



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

**Research Assistant in Chemical Biology,
Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences**



Salary: Grade 6 (£33,951 – £39,906 p.a.)

Reporting to: Professor Michael Webb

Reference: EPSCH1134

Closing date: Monday 17 August 2026

Location: Leeds main campus

Fixed-term (for 12 months - to complete specific time limited work)

We are open to discussing flexible working arrangements

Research Assistant in Chemical Biology, School of Chemistry.

Are you a researcher with an interest in research at the interface of chemistry, biology and medicine? Do you have a background in chemical biology or protein chemistry? Would you like to contribute to developing an early-stage technology to prepare it for evaluation in future clinical applications?

Overview of the Role

In this project, you will contribute to a new EIC-funded project, IMProGlyco, in which we are developing a new strategy to control protein glycosylation. You will be part of an international project including researchers in Leeds, York, Vienna, Oslo and Dublin developing this new technology. You will contribute to the project by developing the reagents at the core of the project and providing key materials to researchers across Europe.

Main duties and responsibilities

- Production of proteins using standard experimental workflows including molecular cloning and chromatography;
- Characterising proteins using techniques including polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, electrospray mass spectroscopy, liquid chromatography coupled MS and fluorescence;
- Undertaking cellular assays of reagents generated by yourself or others;
- Analysing and interpreting data from techniques such as ESMS, SDS-PAGE and fluorescence data in collaboration with other members of the research group;
- Supporting research activities, including contributing to research results and outputs and to the generation of original ideas, ensuring a successful programme of investigation;
- Writing reports, undertaking literature reviews and preparing papers for publication, with guidance as necessary;
- Collating and analysing data to inform the direction and progression of the research project;



- Participating in the research group and presenting research output where appropriate;
- Working both independently and as part of a larger team of researchers and stakeholders;
- Contributing to the research culture of the School, where appropriate;
- Continually updating your knowledge, understanding and skills in the research field.

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:

- An undergraduate or master's degree in chemistry, Biochemistry, Natural Sciences or a closely allied discipline;
- A strong background in chemical biology;
- Experience in the expression, purification and manipulation of proteins;
- Experience in characterisation techniques used in protein production and labelling such as SDS-PAGE, mass spectrometry and fluorescent labelling;
- Good interpersonal and communication skills, both written and verbal and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Well-developed analytical skills;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines;
- A proven ability to work well both independently and in a team;
- The ability to work accurately, unsupervised and use your own initiative.

Desirable:

- Experience of mammalian cell culture;
- Experience of contributing to the writing of 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 Michael Webb](#), Professor of Biological Chemistry

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 6423

Email: M.E.Webb@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Faculty and School Information

Further information is available on the research and teaching activities of the [Faculty of Engineering & Physical Sciences](#), and the [School of Chemistry](#).

A diverse workforce

As an international research-intensive university, we welcome students and staff from all walks of life and from across the world. We foster an inclusive environment where all can flourish and prosper, and we are proud of our strong commitment to student education. Within the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences we are dedicated to diversifying our community and we welcome the unique contributions that individuals can bring, and particularly encourage applications from, but not limited to Black, Asian and ethnically diverse people; people who identify as LGBT+; and people with disabilities. Candidates will always be selected based on merit and ability.

We have identified that women are currently underrepresented in this role and particularly welcome applications. Candidates will always be selected based on merit and ability.

The Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences are proud to have been awarded the Athena Swan Silver Award from [AdvanceHE](#). The [Athena Swan Charter](#) is a framework which is used across the globe to support and transform gender equality



within higher education and research. Our [equality and inclusion webpage](#) provides more information.

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 on our [Accessibility](#) information page or by getting in touch with us at 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.

Salary Requirements of the Skilled Worker Visa Route

Please note that due to Home Office visa requirements, this role may only be suitable for first-time Skilled Worker visa applicants if they are eligible for salary concessions. For more information, please visit [the Government's Skilled Worker visa page](#).

For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. For more information, please visit [the Government's page, Apply for the Global Talent visa](#).

