



OPPORTUNITY

Research Assistant or Associate

Reference: 0830-23

Grade: 7 or 8

Salary: £32,332 to £39,347 per annum, depending on experience

Contract Type: Fixed term for up to 12 months

Basis: Full Time

Job description

Job Purpose:

The researcher will work on an EPSRC-funded research project to investigate the creation of bioinspired membranes for water treatment and biotechnological applications. The researcher will undertake interdisciplinary research, under the supervision of academics from the Colleges of Engineering and Physical Sciences (EPS) and Health and Life Sciences (HLS), involving expression and purification of membrane proteins and generation of novel polymers to assist with this.

The researcher will regularly meet and liaise with colleagues to ensure appropriate input, data sharing, and effective dissemination of results. In addition, the researcher will work with colleagues in EPS and HLS to share knowledge, skills and results via different means of communication. EPS, HLS and the Aston Early Career Researcher Forum will provide a supportive environment for early career researchers and offer mentoring/shadowing and other development opportunities to support staff in transitioning to new roles.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research

- ▶ To express and purify membrane proteins in prokaryotic hosts.
- ▶ To synthesise polymers for use in membrane protein extraction.
- ▶ To write up and publish the outcomes of research in good quality publications.
- ▶ To present papers, posters, reports at seminars, conferences etc.
- ▶ To collaborate in research initiatives with colleagues as appropriate.
- ▶ Where appropriate to School/University strategy and subject discipline, to participate in and develop external networks.
- ▶ To supervise and manage research projects.
- ▶ To coach junior colleagues in research.

Citizenship

- ▶ To demonstrate the University's leadership values through own actions and behaviour.
- ▶ To undertake such other duties as may be reasonably requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.

Additional responsibilities

- ▶ To 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.
- ▶ To ensure and promote the personal health, safety and wellbeing of staff and students.
- ▶ To carry out duties in a way which promotes fairness in all matters and which engenders trust.
- ▶ To 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	<p>A PhD in Chemistry (or a closely related subject). Submission of a doctoral thesis prior to commencing in the role, pending PhD qualification, is permissible.</p> <p>For appointment at Grade 8: A PhD in a relevant subject.</p> <p>For appointment at Grade 7: PhD thesis in a relevant subject submitted and awaiting award.</p>	Application form
Experience	<p>Experience of initiating and conducting research up to doctoral level in the area(s) of membrane proteins and/or polymer chemistry.</p> <p>Experience of writing up/contributing to the write up of research for high quality publications.</p> <p>Experience of producing papers, posters, reports presenting at seminars, conferences etc.</p> <p>Experience of positive collaboration within and outside of candidate's immediate research team.</p> <p>Supervising other personnel involved in the project.</p>	Application form and interview
Aptitude and skills	<p>Ability to present data in both a clear and concise manner that is visually appealing.</p> <p>Ability to prepare written communications to a high standard.</p> <p>Ability to develop and maintain a research programme and to publish in high quality publications.</p>	Application form and interview

	Essential	Method of assessment
	<p>Ability to harness IT as a research and teaching tool.</p> <p>A willingness to undertake further training as appropriate and to adopt new procedures as and when required.</p>	
Experience	The ideal candidate will have experience of working with both polymers and membrane proteins but a willingness to learn unfamiliar techniques is desirable	Application form and interview
Aptitude and Skills	An ability to engage in interdisciplinary and intersectoral science.	Interview

How to apply

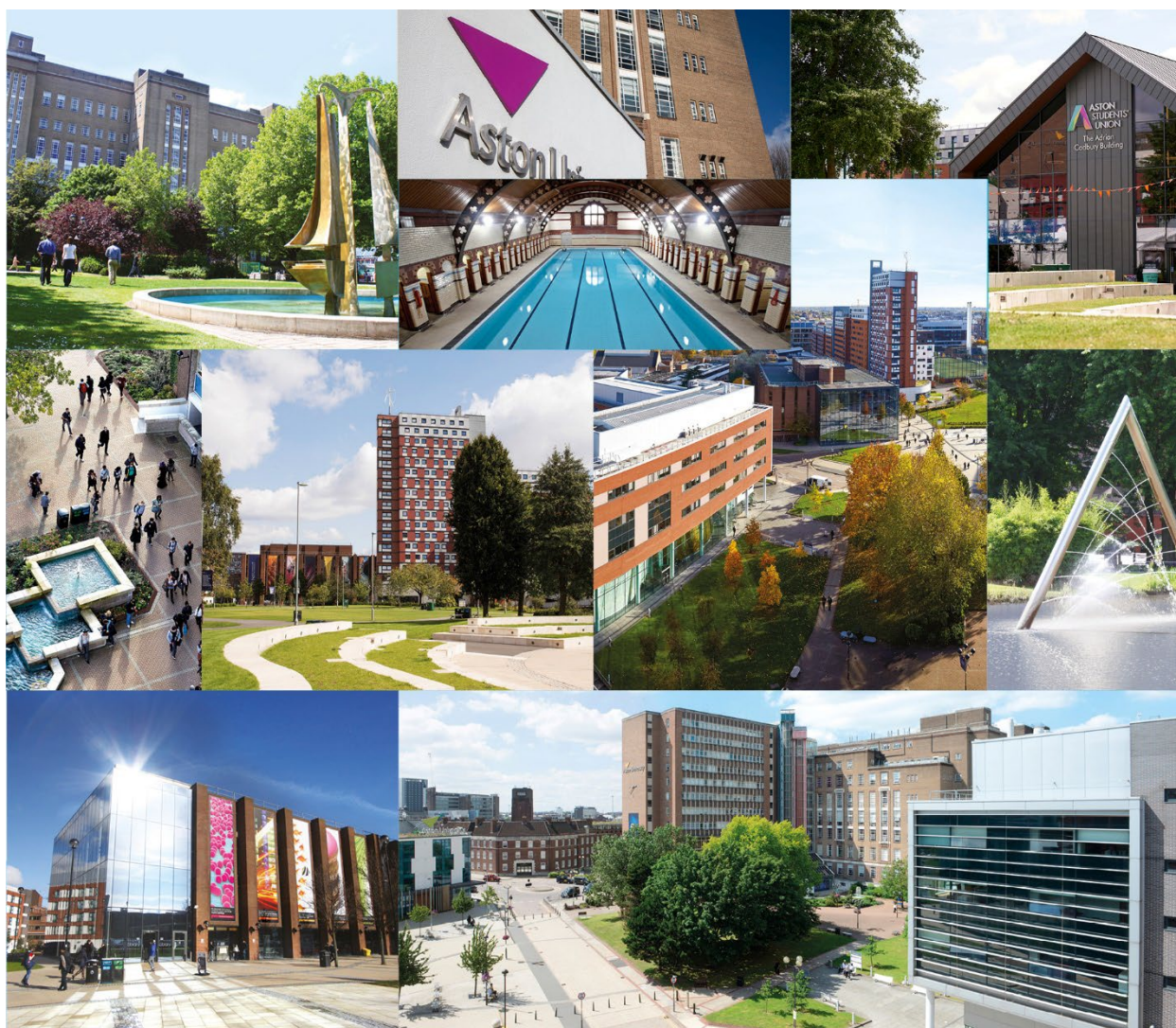
You can apply for this role online via our website <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/jobs>.

Applications should be submitted by 23:59pm 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: Matthew Derry

Job Title: Lecturer

Email: m.derry@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:

New immigration system from 1 January 2021

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 who were not resident in the UK before 31 December 2021 will need to get a visa in advance.

You can find more information [here](#)

Candidates should check their eligibility to enter or remain in the UK in advance of making any job application via the [UKVI website](#). 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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**Where change
gets real.**