



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Technician in Molecular Biology, Faculty of Biological Sciences



Salary: Grade 5 (£22,659 – £26,243 p.a.) Due to funding limitations it is unlikely an appointment will be made above £22,659 p.a.

Reference: FBSMB1162

Closing date: 30 August 2019

Fixed-term for 2 years

Research Technician in Molecular Biology

Faculty of Biological Sciences

Are you an early career researcher looking for a challenge? Do you have a background in Molecular Biology? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?

This post is funded by grants from the Medical Research Council (MRC) RC to [Professor Michelle Peckham](#) and [Professor Neil Ranson](#), and to [Professor Michelle Peckham](#) and [Dr Julian Ochala](#) (King's College London).

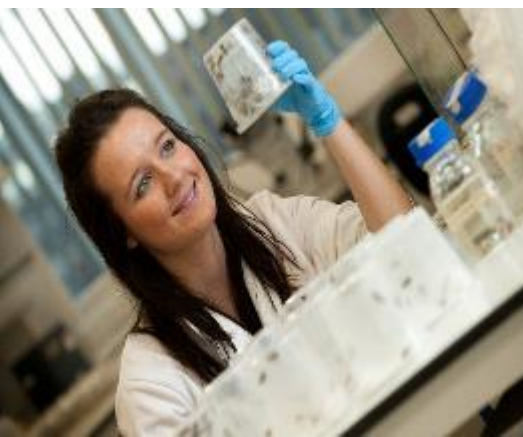
This is a 2 year fixed term post (with the potential for extension), in which you will be working with postdoctoral research fellows in the group to support their projects on the structure and function of myosins with the aim of understanding why specific mutations lead to disease. You will use a combination of approaches, that include expression and purification of protein using E. coli, Sf9 cells, and mammalian cells, mammalian cell culture and light microscopy approaches. You might also be asked to help prepare samples for electron microscopy and circular dichroism experiments. You should have experience in cell biology, tissue culture and imaging, molecular cloning, western blotting and expression and purification of proteins.

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.

What does the role entail?

As a Research Technician your main duties will include:

- Assisting in the day-to-day running of the laboratory, including the care and maintenance of some laboratory equipment, ordering supplies and explaining laboratory procedures to new users and students;
- Maintaining a proactive approach to the research project and inputting ideas;



- Liaising with academics and researchers to perform techniques and protocols as appropriate. These would include (but are not limited to) the following:
 - Routine molecular biology techniques such as PCR, agarose gel electrophoresis, restriction digests, ligations, transformations, DNA minipreps etc;
 - Tissue culture of Sf9 cells and a range of mammalian cells;
 - Expression of polypeptides in E.coli, Sf9 cells, and or mammalian cells
 - Expression of eGFP-tagged constructs in mammalian cells, fixation and preparation for imaging by light microscopy;
 - Transfection and amplification of baculovirus using Sf9 cells;
 - Generation of adenoviral constructs and amplification of adenovirus;
 - Purification of peptides from E.coli, Sf9 and/or mammalian cells, using NiNTA agarose of His-tagged constructs and/or FLAG purification;
 - Routine protein techniques such as running protein gels and western blotting;
- Maintaining Health and Safety records and developing risk assessments for new and existing protocols;
- Maintaining biological stocks and distributing items in response to requests from other laboratories;
- Maintaining good records and laboratory notebooks of work carried out, including providing clear understandable data to other members of the research group;
- Providing flexible technical support to members of the research group based on their needs.

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 Technician you will have:

- A Degree, BTEC higher level or equivalent or equivalent experience;
- Experience of working in a laboratory environment, with the ability to perform technically demanding tasks with care and precision;
- Experience of using standard routine molecular biology techniques; to include tissue culture and imaging, molecular cloning, western blotting;



- Experience in the expression and purification of proteins in bacteria, Sf9 and/or mammalian cells;
- Experience of working as an effective member of a team;
- Good organisational and time management skills, with the ability to work unsupervised and use your own initiative to meet deadlines;
- Good verbal and written communications skills, with the ability to clearly articulate and present information, ideas and analysis, modifying your approach to suit different audiences;
- Good IT skills, including MS Office software, with experience of record keeping.

You may also have:

- Experience with light microscopy;
- Experience of embedding good laboratory practice across a range of laboratory workers and/or students;
- Enthusiasm and willingness to take advantage of appropriate training opportunities;
- RSci (Registered Scientist) or RSci Tech (Registered Science Technician) qualification.

As a Research Technician on occasion you may be expected to work flexibly to accommodate the timescales of an experiment.

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 Michelle Peckham](#), Professor of Cell Biology

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 4348

Email: m.peckham@leeds.ac.uk

or



[Carsten Zothner](#), Laboratory Area Coordinator

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 3087

Email: c.zothner@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Find out more about the [Faculty of Biological Sciences](#)

Find out more about our Research and associated facilities.

<http://www.astbury.leeds.ac.uk/people/staff/staffpage.php?StaffID=MPec>

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.

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.

