



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

**Research Assistant in Mechanistic Cell Biology, Faculty of Biological Sciences**



**Salary: Grade 6 (£27,511 – £32,817 p.a. pro rata) due to funding limitations it is unlikely an appointment will be made above £27,511**

**Reference: FBSMB1172**

**Part-time 60% FTE**

**Available from 01 April 2020, fixed-term for 30 months (fixed funding)**

**We will consider flexible working arrangements**

# Research Assistant in Mechanistic Cell Biology

## School of Molecular and Cellular Biology

**Are you looking to develop your professional skills and be a key contributor to a cell biology project? Do you have experience in molecular and cellular biology? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?**

Based in state-of-the-art laboratory space, and under the supervision of [Dr. Natalia Riobo-Del Galdo](#) you will contribute to ground-breaking research aiming to understand the mechanistic basis of Hedgehog signalling in autophagy and its role in cancer.

The proposed research will use mammalian and bacterial cell cultures, confocal imaging, overexpression and silencing of proteins, protein and nucleic acid extraction and analysis by western blotting and qRT-PCR and sequencing. You will work closely with a postdoctoral fellow and will be a key contributor to the overall success of our research. In addition, you will perform essential lab duties and develop training and supervision experience to other members of the lab.

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 Assistant your main duties will include:

- Contributing to the BBSRC-funded project “Autophagic flux regulation by the cholesterol/H<sup>+</sup> antiporter PTCH1”, as directed by [Dr. Natalia Riobo-Del Galdo](#), by engineering, maintaining and analysing cells with different mutations in PTCH1 and cholesterol handling proteins;
- Generating original ideas based on the outcome of analysis, in collaboration with [Dr. Natalia Riobo-Del Galdo](#);



- 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 BSc in biology or a biomedical field
- Extensive experience in cell culture, plasmid preparation (mini and maxipreps), western blot, functional cellular metabolic analysis, immunohistochemistry / immunofluorescence, reagent preparation, RNA extraction and analysis by qRT-PCR;
- Evidence of independently-led research, including project development, experimental design and data analysis;
- Evidence of publications in internationally recognised, peer-reviewed journals;
- Excellent organisational, planning and self-management skills, with the ability to work under your own initiative;
- 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 PhD equivalent experience in normal or cancer cell biology;
- Experience in mice handling, genotyping, xenograft models and dissection;
- Experience in handling patient-derived samples and tissue analysis by immunohistochemistry and/or flow cytometry.

## 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 Natalia Riobo-Del Galdo](#), Associate Professor**

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 9184

Email: [n.a.riobo-delgaldo@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:n.a.riobo-delgaldo@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.

