Candidate Information

Position:	Marie Curie Researcher, Early Stage Researcher
School/Department:	The Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine
Reference:	19/108022
Closing Date:	Tuesday 31 December 2019
Salary:	£31,281.02 (with pension) per annum (there is also an additional mobility allowance of £406 per month).
Duration:	36 months

JOB PURPOSE:

Early Stage Researcher (ERS), (PhD Student) who will be an active member of a research team in the BactiVax (anti-Bacterial Innovative Vaccines) Innovative Training Network (ITN). The ESR will undertake research and undergo training in the framework of the BactiVax project. The ESR will be funded for 36 months through the prestigious Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) ITN EID programme; an initiative by the European Commission to train creative, entrepreneurial, innovative researchers, who are able to face current and future societal challenges, and will convert knowledge and ideas into products and services for the economic and social benefit of Europe.

BactiVax involves collaborative research between academic and industrial partners, with a focus on developing novel vaccines to tackle the huge challenge of antimicrobial-resistant human pathogens that cause chronic, life-threatening respiratory and/or systemic infections.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Carry out the research and training activities specified by a personal career development plan (PCDP).
2. Conduct research in interdisciplinary aspects of synthetic chemistry and catalysis under continuous flow processes.
3. Undertake mandatory training programs and secondments at both Queen's University Belfast (UK) and the appropriate partner.
4. Actively participate in training activities and submit reports in fulfilment of the project requirements.
5. Participate in outreach and dissemination activities promoting the BactiVax ITN and the Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) programme including the use of social media, video-diaries, newsletters, etc.
6. Prepare regular progress reports on the performed research and training activities and present the research outcomes at meetings, project workshops, and to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
7. Work closely with academic and industrial collaborators and facilitate knowledge transfer between the BactiVax beneficiaries.
8. Study and follow the technical literature including academic papers, textbooks and patents to keep abreast with the state-of-the-art in the project topical area.
9. Record, analyse and write up results of research work and contribute to the production of research reports and publications.
10. Carry out routine administrative duties as requested, e.g. arranging research programme group meetings, maintaining research programme group website/social media, contributing to organisation of BactiVax project training workshops and events.
11. To work towards being awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), following the QUB regulations for research degrees.

Planning and Organising:

1. Contribute to the PCDP development and provide regular updating of this plan.
2. Manage own time and meet agreed deadlines.
3. Plan own day-to-day activity within the framework of the agreed research and training programme.
4. Contribute to the planning of research and training activities, reports and publications.
5. Actively contribute to organisation of outreach activities events such as BactiVax workshops.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.

2. Provide guidance as required to support staff and any students involved with research and training.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Liaise with research colleagues and support staff on routine matters
2. Make internal and external contacts to develop knowledge and understanding and form relationships for future collaboration.
3. Attend and contribute to relevant meetings and training events.
4. As an BactiVax MSCA ITN ambassador, contribute to the project outreach programmes by establishing links with local community groups, industries etc.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or about to obtain a 1st class Honour Degree or equivalent in microbiology, biochemistry, immunology or related discipline.
2. Experience of having carried out research in microbiology, molecular biology or immunology.
3. Strong analytical and problem-solving skills.
4. Excellent verbal and writing communication skills.
5. Ability to interact effectively with colleagues and staff.
6. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
7. Ability to logically conceptualise and summarise the research findings.
8. Advanced analytical skills.
9. Ability to participate in knowledge transfer and demonstration.
10. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
11. Ability to organise resources, manage time and meet deadlines.
12. Over the 3-year project, be willing and able to spend 66% of the time in QUB (UK) and 33% of the time in the appropriate industrial/academic partner.
13. Be in the first 4 years (full-time equivalent) of their research careers and not yet have been awarded a doctorate. This 4-year period is measured from the date of obtaining the degree which would formally entitle to embark on a doctorate.
14. Must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the UK for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to their selection for this post.
15. Be willing, eligible and qualified for enrolment in the PhD programme within the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences at QUB.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Masters qualification in a relevant subject.
2. Evidence of successful research experience (i.e. publications in scientific journals).
3. Employment, placements or work experience in a commercial research environment relevant to BactiVax.
4. Familiarity with bioinformatic tools (e.g. scripting in Python, R).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION: This document outlines the eligibility information relating to the BactiVax, in compliance with the rules set out by the European Commission.

Mobility Rule:

1. The researcher must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies etc.) in the UK for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to their recruitment.

2. Short stays (e.g. holidays) are not taken into account.

3. Eligible researchers must not have spent more than 12 months in the 3 years prior to the date of recruitment [1] in the appointing organisation (Queenâ€™s University Belfast, QUB).

4. Refugees: procedures for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention are not counted as a period of residence in the country or organisation (i.e. are not included in (1) or (3) above).

Sanctions Compliance:
â€¢ Nationals or residents from some countries, and for some scientific fields, may be subject to EU sanctions if restrictive measures are in place.
â€¢ Clarification may be sought from researchers who are nationals of countries subject to EU sanctions and working in particular fields. A list of these countries is found:

https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/restrictive_measures-2017-04-26-clean.pdf

Eligible Researchers:
1. Early stage researchers (ESRs) shall at the date of recruitment by QUB be in the first four years[2] (full-time equivalent research experience) of their research careers and not have been awarded a doctoral degree.
2. Any nationality.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
For additional information about the BactiVax MSCA ITN EID please visit https://www.bactivax.eu/opportunities

[1] The â€œdate of recruitmentâ€• refers to the first day of employment of the researcher within BactiVax.
[2] Measured from the date when the degree was awarded which would formally entitle the applicant to embark on a doctorate, either in the awarding country or the country in which the ESR is recruited, regardless of whether a doctorate is or was ever envisaged.