collins, Colorado, at a private company called – “*i-cubed: information integration and imaging LLC*”, where I work as a Geospatial Data Analyst and support the processing and management of proprietary satellite imagery. I have shifted my focus from using satellites to perform scientific research to working in the commercial industry of satellite technology that provides various geospatial data services to clients. It's very fast-paced and challenging, and I imagine myself working in this capacity for many years.

Through all the years since I left Kansas, I have also grown to love the mountains of Colorado and exploring the outdoors all over the world. When I was 21 years old, I climbed Mount Kenya and Kilimanjaro in Africa, and have since trekked the prayer circuit around Mount Kailash in Tibet, slept under a nomad tent in the Saharan sands of Morocco, and steamed in the hamams of Istanbul.

More close to home, I love reading non-fiction books about the character of American culture, playing the piano, and swimming, biking, skiing, and camping in the Western US. I hope to always continue the adventures of seeing new places, meeting new people, and finding unique opportunities to learn and grow. I am excited to be chosen as a Team Member (Alternate) for the Group Study Exchange and hope to proudly represent the tradition of this program with the Rotary Foundation in Finland.