



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Support Technician (Analytical Instruments)

School of Food Science and Nutrition



Salary: Grade 5 (£29,588 – £33,002 p.a. depending on experience)

Reference: ENVFS1171

Fixed term until 31 August 2028

Closing date: Sunday 25 October 2026

This post will be campus based 5 days per week

We are open to discussing flexible working arrangements

Research Support Technician (Analytical Instruments), School of Food Science and Nutrition, Faculty of Environment and Social Sciences.

Are you enthusiastic, well organised and versatile, with a strong student service orientation? Do you have experience in working in a laboratory environment and want to use your skills and experience to support our busy research laboratories and help support our academic staff and deliver an excellent learning experience for our students?

We are looking for a Research Support Technician to support the School's expanding research portfolio including on costed grants/awards and internal research in a range of laboratories across all School sites. You will carry out analysis of research samples using a range of biological, chemical and physical protocols. You will also provide support and expertise to student research projects at all levels including sample collection, preparation and analysis using a variety of techniques both wet chemical and instrumental.

You will also be responsible for maintaining equipment relevant to the research and project activities including servicing and procurement and maintaining stocks of chemicals and consumables. In addition, you will produce standard operating procedures (SOPs), risk assessments, COSHH forms and other documentation required by research projects aims.

You will have experience of working within a laboratory environment, alongside a BSc or BTEC Higher or equivalent working experience, together with experience of using and maintaining HPLC or LC-MS or GC-MS or SEC. You will also have good organisational and communication skills, and the ability to work on your own initiative and as part of a team. You may be required to work weekends to support Open Days and to maintain cell culture lines.



Main Duties and Responsibilities

- Working with PI's and Senior Research Technicians on funded Research Projects including contribution to project design, sample analyses, and data input as required;
- Providing safety inductions and training for new users via detailed written and verbal explanations, including maintaining records of the training given and supervising equipment use where necessary;
- Procuring, maintaining and using equipment in research and teaching laboratories, and assisting with equipment access management for multi-user equipment;
- Solving faults and repairing technical equipment as required;
- Providing assistance with purchasing small laboratory equipment up to capital equipment in line with the school's strategic equipment plans;
- Supporting student research projects in laboratories;
- Contributing to the School's equipment, chemical and consumables inventories including technical documentation on Minerva;
- Producing and maintaining SOPs and risk assessments/COSHH forms as necessary;
- General 'housekeeping' support and advice for research laboratories;
- Carrying out biological, chemical and physical analyses of samples;
- Managing and prioritising own day to day work to ensure tasks are completed in a timely manner;
- Understanding, promoting and applying relevant COSHH/risk assessments and school health and safety protocols ensuring procedures are followed at all time;
- Contributing to the work of the School Sustainability (blueprint) scheme focussing on LEAF awards;
- Attending regular meetings with the Line Manager to discuss progress.

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.

Please note: This post will be campus based 5 days per week.



Qualifications and Skills

Essential

- A BSc in Biochemistry, Biomedical Science, Food Science, Nutrition or other relevant degree; or a BTEC higher level (or equivalent) in a relevant subject; or equivalent working experience within scientific research or teaching environment;
- Experience of working in a research laboratory environment including working on short or long-term research projects;
- Experience of using chromatographic equipment (e.g. LCMS, HPLC, GCMS and ion chromatography);
- Competent in the use of advanced technical equipment and laboratory techniques, with the ability to train and supervise staff and students in the safe and effective use of equipment and research methodologies within teaching and research laboratories;
- Ability to assess non-routine problems by suggesting solutions;
- The ability to work collaboratively, including with people from different scientific or technical backgrounds and with members of the general public;
- 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;
- The ability to work accurately and carefully;
- Excellent organisational skills, with a proven ability to prioritise and plan your work independently to tight deadlines, and to manage conflicting priorities;
- An interest in and ability to learn and adapt to new technical/research situations.

Desirable

- Experience in tissue culture or microbiology-based laboratories (including Category 2 labs).



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.

Our University

As an international research-intensive university, we welcome students and staff from all walks of life. We foster an inclusive environment where all can flourish and prosper, and we are proud of our strong commitment to student education. Within the School of Food Science & Nutrition 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, those who belong to a minority ethnic community; people who identify as LGBT+; and disabled people. Candidates will always be selected based on merit and ability.



Information for disabled candidates

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.

Criminal record information

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

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.

