



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Technician

Faculty of Biological Sciences



Salary: Grade 5 (£22,659 - £26,243 p.a.)

Reference: FBSMB1163

Closing date: 5 September 2019

Fixed-term for 1 year available from 1st Oct 2019

We will consider job share and flexible working arrangements

Research Technician in Molecular and Cellular Biology, Structural Biology or Biochemistry, Faculty of Biological Sciences

Are you an experienced technician looking for a challenge? Do you have a background in Molecular and Cellular Biology, Structural Biology or Biochemistry? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?

This is a 1-year fixed term post to assist the Ubiquitin Signaling Team at the University of Leeds.

You will be supporting a team of 4-5 scientists in DNA cloning techniques, recombinant protein production and purification of proteins for structural biology and biophysical studies. The lab uses a range of techniques, including recombinant protein production in insect cells and *E. coli*, cryo-electron microscopy, X-ray crystallography, high-throughput screening, enzymology and biophysical characterisation of protein-protein and protein-drug interactions.

You should have a degree, BTEC higher level or equivalent or equivalent experience of working in a research intensive laboratory with skills in DNA cloning and general molecular biology techniques, cell and tissue culture techniques (mammalian or insect cells), and/or recombinant protein production. In your role as laboratory technician you will work closely with other research scientists within the group. You should therefore be highly motivated, organised, and able to communicate and collaborate as part of a team. Past experience of contributing towards research publications is highly desirable.

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 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 or machinery and ordering supplies;
- Liaising with academics and researchers to perform techniques and protocols as appropriate. These would include (but are not limited to) the following:
 - DNA cloning;
 - Growing of insect cell cultures and use of Baculovirus expression techniques for protein production in insect cells;
 - Protein expression and purification;
 - Enzyme assays;
 - Biophysical characterisation of protein-protein or protein-drug interactions.
- Managing and prioritising own day-to-day workload to ensure tasks are completed in a timely manner;
- Maintaining Health and Safety records and developing risk assessments for new and existing protocols;
- Maintaining good records and laboratory notebooks of work carried out, including providing clear, understandable data to other members of the research group;
- Explaining laboratory procedures to new users and students within the research group;
- Providing flexible technical support to members of the research group based on their needs;
- Preparing, collating and presenting data in an understandable manner to members of the research group at regular group meetings.

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 Research Technician you will have:

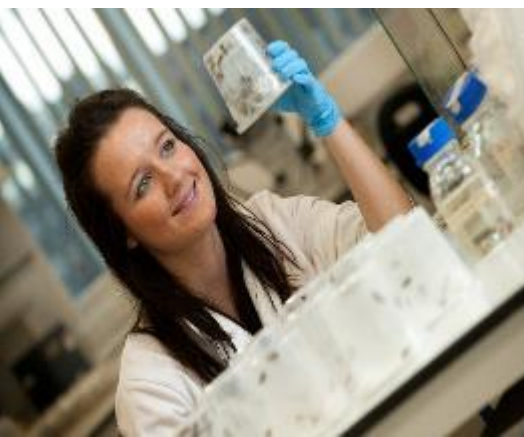
- A Degree, BTEC higher level or equivalent or equivalent experience;
- Practical experience in the molecular and cellular biology techniques mentioned in the role description (this can include a period in Further or Higher Education);
- Experience of working in a laboratory environment, with the ability to perform technically demanding tasks with care and precision;
- Good organisational and time management skills, with a proven ability to work effectively and responsibly without close supervision and to use initiative;
- The ability to work as part of a team;
- 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;
- A demonstrable capacity for problem solving and original thought;
- Good IT skills, including MS Office software, with experience of record keeping.

You may also have:

- Previous experience with cryo-EM, molecular-based assays and techniques (FP, FRET, ELISA, ITC, SPR);
- RSci (Registered Scientist) or RSci Tech (Registered Science Technician) qualification.

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:

[Dr Elton Zegiraj, Sir Henry Dale Fellow](#)

[Tel: +44 \(0\)113 343 33079](#)

[Email: E.zegiraj@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:E.zegiraj@leeds.ac.uk)

Or

[Amelia Lesiuk, Laboratory Area Coordinator,](#)

[Tel: +44 \(0\)113 3433171](#)

[Email: A.Lesiuk@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:A.Lesiuk@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.

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.

