



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

**Experimental Officer in the Leeds Nanotechnology Cleanroom,
Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences**



Salary: Grade 7 (£41,064 – £48,822 p.a.)

Reporting to: Dr Christopher Wood

Closing date: Sunday 27 September 2026

Reference: EPSEE1160

Location: Leeds main campus

We are open to discussing flexible working arrangements

Experimental Officer in the Leeds Nanotechnology Cleanroom, Bragg Centre for Materials Science, Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences.

**Are you interested in working as a highly trained micro-fabrication specialist?
Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's largest University
Cleanrooms? Are you interested in working with academics and industry?**

Overview of the Role

We seek an Experimental Officer in cleanroom fabrication techniques to join our highly skilled team in the new, ~800m² Leeds Nanotechnology Cleanroom (www.cleanroom.leeds.ac.uk). The position is permanent, subject to meeting probationary requirements.

You will join a team which supports in excess of £20M of semiconductor cleanroom equipment, accessed by industry and academics from across the UK and beyond. Your primary responsibilities will include developing standard operating procedures and providing user training; operating and maintaining a broad range of specialist cleanroom equipment; supporting processing for Leeds researchers; and undertaking fee-for-service processing for external users, including academics and SMEs. You will also be responsible for promoting the wider cleanroom capabilities at conferences and trade fairs, engaging with external academics and SMEs, developing new collaborations and opportunities, and undertaking outreach activities with local colleges.

You will join an active research facility that currently supports >30 internal users, >20 SMEs and >20 external academics, based both in the UK and internationally. Your comprehensive training will allow you to develop and support whole process-chains and will give you the confidence to develop new processes and fabrication techniques.

You will have either 1) a degree in physics, engineering or a related discipline with, ideally, a PhD with skills in cleanroom processing / microfabrication, or 2) extensive, relevant industrial experience. You must have excellent interpersonal skills, a proactive approach to problem solving, and be comfortable interacting day-to-day with academics of all career stages, students and commercial partners.



Main duties and responsibilities:

- Contributing to the training of both undergraduate and postgraduate students, and postdoctoral researchers in cleanroom processing, including assisting with the direct supervision of undergraduate projects that require microfabrication;
- Operating equipment and supporting equipment use, including developing and writing standard operating procedures, technical troubleshooting and user support;
- Maintaining equipment and the wider facility, including performing preventative maintenance and in-house repairs where appropriate, alongside conducting regular performance checks, inspections of plant and ancillary equipment, and liaising with contractors/ facilities directorate for repairs and servicing;
- Marketing the Leeds Nanotechnology Cleanroom and its capabilities;
- Undertaking fee-for-service processing for external academics and SMEs, including through access schemes, collaborations and direct-pay;
- Supporting the prioritisation of new equipment purchases, including working with the wider user-base to identify bottlenecks or missing capability;
- Supporting equipment purchases, including contributing to grant applications, preparation of tender documents, and participation in equipment tenders;
- Supporting equipment installation, including identifying and specifying required services, sourcing specialist contractors and arranging facilities access;
- Contributing to the wider cleanroom management, including through process-scheduling, document preparation (e.g., risk assessments, CoSHH, SOPs, equipment tenders, marketing material) and joining user group meetings;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used by other fabrication specialists to maintain cutting-edge standards in the cleanroom;
- Offering knowledge transfer to other fabrication facilities and/or SMEs developing new processes;
- Supporting the preparation of papers for publication in leading international journals and disseminating research results at conferences;
- Working both independently and as part of a larger team of cleanroom support staff to support the cleanroom user base;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues.



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

- At least either 1) a degree in physics, engineering or a related discipline, and ideally a PhD with practical cleanroom processing experience, or 2) relevant, extensive industrial experience;
- A strong understanding of the underlying principles of microfabrication that will allow you to develop new processes and teach concepts to users;
- Strong verbal communication skills, including presentation skills, required for liaising with companies and academics at all career stages, for communicating with undergraduates and postgraduates, and for working as part of a team;
- Excellent written communication skills for contributing to writing papers, funding applications, equipment tenders and marketing material;
- Excellent practical problem-solving skills, for example, for troubleshooting equipment and diagnosing issues;
- Practical cleanroom fabrication skills, alongside a strong desire to learn new fabrication skills and to support the wider cleanroom activities;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines, including for commercial contracts and for grant deadlines, and work effectively under pressure;
- Proven ability to manage competing demands effectively, responsibly and without close supervision;
- A proven ability to work well both individually and in a team;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development;
- A track record of supporting outreach activities, and willingness to promote the Leeds Nanotechnology Cleanroom, including through open day activities, college visits, provision of work experience and other related activities.

Desirable

- Experience or understanding of epitaxial growth techniques, and/or device/material characterisation;
- Good general IT competency;



- Ability to contribute to specification documentation for the procurement and service of the complex equipment and to provide scientific data in written format for management.

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 Christopher Wood](#), Manager of the [Leeds Nanotechnology Cleanroom](#)

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 8335

Email: C.D.Wood@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 Electronic and Electrical Engineering](#)

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 this post may be suitable for sponsorship under the Skilled Worker visa route but first-time applicants might need to qualify 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](#).

