

Job Title: Research Assistant
Grade: 6
Salary: £32,546 - £37,174 per annum
Department: Molecular and Cell Biology
Hours/Contract: Part-time (0.8 FTE) and fixed term until 31 December 2027
Job Family: Teaching and Research
Job Reference: 11873

Role Purpose

This post, funded by the BBSRC, is for a skilled research assistant to join an established, successful research team. The aim of the research is to explore the structure and function of large histone deacetylase containing repression complexes involved in the inactivation of the X-chromosome.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research

- To support a research team in the acquisition, evaluation and /or interpretation of data and other specialised information.
- To carry out analyses, tests and critical evaluations using agreed techniques, novel approaches and/or models.
- To prepare and undertake high-quality data analysis and tests using appropriate techniques and novel approaches.
- To contribute to the development or choice of techniques, critiques, approaches, models and research methods.
- To summarise findings, record, and disseminate where appropriate to members of the research group
- To contribute to research outputs such as co-authored journal articles/technical papers/book chapters relating to the work
- To carry out literature searches within pre-specified parameters.
- To assist in supporting research students in the use of specific methods or approaches under the direction of their line manager.

Professional Development:

- Duties and opportunities to engage in work that support your own professional development.

Impact and Knowledge Exchange:

- Participate in workshops and conferences to support the dissemination of research findings.

Leadership and Citizenship:

- Contribute to the overall success of the research programme



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Internal and External Relationships

Communicate and liaise with colleagues and collaborators involved in the above mentioned research programme and other projects and the team is undertaking, on a regular basis to review and plan research activities.

Communicate with Technical Managers and core technical support staff on a regular basis to discuss ongoing lab issues, health and safety matters, and future plans for the laboratory areas.

Occasionally communicate and liaise with research collaborators, both nationally and internationally, under the instruction of your line manager.

Planning and Organising

With guidance from the Principal Investigator, or equivalent, plan own work and prioritise research and project/laboratory activities on a regular basis, including co-ordinating resources and maintenance of samples and equipment.

- The post-holder will be required to effectively manage their time to deliver on the priorities of the research programme with the support of their line manager.
- Attend suitable training courses or equivalent and be proactive in terms of continued professional development.

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- Evidence of Honours degree and/or relevant experience *
- Practical experience and knowledge of applying research skills and techniques to deliver outputs on time and to the required quality*
- Experience of protein expression in *E. coli* and mammalian cells*
- Experience of protein purification and biochemistry*
- Experience of tissue culture*
- Experience of sample preparation for Xray crystallography or NMR or cryo-EM*
- Practical experience of using data analysis software*
- Evidence of interest and enthusiasm for working in the field of structural biology*

Desirable

- Masters qualification
- Experience of biophysical techniques such as ITC and CD and SPR



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Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- Ability to demonstrate research potential and enthusiasm for the subject area and contribute to delivering high quality research *
- Excellent analytical and problem solving skills *
- Evidence of continued personal development of subject expertise *
- Team player, support broader research group*
- Excellent communication skills – written and verbal*
- Ability to prioritise tasks within agreed work schedules*
- Commitment to continuous professional development (CPD)
- Willingness to participate in workshops and conferences to support the dissemination of results and findings

****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



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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.



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