

Post-Doctoral Research Assistant in Multi-agent Agentic AI systems



OPPORTUNITY

Where change gets real.



Reference: 1157-26

Grade: 08

Salary: £38,784 to £41,064 per annum, depending on experience

Contract Type: Fixed Term (until 30/04/2029)

Basis: Full time

Job description

Job Purpose:

To undertake high-quality research and development within the Agentic6G project, contributing to the design, implementation and evaluation of multi-agent agentic AI technologies for 6G network and service management. The postholder will work collaboratively with academic and industry partners, contribute to project outputs and publications, support research students, and contribute to the wider research activities of the Centre for Cybersecurity, Privacy and Trust (CyberHub).

Main Duties/Responsibilities

- ▶ Lead the research and development of novel approaches to systems based on Multi-Agent Agentic AI architectures.
- ▶ Develop AI models, AI-based applications, tools, and software components in collaboration with project partners and research team members.
- ▶ Build, maintain and operate a private 6G cloud testbed primarily based on open-source software.
- ▶ Design and conduct experiments and trials, and collect, process, analyse, and interpret data.
- ▶ Collaboratively create demonstrable proof-of-concepts, integrate with other subsystems, and conduct demonstrations in different events.
- ▶ Represent the research team at project meetings and events, which may include occasional travel.
- ▶ Contribute to and, where appropriate, lead project reports and deliverables.
- ▶ Write, publish and/or present research papers in conferences, seminars, workshops and peer-reviewed journals.
- ▶ Develop and advance novel research ideas and contribute to grant applications.
- ▶ Support the team in the delivery of related research projects.
- ▶ Contribute to the wider academic and research activities of Aston University.

Additional responsibilities

- ▶ Engage in continuous personal and professional development in line with the demands of the role, including undertaking relevant training and development activities.
- ▶ 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 in a relevant subject	Application form and interview
Experience	Production of research outputs such as publication Strong skills in software development and systems administration Experimental skills in testbed integration and evaluation	Application form and interview
Aptitude and skills	Ability to deliver complex technical work as part of an international research team. Ability to prepare technical documentation, including project reports and research publications. Ability to represent the research team at project meetings, conferences and other external events. Ability to analyse and interpret experimental data.	Application form and interview

	Desirable	Method of assessment
Education and qualifications	Postdoctoral experience	Application form
Experience	Experience of working on externally funded research projects, ideally EU Horizon-funded projects.	Application form and interview

	Desirable	Method of assessment
	Experience of contributing to research funding or grant applications.	
Aptitude and Skills	Knowledge of any of the following: ▶ Telecom architectures, such as open-air interfaces, etc ▶ Cloud/containers-based frameworks such as Open Stack and Kubernetes ▶ tools and frameworks of open-source LLM inference engines such as vLMM, TGI, SGLang ▶ Agentic AI development frameworks such as LangChain, MCP/A2A, CrewAI, NVIDIA NeMo	Application form and interview

University values

All staff are expected to demonstrate/promote the University's values and expectations, which are an integral part of our strategy and underpin the culture of the University. In addition, our leaders are expected to be accountable, help to execute strategic visions of the University and share and set clear expectations that inspire those around them.

Values + Behaviours



Innovation

We strive for excellence within ourselves and others, providing solutions to new and existing challenges.



Collaboration

We work best when we are collaborative, working together to contribute to the Aston community.



Ambition

We strive together for improvement and innovation looking ahead to see the bigger picture.



Inclusion

We treat everyone in our community equally and how they would like to be treated.



Integrity

We are open, honest and fair. We take ownership of the way we work and how we treat each other.

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 recruitment@aston.ac.uk.

Contact information

Enquiries about the vacancy:

Name: Prof Alcaraz Calero

Job Title: Director of Aston Research Centre for Cyber Security, Privacy and Trust

Email: j.alcarazcalero@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: 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**.

Please see UKVI guidance for further information on eligibility, knowledge of English requirements and approved test centres <https://www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa> You can also find further information on our candidate immigration [web 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 our candidate immigration [web page](#) for further details.

Before you start and Right to Work

Right to Work Check

All employees must complete a Right to Work check before they commence work at Aston. HR will contact you during the onboarding process to arrange your check.

Cost of Living - Estate and Letting Agents

There are numerous Estate and Letting Agents that can help you find suitable accommodation. Useful websites for support and guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-to-rent/how-to-rent-the-checklist-for-renting-in-england> and <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/housing/>

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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