



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

### Research Technician in Electron Microscopy, Faculty of Biological Sciences



**Salary: Grade 5 (£29,588 - £33,002 p.a. pro rata)**

**Reference: FBSMB1309**

**Available on a fixed-term basis until 31 December 2027 (to complete specific time limited work)**

**We are open to discussing flexible working arrangements**

## Research Technician in Electron Microscopy

### Faculty of Biological Sciences

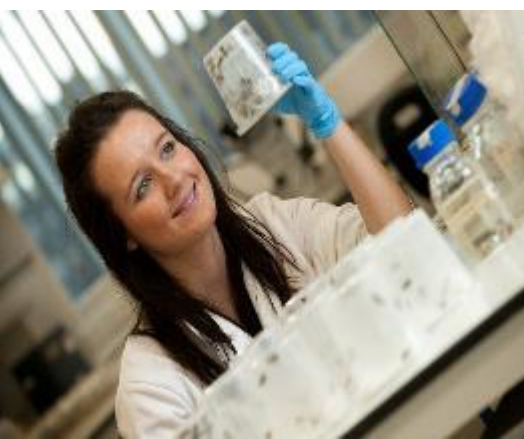
**Are you an experienced technician or researcher looking for a challenge? Do you have a background in Molecular and Cellular Biology, Structural Biology or Biochemistry? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research-intensive Universities?**

This is a fixed term post (100% FTE) funded by Wellcome Strategic Support Award to join the electron microscopy facility team within Faculty Biological Sciences, supporting the delivery of an international program of training in electron microscopy.

Working within the electron microscopy team, you will support the day-to-day activities of the facility including assisting and training users in sample preparation for transmission electron microscopy and operation of transmission electron microscopes for sample analysis. You will help to develop the facility's online guides/learning resources to ensure that they are up-to-date and that they provide users with a stress-free and educational experience.

You will work closely as part of a highly specialised facility team. You should be highly motivated, organised, and able to communicate and collaborate as part of a team. You should have strong interpersonal skills, with experience in delivering training 1:1 or to small groups. Within the role, you will have ample opportunity to develop your skills through teamwork and personal training.

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 has received a prestigious Silver award. 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 and the testing room, including the care and maintenance of some laboratory equipment or machinery and ordering supplies;
- Assisting with the planning, organisation and delivery of training, to both internal users and external users, in electron microscopy methods;
- Working with academics and researchers to perform techniques and protocols as appropriate. These would include (but are not limited to) the following:
  - electron microscopy grid preparation (negative stain TEM and cryo-EM)
  - transmission electron microscopy of purified proteins/macromolecular complexes
- Carrying out protocols on behalf of researchers;
- 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 facility colleagues and researchers;
- Inducting new users to facility procedures;
- Helping to maintain online resources such as training manuals and websites;

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 working with purified proteins/macromolecular complexes for structural biology (this can include a period in Further or Higher Education);





- Experience working with transmission electron microscopes for negative stain TEM or cryo-electron microscopy (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;
- Excellent interpersonal skills and experience delivering training or teaching in a 1:1 or small group format;
- The ability to work effectively as part 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;
- A demonstratable capacity for problem solving and developing original ideas;
- Good IT skills, including MS Office software, with experience of record keeping.
- Self-motivated with a willingness to develop and learn new skills.

You may also have:

- Experience with expression and purification of proteins/macromolecular complexes;
- RSci (Registered Scientist) or RSci Tech (Registered Science Technician) qualification from IST;

## 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:

**Louie Aspinall, Cryo-electron Microscopy Facility Manager**

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



## Additional information

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

### 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.

### Salary Requirements of the Skilled Worker Visa Route

*Please note: If you are not a British or Irish citizen, 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, this may be your 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>

