

The Vetmeduni teaches, undertakes research and offers services designed to guarantee the health of animals in Austria. We view our work as our contribution to ensuring human health and the health of our animal companions as well as to the production of healthy food. To help us meet these objectives,

the **Clinical Center for Population Medicine of Fish, Pig and Poultry Health, Clinical Department for Farm Animals and Food System Science**, is looking for a

Scientific Project Assistant (Pre-Doc) PhD-student in fish-parasite interaction with focus on proteases

Grade:	B1 Pre-Doc
Level of employment:	30 hours per week
Duration of contract:	limited to 3 years, starting immediately
Deadline for applications NEW:	14.7.2023
Reference number:	2024/0129

Research at the **Fish Health Division** aims to provide solutions for fish welfare, and to develop antiparasitic strategies and vaccines to sustain fish as a food supply and increase sustainable global food production from aquaculture. We strive to innovate in the fields of molecular parasitology and immunology. Our laboratory has a strong research focus on myxozoans, microscopic parasites causing a number of diseases in fish. In project funded by the Austrian Science Fund, we are investigating the interaction of parasite blood stages with erythrocytes, enzyme cascades for hemoglobinolysis, and we aim to characterize the poorly known immune defenses of red blood cells and immune evasion strategies of the parasites. We are looking for a highly motivated PhD student whose background and skills can address and investigate these questions with the appropriate training.

Tasks

- Experimental *in vitro* and *in vivo* methods, molecular biology
- Bioinformatics, comparative transcription studies
- CRISPR/Cas9 genome editing
- Data analysis and preparation using mathematical and statistical models
- Preparation of presentations and scientific publications, as well as participation in conferences.

Required education, qualifications and knowledge on taking up employment

- Diploma or BSc+MSc in life sciences, molecular biology, biotechnology, biochemistry, human or veterinary medicine, or related fields (totaling 300 ECTS)
- Proven years of experience in laboratory methods at an academic research institution or in industry (evidence of practical application beyond the level of coursework)
- Good English skills (B2)

Desirable qualifications and skills

- Fundamental knowledge and experience in biochemistry or molecular biology
- In-depth knowledge and experience in designing and conducting CRISPR/Cas9 experiments
- Profound knowledge and experience in transcriptomics/proteomics and bioinformatic methods
- Basic knowledge in a statistically-oriented programming language (R or similar)
- High level of organizational skills
- Interest in fundamental molecular research
- Reliability, teamwork, proactive behavior, and strong communication skills
- Basic knowledge of German (A2)

We offer

- Top university: Vetmeduni is one of the leading academic institutions in Europe to offer education in and undertake research on veterinary medicine
- Stable employer
- Opportunities for further training, both personal and in connection with your career
- Preventive and medical health care
- Diversity- and family-friendly culture
- Childcare facilities, both in term time and during holidays
- Attractive campus
- Many fringe benefits
- Staff events

Minimum salary

The minimum salaries at universities are governed by a collective bargaining agreement. At the level given above, the salary amounts to EUR 3,578.80 net per month (based on full-time employment).

Applications

Please send your application, quoting **reference number 2024/0129**, by e-mail to bewerbungen@vetmeduni.ac.at to the Department of Personnel of the University of Veterinary Medicine. Please **do not forget to include the reference number**, otherwise we won't be able to assign your application to the correct position.

Applications should include

- a **CV**
- **two academic contacts** for references
- a **cover letter** containing a personal statement which you can use to demonstrate your passion for the chosen subject, reasons for wanting to study a PhD, personal motivations, any extracurricular activities that are particularly relevant or should be highlighted, and previous team-working experience.

Please submit all materials in a single .pdf file.

In accordance with § 41 of the 2002 Universities Act, the Vetmeduni is striving to increase the proportion of female staff members, particularly in leadership positions, and to achieve a balanced ratio of men and women on its staff, especially the scientific staff, and would thus welcome applications from qualified females. If women are underrepresented (below 50%), female candidates who are as well qualified as the most appropriate male candidates will be given preference, provided that there is no reason to prefer a particular male candidate. There is no cost for applying for the position. However, candidates have no rights to reimbursement of any travel and accommodation costs that may arise in connection with their applications.

Vetmeduni is proud to hold the certificate “hochschuleundfamilie” (university and family) and thus welcomes applications from people with families. We also welcome applications from persons with disabilities or chronic conditions. If you have any questions, please contact our representative for the disabled, Mr Franz Mitterbauer (franz.mitterbauer@vetmeduni.ac.at).

Further information

Univ.-Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Astrid Holzer

Fish Health Division

Clinical Department for Farm Animals and Food System Science

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