

Laboratory Technician

Glowacka lab at the Department of Biochemistry at UNL is located in Beadle Center and works on improvement of photosynthesis in crops combining the studies of natural variation with the advantage of synthetic biology approaches. The lab is looking to hire a lab technician to assist with ongoing projects. The successful candidate can expect to get training in multiple physiological and molecular biology techniques.

Laboratory Technician Job Responsibilities:

- Assisting in transgenic manipulation of gene expression in Arabidopsis and tobacco including the creation of plasmid constructs for genetic manipulation, the transformation process itself, and the screening of potentially transgenic plants.
- Taking care of plant material in the greenhouse by setting experiments, fertilizing, watering, repotting, bagging plants, performing plants' crosses, collecting seeds and keeping seeds inventory updated;
- Communicating with the greenhouse management team about planned experiments and the need of preparation for greenhouse supplies;
- Performing physiological measurements, archiving the collected data and helping with analyses of the collected data
- Assisting during a field experiments in summer months by collecting samples and measurements from the field;
- Keeping an inventory of the lab to ensure that reagents, solutions and consumables are well stocked, and for maintaining the cleanliness of the lab, in coordination with several undergraduates.

The daily duties could include nucleic acid extraction, performing PCR; preparation of growth media and stock solution, passaging the tissue cultures, watering plants in the greenhouse; collecting seeds; taking the fluorescence images of plant material.

Work Hours & Benefits

30 hours per week with the rate of \$14/hour. Positions that are longer than six months and half-time or greater will receive benefits. These include health/dental insurance and vacation/sick leave. (Does not include tuition remission, administrative/funeral leave, holiday pay or UNL contributions to retirement). Temporary appointments of six months or less are not eligible for benefits.

Qualifications / Skills:

- Familiarity with a lab environment
- Ability to learn new techniques and follow the protocols,
- Good organizational skills
- Ability to critically interpret results and solve problems
- Reliability
- Paying attention to the details
- Good communication skills.

Education and Experience Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in biological sciences or biochemistry or closely related discipline
- Valid and current driver's license

- Basic computer knowledge (Word and Excel) and skills in the lab information systems is desirable
- Previous experience in working in the lab is preferred
- Experience in molecular biology and/or plant biotechnology and plant physiology is preferable but not necessary.