



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Assistant in Protein Production, Faculty of Biological Sciences



**Salary: Grade 6 (£27,025 – £32,236 p.a. pro rata)**

**Reference: FBSMB1151**

**Closing date: 23 January 2019**

**1.5 FTE (Full time and part time options available)**

**Fixed-term for 3 years (external funding)**

**Available from: 01 February 2019**

## Research Assistant in Protein Production School of Molecular and Cellular Biology

**Are you an early career researcher looking for your first challenge? Do you have a background in protein production and biochemistry? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?**

The research group of [Professor Richard Bayliss](#) investigates cellular signalling pathways that contribute to cancer development and progression. Protein kinases are key players in many of these pathways, and inhibitors of protein kinases are an important component of modern cancer treatment. Our research aims to develop new inhibitors of protein kinase pathways towards better therapies for cancer patients. We recently discovered a novel mechanism by which protein phosphorylation regulates protein-protein interactions. Through funding from BBSRC, we aim to investigate this mechanism as a route to developing new therapeutics.

We are looking for a Research Assistant with a background in protein biochemistry to express and purify recombinant proteins, and to assist with biochemical studies. The project relates to the regulation of protein-protein interactions by phosphorylation, investigating the inhibition of these interactions using peptides, biochemical methods, NMR spectroscopy and other techniques. Applicants who have experience in this area would be at an advantage.

The University of Leeds and the Faculty of Biological Sciences are committed to providing equal opportunities for all and offer a range of family friendly policies. The University is a charter member of Athena SWAN (the national body that promotes gender equality in higher education), and the Faculty of Biological Sciences was reawarded a Bronze award in 2017. We are proud to be an inclusive Faculty that values all staff, and are happy to consider job share applications and requests for flexible working arrangements from our employees. Our Athena SWAN webpage provides more information. <http://www.fbs.leeds.ac.uk/equality-and-diversity/athena-swan/>



## What does the role entail?

As a Research Assistant your main duties will include:

- Generating reagents for protein biochemistry experiments, as directed by Professor Richard Bayliss by cloning, expressing and purifying proteins;
- Conducting biochemical and biophysical studies of protein structure;
- Generating original ideas based on the outcome of analysis, in collaboration with members of the Bayliss group;
- Contributing to the dissemination of research results in leading peer-reviewed journals and through presentation at meetings and conferences, with guidance as necessary;
- Supporting the activities of the research group to ensure a successful programme of investigation, including participation at group meetings and seminars;
- Providing support and advice to other members of the group, and assisting in the supervision of students;
- Working both independently and as part of a larger team of researchers and stakeholders;
- Continually updating your knowledge, understanding and skills in the research field in which you work.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

## What will you bring to the role?

As a Research Assistant you will have:

- A Masters in Biochemistry or a closely allied discipline;
- Experience in cloning and construction of recombinant expression plasmids;
- Experience in the expression and purification of protein kinases in *E. coli* for biochemical studies and NMR spectroscopy;
- Experience in biochemical analysis of purified proteins and/or peptides;
- Evidence of contributing to papers in internationally recognised, peer-reviewed journals or evidence of publishable research in progress;
- Good interpersonal and communication skills, both written and verbal and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;



- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines;
- A proven ability to work well both independently and as part of a team;
- The ability to work accurately and carefully;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

- A PhD (or close to completion) in Biochemistry or a closely allied discipline;
- Experience of NMR spectroscopy;
- Accepted publications in internationally recognised, peer-reviewed journals.

## How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information page. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the advertised [closing date](#).

## Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

**Professor Richard Bayliss**

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 9919

Email: [r.w.bayliss@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:r.w.bayliss@leeds.ac.uk)

## Additional information

Find out more about the [Faculty of Biological Sciences](#) and the [School of Molecular and Cellular Biology](#)

### Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area on our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.



### **Candidates with disabilities**

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our [Accessibility](#) information page or by getting in touch with us at [disclosure@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:disclosure@leeds.ac.uk).

### **Criminal record information**

#### **Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974**

A criminal record check is not required for this position. However, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information page.

