



**Job Title:** Research Technician

**Grade:** 5

**Salary:** £26,338 to £30,805 per annum, pro rata if part-time

**Department:** Genetics, Genomics and Cancer Sciences

**Hours/Contract:** Full-time, or job share considered, fixed term contract until 31 July 2025

**Job Family:** Technical and Experimental

**Reference:** 11509

## Role Purpose

To provide technical support to the Higgins lab for research on meiosis in plants

### Main Duties and Responsibilities

- Carefully carry out a range of laboratory research experiments/techniques, to include molecular biology on Arabidopsis and bacteria (cloning, CRISPR/Cas, DNA extraction, PCR, gel electrophoresis, Sanger sequencing)
- Performing fluorescence microscopy
- Plant husbandry – maintaining stocks to optimise experimental processes.
- Provide analysis and interpretation of results obtained from laboratory experiments for discussion with supervisor and subsequent publication in scientific journals.
- Support the supervision of project students (undergraduates and PGTs) and work-experience students working in the laboratory, training staff and students in laboratory procedures as required.
- Assist in laboratory maintenance and ordering of consumables through discussion with the Principal Investigator or Departmental Technician.

### Internal and External Relationships

- Work as part of the plant meiosis research team
- Daily interactions with the PI, research and technical staff, students and visiting workers regarding the use of laboratory facilities and resources, personally dealing with varied requests and issues arising within the laboratory and referring more complex issues to senior colleagues.
- Occasional communication with scientific suppliers to source consumables and equipment used in the research programmes in the laboratory.

### Planning and Organising

- Organise work load
- Planning time for supervising students
- Plan ahead to prepare and utilise research materials
- Plan ahead for maintenance of stocks.
- Organise the use of equipment in the lab to accommodate essential safety checks etc.





## Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

### Essential

- Technical or scientific education to ONC or NVQ3 level
- Knowledge of good lab practice and Health and Safety issues\*
- Experience in fluorescence microscopy\*
- Experience of performing molecular biology techniques on Arabidopsis and bacteria\*
- Protein expression and purification\*
- Experience in designing and executing CRISPR/Cas experiments\*

### Desirable:

- Technical or scientific education to degree level or significant relevant experience
- MSc in molecular biology/genetics
- Experience of growing Arabidopsis

## Skills, Abilities and Competencies

### Essential

- Excellent IT skills and proficient user of software packages\*
- Ability to plan own work load and organise various work activities
- Ability to assess problems and take appropriate action\*
- Primer design and sequence analysis\*

### Desirable:

- Competent in R for statistics

***\*Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview***

## Reason for Fixed Term Contract

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.

## Criminal Declaration

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

## Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are expected to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We expect all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required.

## University Values





**Inclusive** - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

**Inspiring** - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

**Impactful** - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

## Equity and Diversity

We believe that equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equity support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equity, diversity and inclusion.

