MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL

Job Title: Research Laboratory Technician I   Job Family: Research
Job Code: 000319   FLSA Status: Non-Exempt
Department: Medicine/Endocrine Unit
Position Reports To: Murat Bastepe

GENERAL SUMMARY/OVERVIEW STATEMENT: Summarize the nature and level of work performed.

The Research Laboratory Technician I is a full-time position, and the primary responsibility is to assist in ongoing research studies under the supervision of a Principal Investigator in the Endocrine Unit at Massachusetts General Hospital. The MGH Endocrine Unit is a leader in investigating, diagnosing and treating disorders of bone and mineral metabolism, thyroid diseases and general endocrine conditions.

Responsibilities include collection of and accurate recording of procedures and results, maintenance of databases used in the lab, ordering necessary reagents to conduct experiments, and participation in joint upkeep of the lab. This position requires a person who has Bachelor of Science degree in molecular/cell biology, biochemistry or a related field, pays attention to details, is capable of working independently under close supervision after initial training, possesses good verbal and written communication skills, and works well as part of a team. Work is reviewed regularly with the Principal Investigator who is available to trouble shoot problems.

PRINCIPAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Indicate key areas of responsibility, major job duties, special projects and key objectives for this position. These items should be evaluated throughout the year and included in the written annual evaluation.

Responsibilities comprise, but are not limited to:

- Maintains colonies of mice for ongoing projects in the Endocrine Unit. Coordinates matings, performs tagging of mice, genotyping and sequence analysis of genes. Maintains information in databases for mice and coordinates animal transfers.
- Responsible for ordering common laboratory reagents and other supplies and for assuring that supply levels in the lab are adequate. Prepares materials for shipping, assuring compliance with regulations for biological samples.
- Operates moderately complex equipment including microscopes, centrifuges, autoclave, spectrophotometers, PCR machines, quantitative real-time PCR machines, and the dual-detector Envision.
- Techniques used will include: PCR, subcloning, plasmid preparations, maintenance of cell lines, dissection of mice for histological analysis, sectioning of tissue samples, cell culture, Western blotting, immunohistochemistry, RNA analyses.
- Organizes and accurately maintains written records of experimental procedures and data collection. Data may be represented as graphs, charts, tables, illustrations, slides and narrative reports. Is able to learn to interpret data results and has a high degree of computer literacy.
- Aids in maintaining information in databases for plasmids, cells, antibodies, and primers and boxes in the fridge, -20 and -80 freezers.
- Performs basic design and modification of protocols. Executes protocols of non-routine experiments.
- Participates in upkeep of lab, performs basic maintenance on laboratory equipment (cleans, disassembles, stores, replaces worn parts) and reports equipment requiring advanced repair.
- Participates in and presents data at weekly lab meetings and journal clubs.
- Interacts well with others, assists in training laboratory personnel in lab techniques and procedures that have been acquired.
SKILLS/ABILITIES/COMPETENCIES REQUIRED: Must be realistic, objective, measurable and related to essential functions of this job.

- Experience with basic laboratory techniques in the setting of a research experience or undergraduate biochemistry/molecular biology lab e.g.: sterile cell culture techniques, basic molecular biology techniques such as plasmid purification, gel electrophoresis, and PCR.
- Ability to build upon these techniques, learning new ones as necessary, to conduct the research project.
- Must be self-motivated and able to perform multiple tasks independently.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Basic proficiency in Word, Power point, Excel, and Internet searches is required.

EDUCATION: Specify minimum education and clearly indicate if preferred or required

- BS/BA in biology, molecular biology, or biochemistry or related field.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITY (if applicable): List the number of FTEs supervised.

None.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY (if applicable): Indicate financial “scope” information, i.e.: size of budget, volume, revenue, etc.; Indicate total physician/non-physician FTE scope

None.

WORKING CONDITIONS: Describe the conditions in which the work is performed.

- Duties will be performed in a research laboratory.
- No direct patient contact will occur.
- Must be willing to work with mice.
- Work will be conducted over a 40-hour work week.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:
Interested candidates should send a cover letter, CV and contact information for at least three references to:
Murat Bastepe, MD, PhD
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Boston, MA 02114 USA
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