



OPPORTUNITY

Project Manager

Reference: R210590

Salary: Grade 7, £27,116 to £32,344 per annum (pro-rata), depending on experience

Contract Type: Fixed Term (29/02/2024)

Basis: Part Time (0.5 FTE, 18.25 hours per week)

Job description

Job Purpose:

An exciting opportunity has arisen for the management of a well-positioned and mature pan-European research project 'MONPLAS' (www.monplas.eu) that seeks to develop scientific tools that will help control and eliminate the prevalence of microplastics in our environment.

The Aston Institute of Photonic Technologies (AiPT) at Aston University is therefore seeking to appoint a part-time (0.5FTE) Project Manager to undertake key project management responsibilities for the European Initial Training Network project 'MONPLAS'. The project with 8 beneficiaries and 10 partners across several European countries is funded by the European Commission (EC) Horizon 2020 programme and is part of the Marie Curie Sklodowska Actions. The post holder will be responsible for the project coordination, management and contractual obligations and provide top-level project management services to 'MONPLAS', ensuring that objectives, time-scales and anticipated milestones and deliverables are met, and that the overall budget is effectively monitored and adhered to.

The post holder will be providing general support to the MONPLAS Project Coordinator, assisting the project beneficiaries and partners; maintaining the project records, web site, and social media; reporting to funders; and organising training workshops, meetings and other events until project closure. The post will require some international travel (subject to COVID19 restrictions).

Main duties and responsibilities

- ▶ Carry out top-level project management with regards to all administrative, contractual and financial matters; Ensure day-to-day management of the project: overseeing the project's progress on a day-to-day basis, ensuring that the project objectives are being met and that the project is keeping to its timetable and budget;
- ▶ Maintain day-to-day communication with the 8 beneficiaries and 10 partners within the project and to act as the primary point of contact between them and the Project Coordinator to ensure the implementation of the scientific research, training and communication activities;
- ▶ Act as a primary port-of-call for all administrative queries relating to the project
- ▶ Act as the interface between the European Commission, project committees, consortium participants, third parties and scientific management teams;
- ▶ Oversee the achievement of project deliverables and milestones: Liaise with project beneficiaries and partners to ensure deliverables are produced and internally reviewed in a timely fashion and ensure actions are taken to respond to any variances from the project action timeline;
- ▶ Set up administration systems, appropriate databases, keeping accurate written and digital records and ensure that these records are stored in a secure place and to maintain confidentiality of all electronically stored data in line with the provisions of the Data Protection Act and in accordance to EU requirements.
- ▶ Check and monitor budget expenditure both at project and beneficiaries/partner organisations' level;
- ▶ Lead on the Project Management Work Package (WP) ensuring timely completion and submission of WP deliverable reports, interim and final reports as outlined in the projects' EC Grant Agreement

- ▶ Ensure appropriate maintenance of the project web site and social media, ensuring the content is current and valid. Upload documents as they become available; maintain all other forms of the project records and databases;
- ▶ Organize and contribute to the international consortium's network meetings: coordinate their organisation including communication with the Consortium Beneficiaries/Partners, providing logistics support and helping with setting the meeting's agenda; attend these network-wide meetings, collate project presentations, take minutes and circulate them;
- ▶ Support the organization and administration of the project scientific workshops and schools;
- ▶ Lead the preparation of the statutory reports to the EC and contribute to WPs' deliverable reports where possible.
- ▶ Undertake any other relevant activities related to the project as may be reasonably expected by the Project Coordinator.
- ▶ The duties of the post outlined above are not exhaustive, and the post holder will be expected to be co-operative and be flexible, undertaking such administrative and other duties as may from time to time be reasonably expected.

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	Education to degree level in a relevant subject.	Application form
Experience	<p>Project management experience, including supporting large complex grant-funded projects in either industrial or academic environment</p> <p>Experience in report writing and presenting data</p> <p>Experience of working with international partners</p> <p>Experience of financial / budget management</p>	Application form, interview and presentation
Aptitude and skills	<p>Excellent IT skills with good knowledge of standard.</p> <p>Microsoft packages (Word, Outlook, Excel and PowerPoint)</p> <p>Excellent verbal and written communication skills, with the ability to liaise effectively at all levels.</p> <p>Excellent organisational and administration skills.</p> <p>Excellent presentation skills</p> <p>Proven ability to multitask effectively to meet demanding deadlines.</p> <p>Ability to effectively communicate deadlines to participants and ensure compliance.</p> <p>Ability to understand, assimilate and communicate complex legal obligations.</p> <p>Ability to collate information from diverse sources and compile reports.</p>	Application form and interview

	Essential	Method of assessment
	<p>Coordinate multi-partner events.</p> <p>Proven ability to work as part of a team.</p> <p>Proven ability to act independently and proactively on own initiative.</p> <p>Ability to maintain a high level of accuracy and concentration, with attention to detail</p> <p>Flexibility and adaptability: Willingness to adapt workload to the project's demanding and varying needs.</p> <p>Ability to work with confidential material and to maintain high standards of discretion.</p> <p>Willingness and availability to travel abroad and attend international meetings</p>	

	Desirable	Method of assessment
Education and qualifications	Project management qualification or equivalent	Application form
Experience	<p>Experience of working with HE Institutions</p> <p>Experience of working on EU funded research projects</p> <p>Experience with managing MSCA projects</p> <p>Experience of organising or coordinating successful events and exhibitions</p> <p>Experience in scientific outreach activities.</p> <p>Experience of working within an academic environment</p>	Application form, interview and presentation

	Desirable	Method of assessment
	<p>An understanding of the holistic research environment in academic research.</p> <p>Engaged and maintained a network of contacts from external bodies.</p>	
Aptitude and skills	Ability to work independently as well as part of a team	Interview and presentation

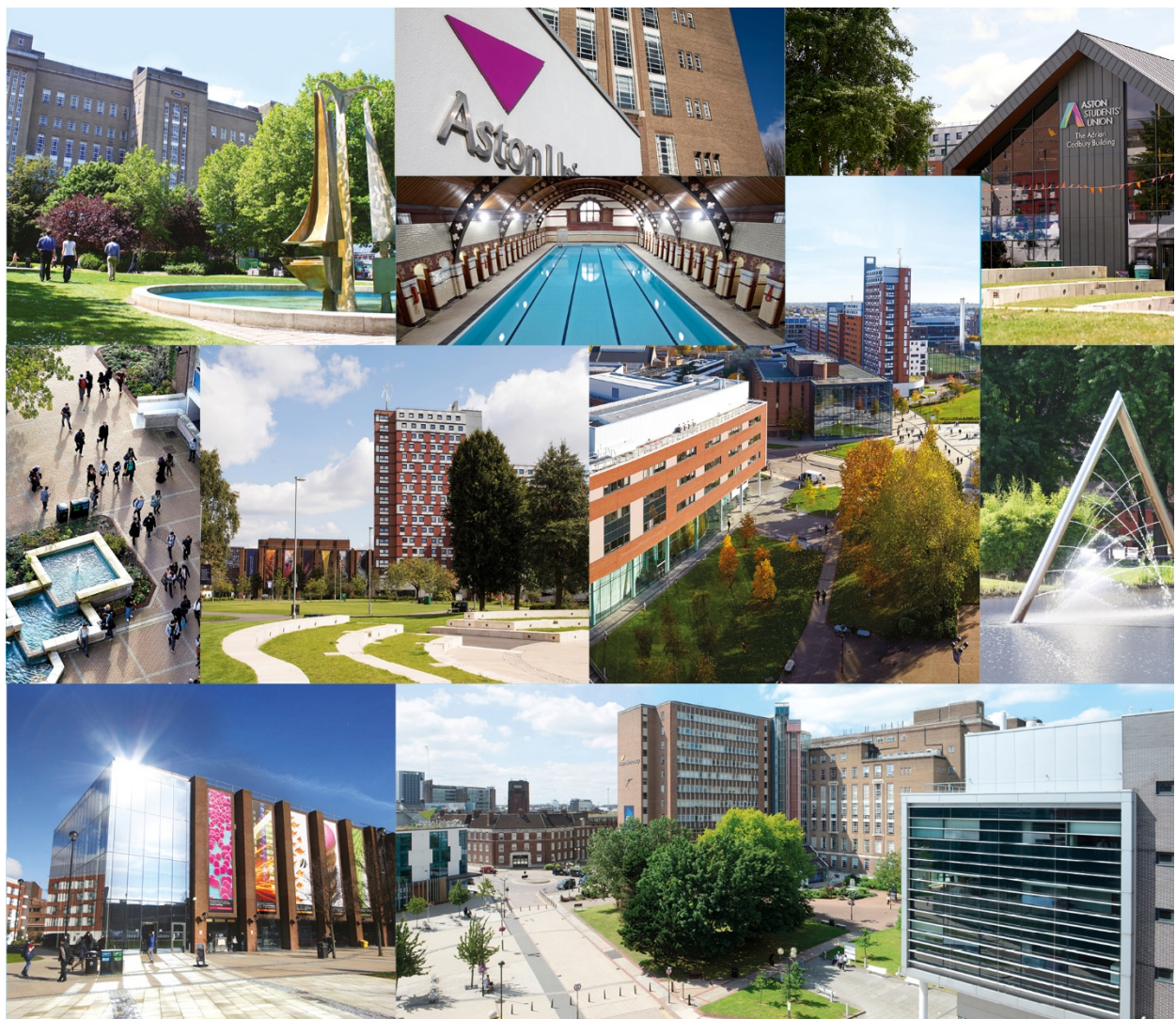
How to apply

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

Applications should be submitted by 23.59 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: Dr Daniel Hill
Job Title: EC Project Manager
Tel: +44 121 204 5494
Email: d.hill2@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: <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/Benefits-and-Rewards/index>

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:

Post-Brexit transition period / EU Settlement Scheme

The post-Brexit transition period ended on 31 December 2020. If you are an EU/EEA citizen and you were a resident in the UK before 31 December 2020, you and your family members (including non-EU citizens need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue to live, work and study in the UK beyond 30 June 2021. The deadline for applying to the EU settlement scheme is 30 June 2021. You can apply via the Government webpage

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

Irish Nationals do not need to apply for settlement as they retain the right to work in the UK.

New immigration system for EU/EEA and Swiss Nationals who were not resident in the UK before 31 December 2020

A new immigration system has been introduced for people arriving in the UK from EEA countries with effect from 1 January 2021. In addition to those who have always required a visa, EU citizens moving to the UK to work will need to get a visa in advance. You can find more information on the following website. Candidates should check their eligibility to enter or remain in the UK in advance of making any job application via the UKVI website <https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/work-visas>. Before applying you should ensure

that you meet the requirements, including meeting the English Language requirements. If you do not meet the eligibility criteria, any application for a work visa would be unsuccessful. If you require a visa to work in the UK the most common types of visa are:

Skilled Worker Visa

<https://www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa>

Global Talent Visa

If you are a leader or potential leader in one of the following fields you may be eligible to apply for a Global Talent Visa:

- Academia or Research
- Arts and Culture
- Digital Technology

Please click the following link for further information and to check your eligibility for this visa.

<https://www.gov.uk/global-talent>

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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