

Research Associate



Reference: 0416-24

Grade: 08

Salary: £37,099

Contract Type: Fixed Term (Up to 4 Months)

Basis: Full Time

Job description

Aston University has secured funding from the Zero Emission Generators (ZE-Gen) program delivered by Innovate UK and the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office. This program aligns with COP27's plan to transform energy access and focuses on developing clean power generation technologies to replace highly polluting fossil fuel generators, emphasising Nigeria and the Philippines.

During the Discovery phase, Aston University will collaborate with businesses from the UK and Nigeria to develop power generation units that harness solar and wind energy. These units will enable microgrids to provide power to various sectors, including cold chain operations, education, residential areas, and health clinics.

We are seeking a Research Associate with expertise in Renewable Energy Mapping, Quantification, and deployment of these systems. The ideal candidate should have experience in Renewable Energy Systems, Computational Modelling, and Data Analysis. The appointed individual will work closely with other Researchers, Engineers, and Technicians at the College of Engineering and Physical Science.

Main duties and Responsibilities

- Leverage renewable mapping and GIS tools with the field data to map out the hybrid renewable energy harvesting.
- Work closely with other overseas Researchers and undertake data analysis.
- Develop models to assess renewable energy demand, preferably using Matlab or Python.
- Develop technical specifications and user guides for the developed technology.
- Learn new modelling techniques, as the job requires.
- Communicate the outcomes to technical and non-technical audience.
- Autonomously progressing the work and reporting according to the project plan.
- To write up and publish the outcomes of research in good quality publications.
- ► To present papers, posters, reports at seminars, conferences, etc.

Research

- ▶ To develop research objectives, projects and proposals for personal/joint research programmes consistent with the priorities and strategy of the School, with the assistance of a mentor if required.
- ▶ 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 in and beyond the School as appropriate.
- ► To identify sources of funding, develop and submit funding applications, securing external research funding.
- ▶ Where appropriate to School/University strategy and subject discipline, to participate in and develop external networks.
- ▶ To supervise and manage research projects.
- ▶ To supervise PhD and other postgraduate students to completion.
- ► To coach junior colleagues in research.

Teaching

- ▶ To undertake a limited amount of teaching with students at a range of levels, achieving good student feedback through critical reflective practice.
- ▶ To contribute to the assessment of student knowledge and the supervision of student projects.
- ► To assist in the development of student research skills.

External engagement

- ▶ To represent the interests of the subject and School via activities to raise the regional, national and international profile, particularly with the professions, schools and businesses.
- ► To forge relationships with the professional bodies and other bodies representing relevant professional interests.

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 and working to support the University's environmental sustainability agenda and practices.

Person specification

	Essential	Method of assessment
Education and qualifications	A PHD in a relevant subject or near to completion.	Application form
Experience	 Knowledge in energy systems. Experience in engineering modelling for renewable systems. Experience in engineering system modeling and developing codes using Python or Matlab. Responsibility in progressing the work according to a project plan. Communicating research outcomes to various audience and writing the research outcomes in reputable journals. 	Application form and interview
Aptitude and skills	 The post holder is responsible for independently advancing the allocated project's activities according to the plan with minimal micromanagement. Excellent communication skills to relay work in written media in an accessible and understandable way. Professional Mechanical Engineering IT skills, including the computational modelling using Python and Matlab, Microsoft Office packages, databases, web, cloud files management, and email. Well-developed interpersonal and team-working skills. 	Application form and interview

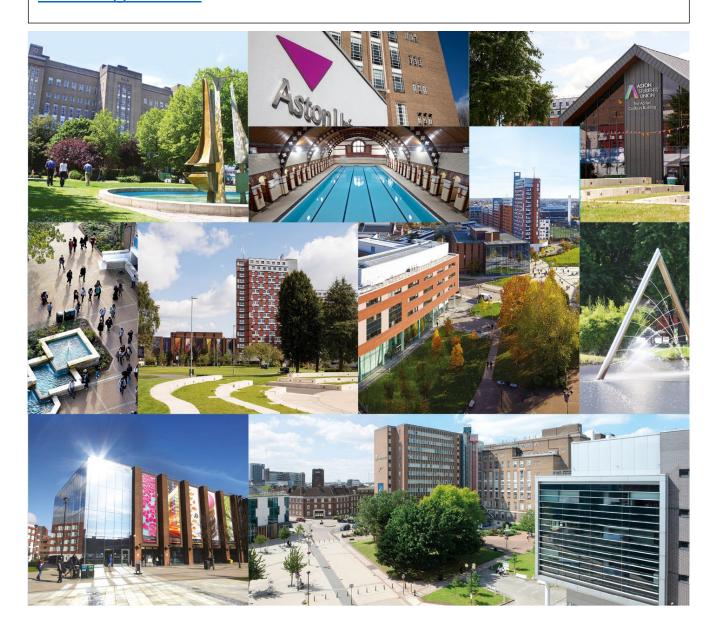
How to apply

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

Applications should be submitted by 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 recruitment@aston.ac.uk.



Contact information

Enquiries about the vacancy:

Name: Ahmed Rezk

Job Title: Senior Lecturer

Email: a.rezk@aston.ac.uk

Enquiries about the application process, shortlisting or interviews:

Recruitment Team via recruitment@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 <u>English language standards</u>. 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, <u>but</u> 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 <u>Midland Landlord Accreditation Scheme</u> 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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