

Candidate Information

Position: Technician
School/Department: Pharmacy
Reference: 22/110438
Closing Date: Thursday 5 January 2023
Salary: £25,642 - £29,619 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date: Wednesday 18 January
Duration: Fixed Term available from 08/03/2023 until 08/03/2024

JOB PURPOSE:

To provide specialist technical services to support teaching activities in the Industrial Pharmaceutics MSc course, research support and general laboratory duties.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Set up, organise service and maintain a range of specialised equipment and apparatus for use by staff and students in practical classes and projects.
2. Provide training, support, supervision and troubleshooting for end users on equipment and processes. Plan and prepare solutions, solid dosage forms and equipment in advance to ensure classes run smoothly and on time.
3. General organisation of several laboratories used for preparation and the delivery of practical classes. Advise on space requirements and timetabling for postgraduate practical classes. Adapt as and when required.
4. Prepare and maintain adequate laboratory records.
5. Liaise with both academic and technical members of staff to ensure smooth running of postgraduate practical classes and postgraduate research as required. Inform academic staff, postgraduates and demonstrators of modifications to methods for the practical sessions.
6. Provide technical assistance in this area of expertise for other projects in the School.
7. Contribute to the development of health and safety policies and risk assessments to ensure compliance in order to provide a safe working environment, review and generate Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and CoSHH documents as required.
8. Comply with Health and Safety procedures affecting self and others. Design risk assessments for all relevant equipment. Ensure students/staff are trained in the correct use of any equipment and keep records of training for audit purposes. Ensure that all staff/students are given an induction on the local Safety rules before commencing any laboratory activities. Ensure that chemicals and active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) are stored safely and correctly.
9. Ensure that all equipment within their remit operates within prescribed parameters, reporting any faults that occur. Ensure that electrical appliances have been PAT tested and that all laboratory equipment is in safe working order.
10. Carry out regular audits of the laboratory, report to the School Health & Safety Committee and follow up on any issues arising. Record results to provide information/evidence for QUB/external safety audits.
11. Responsibility for overseeing the safe handling and disposal of contaminated waste within the Pharmacy building. Training of new staff and students in the safe handling and disposal of contaminated materials and ensuring that all safety protocols are adhered to both staff and students.
12. Carry out any other duties, which are appropriate to the post as may be reasonably requested by Supervisor.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Academic and/or vocational qualifications (e.g NVQ 3, 2 A 'levels, ONC/OND, City & Guilds level 3 or equivalents in a relevant subject).
2. 3 years laboratory work experience in a relevant area.

3. Recent hands-on experience in at least two of the following techniques:
 - Spectroscopic analysis (e.g. UV, FTIR, Raman).
 - Preparation of solid dosage forms (e.g. Tablets, extrudates).
 - Experience in a variety of Drug Delivery Systems.
 - Analytical techniques including Texture analyser, Optical microscopy, SEM.
4. Experience conducting and recording health and safety assessments.
5. Experience in handling/storage of bottled gases.
6. Experience in stock control and requisitioning.
7. Specialist skills and knowledge relevant to the job.
8. Comprehensive knowledge of relevant systems, equipment and processes.
9. Well-developed understanding of relevant regulations and procedures, including Health and Safety requirements.
10. Good communication and interpersonal skills.
11. Ability to interact and communicate effectively with research colleagues, support staff and external networks.
12. Ability to develop and demonstrate standard equipment and techniques.
13. Ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing.
14. Ability to prioritise own work within a general plan to meet deadlines.
15. Ability to manage busy and varied workload and prioritise conflicting demands.
16. Practical problem-solving skills and independence of thought are required.
17. Ability to assess and organise resources.
18. Analytical and problem solving skills.
19. Ability to work as part of a team with the aptitude to motivate other staff.
20. Occasional work outside normal working hours.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Degree level qualification or equivalent in related area.
2. Experience in Emerging technologies (e.g. 3D printing, Microfluidics).
3. Experience in rheology.
4. Experience with commercial companies for pricing and sourcing of laboratory materials.