

Biochar Clean Tech Knowledge Exchange Associate

(Internal Only)



OPPORTUNITY

Where change gets real.



Reference: 0242-24

Grade: 08

Salary: £37,099 to £44,263 per annum, depending on experience

Contract Type: Fixed Term (Until 31 March 2025)

Basis: Part-Time (21.9 hours)

Job description

The purpose of the role is to work with business and university researchers to collaboratively exploit new low carbon products as part of a major regional innovation accelerator project. The post will be required to work closely with academics and technologists in the Energy and Bio-products Research Institute (EBRI) and Aston Business School as well as business development professionals in the University in order to commercialisation of technology within a regional business cluster.

This is an exciting opportunity to play a role in supporting business growth and development through the scale up of low carbon technologies into high growth business propositions. Working with the knowledge transfer technical team at EBRI, you will help bridge the gap between science and industry to deliver lasting commercial benefits to the economy.

The Biochar Innovation Accelerator project will require you to provide expertise in developing collaborations between businesses and universities. You will be a source of knowledge to support the drive to exploit of low carbon products. The role will also require you to present to audiences and participate in collaborative funding applications with industry.

A background in working between universities and business as well as developing commercial applications for products is essential. Practical business experience and also a knowledge of low carbon products and business application would be an advantage. You must have a PhD in sustainable business or related subject.

Main duties and responsibilities

- ▶ To support the growth of businesses in the accelerator
- ▶ To conduct analysis of low carbon products
- ▶ To work with the team to exploit low carbon technologies
- ▶ To grow the number of businesses in the cluster
- ▶ To build links with business networks and professional bodies
- ▶ To create and deliver effective presentations to business audiences
- ▶ To support the development, writing and preparation of bids for collaborative research and development projects.
- ▶ To develop collaborative projects with businesses located in the West Midlands area supported by the Biochar Innovation Accelerator project ideally leading to future funded or commercially beneficial activities.

Additional responsibilities

- ▶ Engage in continuous personal and professional development in line with the demands of the role, including undertaking relevant training and development activities to develop themselves and support the development of others.
- ▶ Ensure and promote the personal health, safety and wellbeing of staff and students.
- ▶ Carry out duties in a way which promotes fairness in all matters and which engenders trust.
- ▶ Promote equality of opportunity and support diversity and inclusion as well as working to support the University's environmental sustainability agenda and practices.

Person specification

	Essential	Method of assessment
Education and qualifications	PhD level qualification in an environmental business discipline or relevant experience	Application form
Experience	<p>Developing collaborations between universities and businesses to exploit low carbon technologies</p> <p>Experience of working in a team to achieve collective goals</p> <p>Experience of working with businesses to introduce low carbon technologies</p> <p>Experience of engaging companies with low carbon support and research projects</p>	Application form and interview
Aptitude and skills	<p>Communicating low carbon propositions to companies. Encouraging adoption.</p> <p>Ability to produce reports to a high standard.</p> <p>Excellent team working, communication and interpersonal skills.</p> <p>Practical applied business skills and an understanding of business cultures and motivations.</p> <p>Ability to self-start and work on own initiative to achieve agreed goals.</p> <p>Ability to work with a range of disciplines to develop practical solutions.</p> <p>Understanding of Health and Safety requirements and rules in different laboratory settings (analytical and industrial labs).</p> <p>Willingness to undertake training and development relating to the project if/when required.</p>	Application form and interview

	Desirable	Method of assessment
Education and qualifications	Engineering and technical qualifications Professional industry qualifications	Application form
Experience	Experience working with simulation software Experience of working with renewable energy and energy systems	Application form and interview

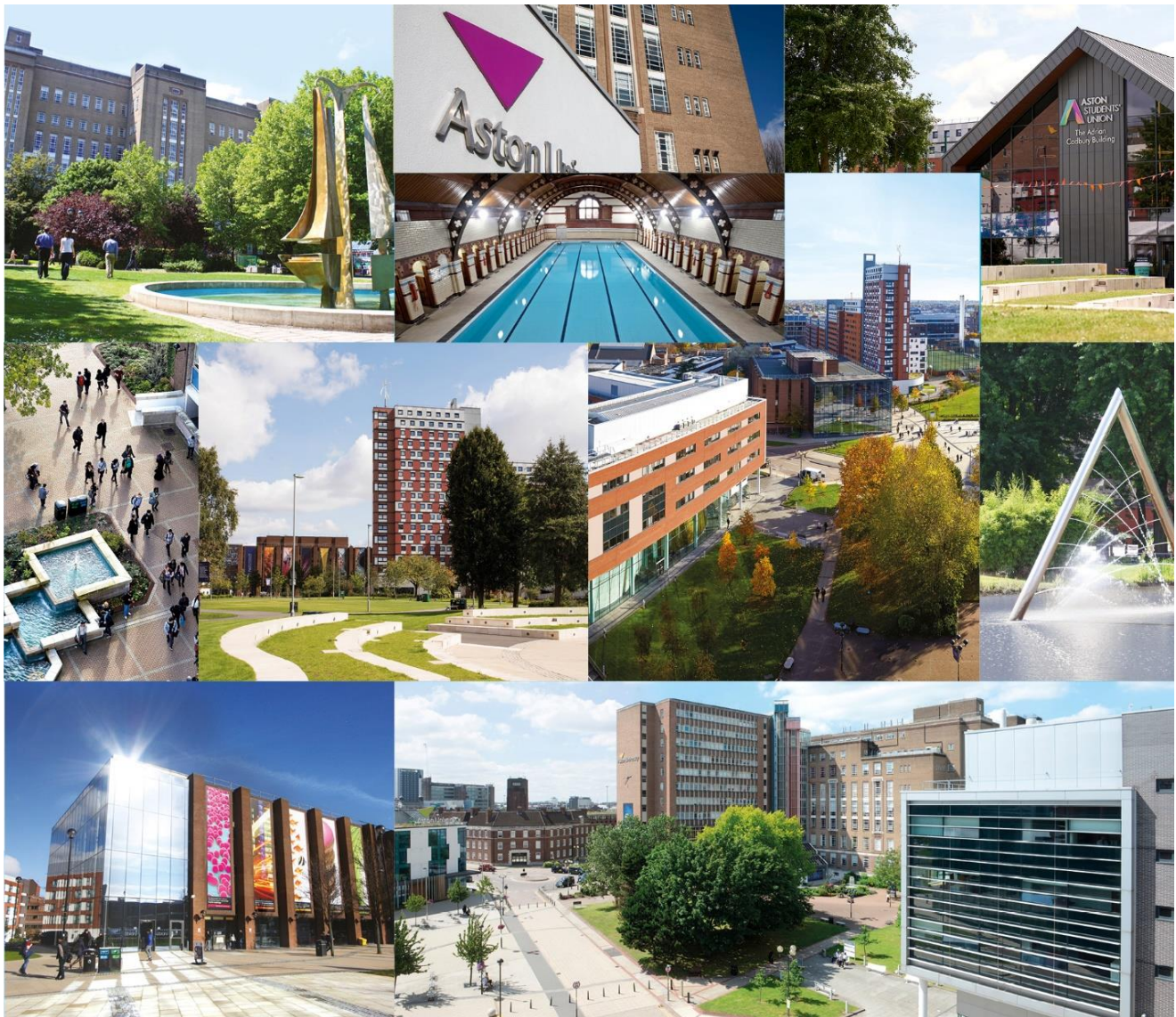
How to apply

You can apply for this role online via our website <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/jobs>.

Applications should be submitted by XXX on the advertised closing date.
All applicants must complete an application form, along with your CV.

Any CV sent direct to the Recruitment Team and Recruiting Manager will not be accepted.

If you require a manual application form then please contact the Recruitment Team via jobs@aston.ac.uk.



Contact information

Enquiries about the vacancy:

Name: Tim Miller

Job Title: Government and Enterprise Engagement Manager

Email: t.miller1@aston.ac.uk

Enquiries about the application process, shortlisting or interviews:

Recruitment Team via jobs@aston.ac.uk or 0121 204 4500.

Additional information

Visit our website <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr> for full details of our salary scales and benefits
Aston University staff enjoy

Salary scales: <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/payroll-and-pensions/salary-scales/index>

Benefits: [Benefits and Rewards | Aston University](#)

Working in Birmingham: <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/birmingham>

Employment of Ex-Offenders: Under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, a person with a criminal record is not required to disclose any spent convictions unless the positions they applying for is listed an exception under the act.

Eligibility to work in the UK: You should ensure that you meet the eligibility requirements, including meeting the [English language standards](#). If you do not meet the eligibility criteria, any application for a work visa would be unsuccessful. Please see UKVI guidance for further information on eligibility, knowledge of English requirements and approved test centres <https://www.gov.uk/tier-2-general>

With the end of free movement for EU/EEA/Swiss nationals from 1 January 2021, the UK's new immigration system applies to all non-UK/Irish nationals who require a visa.

Where an individual is subject to UK immigration control, they will require a visa to work in the UK.

The following individuals do not need a visa for the UK, but do still have to prove their right to work before employment can commence:

- **British Citizens or Irish Nationals**
- **EU/EEA/Swiss nationals with Settled or Pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme**
- **Non-EEA nationals with Indefinite Leave to Remain/Settlement in the UK**

The main routes available for those who need a visa to work in the UK are **Skilled Worker**, **Global Talent** and the **Graduate Route**.

You can find further information about each of these visa routes on our [candidate immigration page](#).

If you will conduct research in your role, you may need to apply for and obtain ATAS clearance before Aston can issue a Certificate of Sponsorship for your visa application. Please see below for further details.

Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS): If you will conduct research in your role and you apply for a Skilled Worker or Temporary Worker GAE visa, you may need to apply for and obtain ATAS clearance before Aston can issue a Certificate of Sponsorship for your visa application.

This process can take at least 6 weeks to process, and Aston will consider this when confirming your expected start date. Processing times will increase between April and September and can longer to complete.

There is no fast-track option available. ATAS certificates will be processed in order of receipt.

You can find more information about ATAS on our [candidate immigration page](#).

Before you start and Right to Work

90-day entry vignette

If you have applied for your visa outside of the UK, you will receive a vignette in your passport which is usually valid for 90 days. Please make sure to travel to the UK within the 'valid from' and 'valid to' dates on this visa. If you entered the UK before or after these dates, you would not 'activate' the visa and you would need to leave and re-enter the country.

You will also receive a decision letter confirming details about your immigration permission and where to collect your Biometric Residence Permit.

Cost of Living - Estate and Letting Agents

There are numerous Estate and Letting Agents in and around Birmingham that can help you find suitable accommodation. The [Midland Landlord Accreditation Scheme](#) provides a list of professional agencies and landlords who have applied with them for accreditation. Whilst accreditation is not a guarantee of quality, it provides some reassurance about the standard of the service they provide.

You can also use property search websites such as [Rightmove](#) or [Zoopla](#).

Equal Opportunities: Aston University promotes equality and diversity in all aspects of its work. We aim to ensure, through our admissions policies for students, and our staff recruitment and selection processes that we encourage applications from all groups represented in the wider community at a local, national and international level.

The University will endeavour not to discriminate unfairly or illegally, directly or indirectly, against student or potential students, staff or potential staff. This commitment applies to all functions of the University and to any stage of an individual's career.

An Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form is included within the application form. Data you provide on the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form will be included in a general database, for statistical monitoring purposes, enabling the University to monitor the effectiveness of its Policy, Codes of Practice and Guidelines on Equal Opportunities in Employment. Individuals will not be identified by name.

Data Protection: Your personal data will be processed in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation ((EU) 2016/679) ("GDPR"). The University's Data Protection Policy and Privacy Notices, including the Job Applicant Privacy Notice can be found at <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/data-protection>. Your application will only be used to inform the selection process, unless you are successful, in which case it will form the basis of your personal record with the University which will be stored in manual and/or electronic files. Information in statistical form on present and former employees is given to appropriate outside bodies.

Full details of our terms and conditions of service and associated policies and procedures are available online at <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/policies>

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