

Opportunity Title: Tissue Cell Culture Lab Scientist

Opportunity Reference Code: EPA-NSSC-0009-25-02-17-23

Organization U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

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How to Apply Click [HERE](#) to Apply

Description The EPA National Student Services Contract has an immediate opening for a full time Tissue Cell Culture Lab Scientist position with the Office of Research and Development at the EPA facility in Research Triangle Park, NC.

The Office of Research and Development at the EPA supports high-quality research to improve the scientific basis for decisions on national environmental issues and help EPA achieve its environmental goals. Research is conducted in a broad range of environmental areas by scientists in EPA laboratories and at universities across the country.

What the EPA project is about

The Center for Computational Toxicology and Exposure (CCTE) provides the science needed to understand the complex interrelationship between exposure to compounds and their effects on health in support of assessments and policy to protect human health and ecological integrity. In particular, CCTE focuses on the application of higher throughput, computational and predictive New Alternative Methods (NAMs) Within CCTE, the Biomolecular Toxicology Division (BCTD) focuses on the development of rapid methods for assessing toxicity, including in vitro methods that allow for assessment of large numbers of compounds to provide a biological basis for decision-making that will assure chemical safety and sustainability.

As part of their mission, BCTD supports EPA's mission to protect human health and the environment by developing and applying innovations in hazard characterization. Specifically, BCTD has developed a battery of in vitro NAMs that are aimed at providing a more rapid, economical, and biologically based approach to characterization of developmental neurotoxicity (DNT) hazard. BCTD has and continues to collaborate with other organizations interested in developing and using these approaches, including the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the National Toxicology Program (NTP) at the US National Institutes for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). Currently, BCTD is collaborating with NTP under an interagency agreement to test a library of not more than 100 compounds in the US EPA DNT-NAMs battery.

What experience and skills will you gain?

As a team member, you will provide laboratory support, data collection and data analysis to support the testing of compounds in the US EPA DNT-NAMs battery.

How you will apply your skills



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Laboratory support responsibilities will include:

- General laboratory cleanliness and maintenance;
- Preparation of media, buffer and other solutions;
- Maintenance of cell culture incubators and associated equipment;
- Aseptic maintenance of cell cultures, including:
- Changing media in active cultures;
- Autoclaving and sterilizing glassware and water;
- Follow Standard Operating Procedures and adhere to all Center safety, quality assurance and other policies;
- Maintain equipment and assist in ordering laboratory supplies; and
- Other duties as needed to support laboratory function.

Data collection responsibilities will include:

- Participating as a member of a multi-disciplinary research team;
- Interacting with other members of the development team as well as EPA scientists;
- Conducting assays for cell viability;
- Conducting DNT-NAMs assays as training permits; and
- Accurate and reliable record keeping including database management, batch records, notebooks, and all pertinent documentation.

Data analysis responsibilities shall include:

- Conducting initial analyses of collected data to prepare for pipelining through the ToxCast Pipeline (tcp1);
- Documenting all code, methods, and other manipulations of the data; and
- Presenting work performed at appropriate venues (lab meetings, branch or divisional meetings, scientific meetings) as appropriate and required.

Required Knowledge, Skills, Work Experience, and Education

- Demonstrated education and/or experience in tissue culture, aseptic technique, measuring cell viability, data compilation and analysis;
- Demonstrated ability to follow explicit instructions without deviation;
- Demonstrated thoroughness in accomplishing a task through concern for all the areas involved, no matter how small. For example, they monitor and check work or information for completeness and accuracy;
- Demonstrated ability to plan and organize time and resources efficiently;
- Strong written, oral, and electronic communication skills;
- Experience with Microsoft Excel and PowerPoint;
- Experience in using Python, R or other scripting languages; and
- Experience using basic laboratory equipment (e.g. pH meter, electronic balances, etc.) and carrying out routine laboratory tasks.

Location: This job will be located EPA's facility in Research Triangle Park, NC.

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Salary: Selected applicant will become a temporary employee of ORAU and will receive an hourly wage of \$22.91 for hours worked.

Hours: Full-time.

Travel: Overnight travel is permitted if required, but it is expected that overnight travel will only occur infrequently, if at all.



Expected start date: The position is full time and expected to begin April 2023. The selected applicant will become a temporary employee of ORAU working as a contractor to EPA. The contract renews each May through 2025.

For more information, contact EPANSSC@orau.org. Do not contact EPA directly.

EPA ORD employees, their spouses, and children are not eligible to participate in this program.

- Qualifications**
- Be at least 18 years of age **and**
 - Have earned at least a Bachelor's degree in the field of biology, chemistry, microbiology, physiology, neuroscience or a related field **and**
 - Be a citizen of the United States of America or a Legal Permanent Resident.

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- Eligibility Requirements**
- **Citizenship:** LPR or U.S. Citizen
 - **Degree:** Bachelor's Degree received within the last 24 month(s).
 - **Discipline(s):**
 - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** ([12](#) )
 - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([46](#) )

Affirmation I certify that I am at least 18 years of age; a recent graduate with at least a Bachelor's degree in the field of biology, chemistry, microbiology, physiology, neuroscience or a related field; a citizen or a Legal Permanent Resident of the United States of America; and not a current employee of EPA ORD or the spouse or child of an EPA ORD employee.

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