Placement Advert

Job title: Research Assistant in Microbiology
Responsible To: Principal Investigator
Department: School of Life, Sport and Social Sciences
Duration: 8 weeks
Salary: £1000 per month
Placement Ref: EQU/16/013

The School of Life, Sport & Social Sciences is home to a number of exciting research areas including the microbiology laboratory where we carry out research to understand fundamental aspects of microorganisms that cause disease. This placement in the microbiology laboratory is an opportunity to be involved in our research on bacteria such as *Salmonella* or *Listeria* where we are trying to understand aspects of how this bacteria causes infection in humans. You will work under the direction of the principal investigator to carry out experiments relevant to one of our current projects.

You will have some basic experience of laboratory skills including aseptic technique and a willingness to learn new techniques. Some experience working with microorganisms would be an asset.

How to Apply

Please complete the Careerwise online application form to apply for this placement.

You must attach your CV to your application – in either word or PDF format.

You must also provide a cover letter.

*Cover Letter Options:*

You can attach a cover letter and CV as one document in the relevant format.

Or alternatively, you can attach a CV and enter copy in the cover letter text box provided, 400 words maximum.

The closing date for this placement is Friday, 11th March at mid night.
Job Specification

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1. Basic purpose of the placement and its primary objectives
   - To assist with, and perform scientific experiments in the microbiology laboratory, under the direction of the Principal Investigator.

2. Main duties:
   - Preparation of culture media, reagents and solutions
   - Culture of microorganisms
   - Carry out experiments as directed
   - Collection and presentation of data in appropriate format
   - Analysis of scientific literature to support experimental findings
   - Participation in lab meetings

3. Knowledge and skills required:
   - Basic laboratory skills including aseptic technique
   - Basic arithmetic and mathematics
   - Competent using Microsoft Office

4. Person skills:
   - Ability to work on own initiative with minimal supervision
   - Good attention to detail
   - Excellent organisation skills
   - Confident and professional manner
   - Proactive
   - Team player

5. Working conditions:
   - Based in laboratory, Sighthill Campus, Edinburgh
   - Hours 9.00 am to 5.00 pm
Person Specification

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<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Education/Qualifications</td>
<td>2 years undergraduate study or equivalent in a life science discipline</td>
<td>On track for a 2:1 or first class Honours degree</td>
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<td>Experience</td>
<td>Basic laboratory skills including aseptic technique</td>
<td>Previous experience of microbial culture</td>
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<td>Basic arithmetic and mathematics</td>
<td>Experience preparing culture media and solutions</td>
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<td>Competent using Microsoft Office</td>
<td>Previous use of Excel to present scientific data</td>
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<td>Skills/Personal Requirements</td>
<td>Ability to work on own initiative, with minimal supervision</td>
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