



Software Engineer - Design Factory Birmingham

Reference: 0063-24

Grade: 9

Salary: £45,585 - 54,395

Contract Type: Fixed term

Basis: Full Time



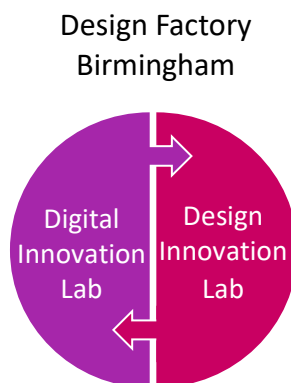
Design Factory Birmingham

Aston University is a leading university of Science, Technology and Enterprise measured by the positive transformational impact we achieve for our people, students, businesses and the communities we serve. By 2030 Aston will be recognised as a leading digital enterprise that is driving socioeconomic transformational impact in Birmingham and the Midlands.

To support this aim, we are launching Design Factory Birmingham (DFB) as a state-of-the-art facility designed to inspire and facilitate innovation and design. It is a unique space that brings together students, staff, industry partners, and entrepreneurs to collaborate, learn, and create new products that solve real-world problems.

DFB will operate as a commercial entity and operate consultancy services providing end-to-end solutions to its clients. This can include design thinking, software development, innovation, prototyping, data services, advanced manufacturing, testing, business incubation and production, all in-house, providing clients with a streamlined and efficient process.

DFB will have dedicated staff be located on-campus with its own identity. It will be supported by Aston University facilities including the Business and Enterprise Hubs, Research and Knowledge Exchange, the External Engagement Directorate, and the Alumni Office.



DFB initially consists of two innovation labs: DFB-Digital and DFB-Design that focus on different aspects of design. DFB-Digital will be managed by a director and supported by an operations manager and several software engineers. Within three years the Digital Lab will be self-sustaining and will host up to 40 placement students working on client projects in areas such as mobile app development, data applications, AI applications, and web and cloud based systems.

Job description

Job Purpose:

DFB-Digital will undertake projects on behalf of external and internal stakeholders. It will provide opportunities for students to work on real-world projects using industrially relevant technology platforms. It will also support Aston academics achieve transformational impact by providing a technology resource that bridges the gap between academic research and real-world stakeholders.

DFB-Digital Software Engineers will provide technical leadership to scope, manage and deliver projects. They will be responsible for project teams (student placements and interns) in terms of technical mentoring and ensuring the team works effectively and delivers high-quality projects on-time and meeting the expectations of the sponsor. Where appropriate, Software Engineers will be responsible for planning and managing the technical infrastructure of the lab and for supporting the lab director liaise with external stakeholders as required. Software Engineers are expected to have industrially relevant technical expertise and can act as mentors to students when preparing for employability, for example job applications, technical interviews and giving technical talks. DFB-Digital Software Engineers may be asked to give occasional lectures and workshops to Computer Science students on industrially relevant technologies.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

General

- To help develop the sustainability of DFB.
- To support Aston University's Employability activities for students, contributing to the operation of the College as required.

Management of Technical Staff within DFB-Digital

- To manage and lead technical student teams within DFB and ensure they are reaching their potential through appraisals, training and in-house coaching.
- To ensure that DFB-Digital offers project services using industry standard technologies, methods and frameworks. Provide mentorship to staff and students to ensure that these are used effectively.
- To scope, manage and deliver technical projects for external and internal clients.

Technical Support

- To provide technical consultancy to DFB students, staff and clients.
- To ensure completion objectives and technical specifications are met.

- To manage and support the operational technical issues within DFB.
- To provide server management (currently linux) for existing clients.
- To develop and manage the process for the software and technical services required for the delivery and subsequent maintenance of high-quality software.
- To Manage and co-coordinate, in conjunction Aston's Digital Services Department as required.
- 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 display and promote Aston values through own actions and behaviour.
- 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	BSc in Computer Science or Data Analytics (or equivalent experience).	Application form
Experience	<p>Experience of leading a software team or significant software projects.</p> <p>Experience of appropriate modern industry standard technologies such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Software development technologies and tools including the use of distributed version control systems and verification systems. • Web technologies. • Data platforms such as PowerBI. • Enterprise application frameworks such as Salesforce, SAP. • Modern software development methods such as Continuous Delivery and Agile. • Server management <p>Experience training junior staff on technical and professional aspects relevant to their work practice</p>	Application form and interview
Aptitude and skills	<p>Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written.</p> <p>Adaptability in changing circumstances and requirements by demonstrating initiative and flexibility in your approach.</p> <p>Excellent strategic planning and organising skills to ensure improvement and development of the technical support services.</p> <p>The ability to work effectively as a committee member and as part of a project team.</p> <p>Leadership skills and ability to use own initiative and make sensible judgements.</p> <p>Strong interpersonal skills related to influencing, persuading, and negotiating.</p>	Application form and interview

	Desirable	Method of assessment
Education and qualifications	Professional qualification in area relevant to the job.	Application form
Experience	<p>Experience of user story mapping and working with non-technical clients or stakeholders.</p> <p>Experience of working with research software, either within industry or academia.</p> <p>Experience of data science or enterprise applications such as Microsoft, Salesforce etc.</p> <p>Experience in conducting staff appraisals.</p>	Application form and interview and presentation

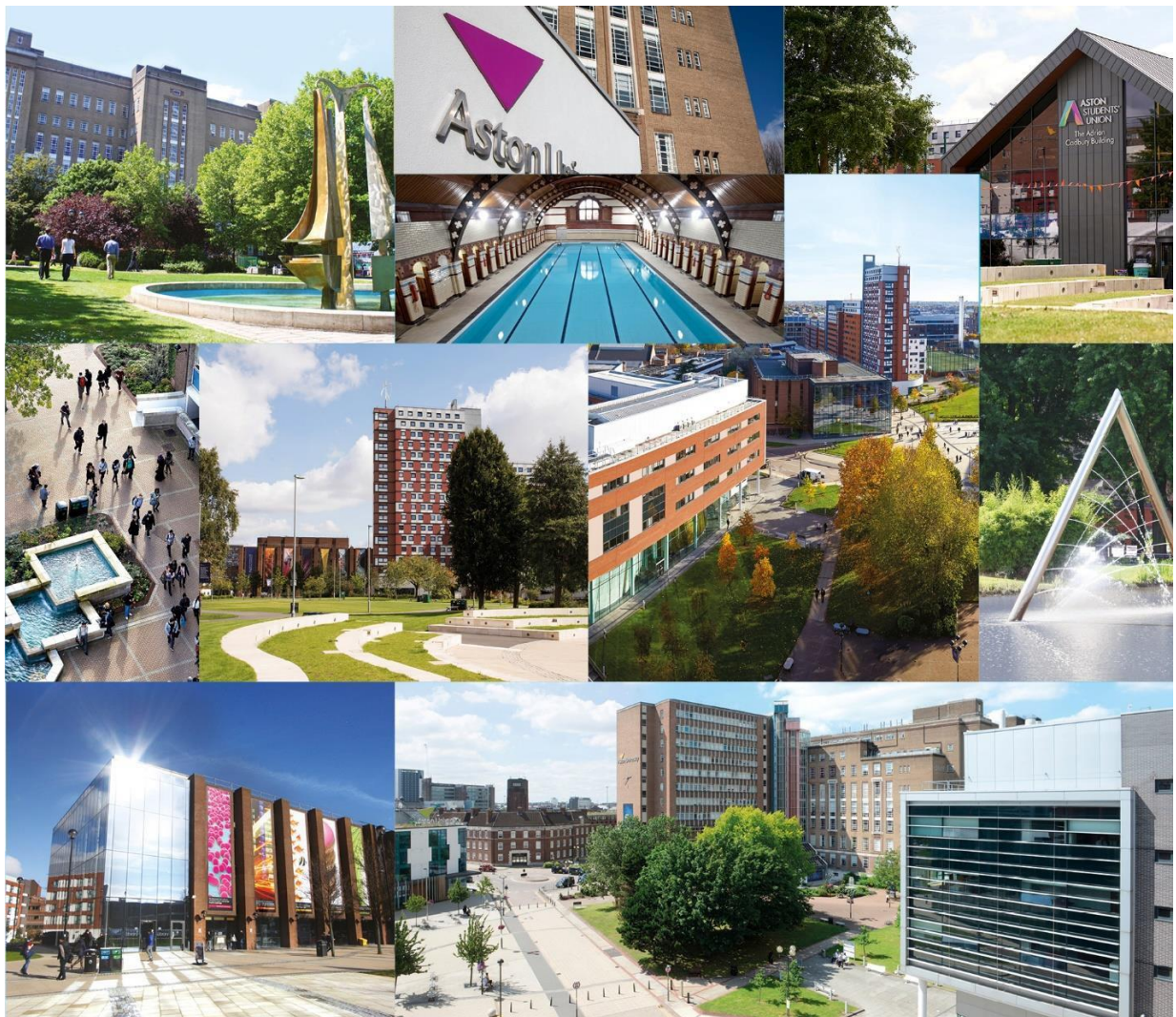
How to apply

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 GMT 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: Professor Tony Clark or Julien Barney

Email: tony.clark@aston.ac.uk or j.barney@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 position they are applying for is listed as 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>

Aston University Birmingham

B4 7ET, UK.

+44 (0)121 204 3000

aston.ac.uk



**Where change
gets real.**