



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Support Officer in Micro-oleogelation



This post is only open to current staff at the University of Leeds

Salary: Grade 5 (£27,644 p.a – £31,637 p.a.) pro rata dependent on experience

Reference: ENVFS1143

Fixed term Part-time (57.14%FTE 20 hours per week) from 2nd September 2025 to 30th April 2027 to complete specific time limited work

Location: {EC Stoner} (with scope for hybrid working)

‘We are open to discussing flexible working arrangements.’

Overview of the Role

Are you enthusiastic, well organised and versatile, with a strong research supporting ability? Do you have an interest in working with a collaborative research team and want to use your food science laboratory skills and experience to support research and help our academic staff and deliver an excellent research experience?

We are looking for a Research Support Officer to join our team working on an British Council-Israel ISPF Grant, aiming for characterize the rheological and tribological performance of microoleogels and test using different variables.

As a Research Support Officer supporting the project, you will characterize a range of microoleogels created using a range of alternative protein. You will also be actively maintaining communications relevant to the research activities, maintaining standard operating procedures (SOPs) and risk assessments for the project, keeping accurate records of all activities and periodic reports for the project team with the supervision from researchers on the project.

You will have a BSc degree in Sciences with evidenced lab experience in oral tribological measurements as well as quartz crystal microbalance with dissipation monitoring (QCM-D) where QCM-D sensors are coated with polymers such as Ecoflex, polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS). You will also have experience of working within a research environment, good organisational and communication skills and the ability to work collaboratively, including with people from different scientific or technical backgrounds.

Main duties and responsibilities

- Performing assays to measure rheological and tribological properties of the micro-oleogels;
- Carrying out adsorption measurements using QCM-D in polymer-coated surfaces;
- Preparing reports for laboratory work, materials and protocols as required, and preparing progress reports for the project in a timely manner;
- Liaising with research team members, ensuring excellent communication;
- Providing health and safety and data security inductions and training for new members;



- Contributing to the health and safety assessment of the research team as required, including COSHH, SOPs, data and risk assessments;
- Working independently and also as part of a larger team of researchers, engaging in knowledge-transfer activities where appropriate and feasible;
- Liaising with research team members, ensuring excellent communication.

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.

Qualifications and skills

Essential

- A BSc degree in Food Sciences or equivalent experience in a relevant field;
- Experience in oral tribological techniques;
- Experience in adsorption measurements and polymer-modification of sensors;
- Working experience within a research or teaching environment;
- Excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to maintain strong working relationships with colleagues at all levels;
- Experience of working proactively and effectively, both independently and as part of a team;
- Excellent organisational skills, with a proven ability to prioritise and plan your work independently to tight deadlines, and to manage conflicting priorities;
- The ability to work collaboratively, including with people from different scientific or technical backgrounds.

Desirable

- Experience in an administrative role including health and safety management within a UK Higher Education;
- Experience in contributing to the data for writing of scientific papers for publication;



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 Anwesha Sarkar

Email: A.Sarkar@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Please note: If you are not a British or Irish citizen, from 1 January 2021 you will require permission to work in the UK. This will normally be in the form of a visa but, if you are an EEA/Swiss citizen and resident in the UK before 31 December 2020, this may be your passport or status under the EU Settlement Scheme.

Please note that due to Home Office visa requirements, this role is not suitable for first-time Skilled Worker visa applicants.

Information on other visa options is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/work-visas>

Find out more about the [Faculty of Environment](#).

Find out more about the [School of Food Science and Nutrition](#)

Find out more about our [Research and associated facilities](#)

Find out more about [Equality in the Faculty](#)



Working at Leeds

We are a campus-based community and regular interaction with campus is an expectation of all roles in line with academic and service needs and the requirements of the role. We are also open to discussing flexible working arrangements. To find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area visit our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

Information for disabled candidates

Information for disabled candidates, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found under the 'Accessibility' heading on our [How to Apply](#) information page or by getting in touch by [emailing HR via hr@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:hr@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.

