

The Howell Lab at The Hospital for Sick Children



We are looking for a dynamic, highly motivated team member to help move our projects from discovery to application. Our lab is located in Toronto, Ontario at The Hospital for Sick Children – Canada’s largest hospital-based child health research institute. Our lab (<https://lab.research.sickkids.ca/howell/>) is interested in mechanisms involved in microbial infections. Our group studies exopolysaccharide production in bacteria and fungi, and determines how these molecules contribute to biofilm formation. We use molecular biological and biochemical techniques to study proteins involved in exopolysaccharide production both in isolation as well as in their relevant protein complexes. The successful candidate will work closely with members of the lab as we move our technology from the lab to potential treatments for bacterial and fungal infections. This individual will contribute to our therapeutic project by helping to help express and purify protein from both yeast and bacteria for testing in animal models and aid in other experiments listed below.

Job responsibilities

Express and purify protein from bacteria and yeast
Scale up purification to accommodate testing in animal models
Aid in the development of new expression/purification protocols
Set up and evaluate protein crystallization experiments
Visualize biofilm growth experiments under flow with fluorescence microscopy
Complete antibiotic sensitivity assays
Communicate with collaborators and ship samples as required

Here’s what you’ll need

- Master’s degree or a BSc degree with equivalent working experience in Biochemistry, Molecular biology, Microbiology, Biophysics or Structural Biology.
- Experience with standard biochemical and molecular biological lab techniques
- Experience with mammalian cell culture, bacterial and yeast protein expression and protein purification is required
- Experience with bacterial genetics will be considered a strong asset
- Expertise working with membrane proteins is desirable but not essential
- Demonstrated competency in written and verbal communications
- Ability to work independently as well as part of a team
- Committed to continuous learning and improvement
- High attention to detail
- Excellent organizational skills

Cross-disciplinary candidates will be very competitive but all qualified applicants should apply.

Employment type

Temporary, initial contract 1 year (with possibility of renewal)
Technician II position
Start date September 2016.

How to Apply

Submit a single PDF document with your CV and a cover letter containing your research interests and career goals to <http://www.sickkids.ca/CareersVolunteering/careers/index.html> and search for job ID 6184. Review of applications will begin August 1st 2016. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled.