Queen Mary
University of London



Job pack

Message from the President and Principal



Thank you for your interest in this role and in Queen Mary University of London. Working at Queen Mary means being part of a unique, world-class global University with a long, proud and distinctive history.

Our founding institutions, the London Hospital Medical College, St Bartholomew's Medical College, Westfield College and Queen Mary College, were founded to provide hope and opportunity for the less privileged and otherwise under-represented.

Today, we remain true to the vision of our founders by continuing to improve lives locally, nationally and internationally through the seamless combination of our world-leading strengths in education and research.

The Queen Mary community – our staff, students and alumni – is the heart and soul of our University. We are proud to provide an inclusive and nurturing environment so that staff and students from all backgrounds can develop, flourish and achieve their full potential.

I look forward to welcoming you to our unique University and working with you to realise our ambitions.

Professor Colin Bailey, President and Principal

qmul.ac.uk

Our strategy 2030

In 2019, Queen Mary University of London launched a bold new Strategy with the vision to open the doors of opportunity. By 2030, we will be the most inclusive university of its kind, anywhere. We are doing this by building on our existing cultural diversity to create a truly inclusive environment, where students and staff flourish, reach their full potential and are proud to be part of the University. Continuing our long tradition of commitment to public good, we will generate new knowledge, challenge existing knowledge, and engage locally, nationally and internationally to create a better world.

We have five core values that will help us to reach this goal:

We are **inclusive**, supporting talented students and staff regardless of their background, and engaging with our local and global communities.

We are **proud** of the difference we can all make when we work collectively.

We are **ambitious**, fostering innovation and creativity, disrupting conventional thought, and responding with imagination to new opportunities.

We are **collegial**, promoting a strong community through openness, listening, understanding, co-operation and co-creation.

We are **ethical,** acting with the highest standards, and with integrity, in all that we do.

To enable our staff to flourish and to reach their full potential throughout their employment at Queen Mary, we offer a range of benefits:

Staff benefits

- Annual leave – the full-time annual leave annual entitlement is 30 working days (not including bank holidays).
- Season ticket loan scheme
- Pension scheme
- Reward and recognition schemes
- Staff Networks
- Cycle to work scheme
- Qmotion sport fitness centre
- Employee Assistance Programme
- Family friendly policies
- Flexible working practices

Job description

Job details	
Job title	Research Assistant
School/Dept/Institute Centre/Faculty	Centre for Genomics and Child Health, Blizard Institute, FMD
Reports to	Principal Investigator
Grade and salary	Grade 4 £39,187-£39,802 per annum
Hours per week	Full-time
Appointment period	8 months
Current location	Whitechapel
Work activity type	Research only

About Queen Mary University of London

Ranked joint 7th in the UK for the quality of its research in the 2021 Research Excellence Framework, Queen Mary University of London, is one of the UK's leading research-intensive higher education institutions, delivering world class education and knowledge transfer across a wide range of subjects in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Medicine & Dentistry and Science & Engineering.

About The Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

The Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry offers international excellence in research and teaching and supports clinical service for a population of unrivalled ethnic diversity in East London and the wider Thames Gateway. At the forefront of medical research and education, with research themes in cancer, cardiovascular medicine, inflammation, trauma and population health. Queen Mary is in the top 10 universities in the UK for medicine and dentistry and 7th in the world for research citations for medicine in the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2025. In the Complete University Guide 2026, we are ranked first in London for dentistry and second in London for medicine.

Working with six NHS Trust partners in East London, the Faculty is central to delivering impact on health-related challenges for local and global populations; it has a strong commitment to public engagement through its pioneering science education centre in Whitechapel, The Centre of the Cell. The Faculty is firmly embedded in our East End and global communities, and through education and research we are committed to improving the health outcomes, the wellbeing, and the prosperity of those we serve through a strategy focused on Better Health for All.

Job context

The successful candidate will undertake experimental research on a human stem cell-based tissue engineering project within the Blizard Institute, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London. The project aims to develop innovative regenerative therapies for traumatic muscle injury by combining human iPSC-derived myogenic cells with advanced tissue engineering approaches to develop and evaluate new strategies for muscle regeneration.

Job purpose

To undertake research investigations under the supervision of Dr Yung-Yao Lin in order to realise the objectives and development of the research programme. This will include coordinating with international collaborators. The post-holder will be expected to contribute to the delivery of high-quality research at Queen Mary University of London, specifically within the Centre for Genomics and Child Health. They will take responsibility for the project in the field of traumatic injury and regenerative medicine.

Main duties and responsibilities

1. Contribute towards the project at all stages where relevant by applying agreed research principles, protocols and assisting in the planning and delivery of the programme of research.
2. Responsible, under the general guidance of the Principal Investigator for undertaking specific research activities relating to the programme of work.
3. Prepare reports of research results for public presentation through seminars and conferences. Contribute to writing papers summarising research findings for publication in peer-reviewed journals (of high international standing where appropriate) and other reports where required.
4. Conduct empirical research as required by the research programme. Make research initiatives and original contributions to the research programme wherever possible, and to contribute freely to the team research environment in a manner conducive to the success of the research programme as a whole.
5. Develop, in collaboration with the Principal Investigator such new techniques as may be necessary to achieve the objectives of the research.
6. Collate data and undertake any appropriate analysis of data as requested by the Principal Investigator
7. Maintain appropriate databases, keeping accurate written and computerised records and to ensure that these records are stored in a secure place, and to maintain confidentiality of all electronically stored personal data in line with the provisions of the Data Protection Act.
8. Undertake literature and database searches for the research project, and to be able to interpret and present the findings of the literature searches and advise the research teams appropriately regarding potential projects as required by the Principal Investigator.
9. Work closely with colleagues e.g. Joint Research Management Office, Impact team, to provide assistance with, and ensure delivery of, the administrative aspects of the research activities as required by the needs of the research programme.
10. Keep up to date with subject related and appropriate academic/professional matters, in particular, developments in the specific subject area.
11. Provide oversight/support for, and assist in the supervision of, student projects, as required.
12. To show a professional attitude to matters of laboratory hygiene, organisation and safety, and to observe and to take an active role in fulfilling all statutory health and safety regulations.
13. To ensure that all research is undertaken according to good research practice and guidance, such as Good Clinical Practice (GCP), / Good Laboratory Practice (GLP), / and University protocols.
14. To coordinate the provision of consumable items for the facility (auditing stock, liaising with suppliers, preparing regular orders of commonly used items).
15. The duties of the post outlined above are not exhaustive, and the postholder will be expected to be co-operative and flexible, undertaking such administrative and other duties as may from time to time be reasonably expected of a member of research grade staff in a university.
16. These duties will be subject to review in line with the changing requirements of the School/Institute/University, and with the development needs of the postholder as identified through regular review/appraisal processes.

The above list of responsibilities is not exhaustive, and the jobholder may be required to undertake other duties commensurate with the level of the role as reasonably requested by their line manager.

This job description accurately reflects the duties and responsibilities of the role at the time the job description was written. These duties and responsibilities may change over time without significantly impacting on the character of the role, the overall level of responsibility, or its grade.

Depending on strategic or operational needs, the jobholder may in the future be required to work for another existing or new organisational unit and/or at a different site within Queen Mary. This may be on a temporary or indefinite basis and may involve a change in line management and / or regularly working at more than one site.

Citizenship

The Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry is committed to an action plan that supports the cultivation of a diverse and nurturing staff and student community, at the heart of which sits the commitment to equality of opportunity and equity in our processes and structures.

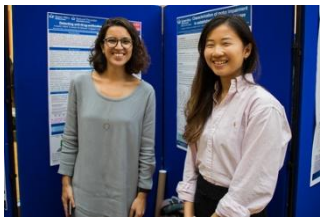
It is the expectation of all staff that they undertake citizenship responsibilities within the Faculty. As part of the appraisal and probation process, your line manager will discuss the expectations of you to lead or participate in citizenship projects/initiatives as set out in the Faculty's EDI Strategy. These responsibilities will be commensurate with the seniority of the role and the expertise and experience of the individual.

Person specification

This table lists the essential and desirable requirements needed in order to perform the job effectively. Candidates will be shortlisted based on the extent to which they meet these requirements.

Essential: Requirements without which the job could not be done.
Desirable: Requirements that would enable the candidate to perform the job well.

Qualifications	Essential	Desirable
Undergraduate degree in relevant bioscience field (minimum upper second class honours degree)	☒	☐
Master's degree in science subject or equivalent experience	☐	☒
Experience/Knowledge		
Mammalian cell culture	☒	☐
Advanced microscopy	☒	☐
Expertise in myogenic differentiation from human iPSCs	☐	☒
Expertise in tissue sectioning and immunohistochemistry	☐	☒
Expertise in calcium imaging and analysis	☐	☒
Strong understanding, technical expertise, and statistical analysis skills in cell and molecular biology	☐	☒
Strong understanding in neuromuscular biology	☐	☒
Experience with developing Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)	☐	☒
Evidence of advancing your knowledge and understanding of diversity issues.	☒	☐
Skills/Abilities		
Evidence of good team-working	☒	☐
Ability to maintain accurate and up to date records	☒	☐
Strong communication skills	☒	☐
Ability to organise and prioritise own work and organise research within the project timetable	☒	☐
Demonstrate IT skills, including MS Office packages	☒	☐
Self-motivated and willingness to learn new skills	☒	☐
Other		
*The ability to meet UK 'right to work' requirements.	☒	☐
Flexible and professional approach to work	☐	☒





* The University has a legal responsibility to ensure that all potential employees can provide documentary evidence of their legal right to work in the UK prior to commencing employment.

Visa Sponsorship

For those who do not have a right to work in the UK, the University is a UKVI licensed sponsor and is able to issue a Certificate of Sponsorship (CoS) to successful candidates who are offered skilled roles and meet the eligibility criteria. The CoS enables candidates to apply for a Skilled Worker visa. Further information on the Skilled Worker visa can be found via: www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa

Global Talent Visa Route

The Global Talent visa is an alternative route to sponsorship, directly applied for by the applicant. It is open to those wishing to work in the UK and who are a leader or potential leader in the fields of academia or research, arts and culture, and digital technology. Further information on the Global Talent Route can be found via: https://www.gov.uk/global-talent

For additional information on both visa sponsorship and non-sponsorship visa routes, please visit the UK Visas and Immigration website: https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/work-visas

Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS)

Academics and Researchers applying for Skilled Worker visas and Sponsored Researchers applying for Government Authorised Exchange visas who will be undertaking research activities, at PhD level or above, in the one of the ATAS listed subject areas will be required to obtain an ATAS certificate before they can apply for a visa to work in the UK.

Exemptions will exist for nationals from the EEA, Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, Switzerland and USA and those applying for Global Talent Visas. For further information on this, please visit the UK Visas and Immigration website: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/find-out-if-you-require-an-atas-certificate






EDI Initiatives

Queen Mary is committed to advancing Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI). We hold a Silver Institutional Athena SWAN award for advancing gender equality and champion a number of EDI initiatives across the University. We also offer a number of development programmes including Springboard, Aurora and B-MEntor.
We are committed to championing EDI relating to all protected characteristics and other underrepresented and marginalised groups under the Equality Act 2010. We offer 'Introducing Inclusion' training for staff to give them an understanding of EDI related issues and provide them with the tools needed to champion inclusivity and embed best inclusive practice in all the work they do. EDI is built into everything we do at Queen Mary, and is championed through a well-established governance structure. If you are interested in learning more about Equality, Diversity and Inclusion at Queen Mary and how to get involved then please contact hr-equality@qmul.ac.uk.

Flexible Working

Queen Mary is proud of the diversity of its staff and students. We encourage inclusive practices in everything that we do, to ensure that everyone who works here feels valued and enabled to have a positive working experience. We are therefore open to considering applications from candidates wishing to work flexibly, balanced against business need. Our Flexible Working Policy includes examples of some of the flexible working arrangements that could be considered. If you feel that this is something that may be of benefit to you, please do ask.

Family Friendly Policies

Queen Mary recognises the commitments that staff have to their family and the importance of work-life balance. To support this Queen Mary offers a range of family friendly policies with enhanced rates of pay available for family-related leave, following a qualifying period of service.

Further Information

Details about us can be found at:

https://www.cpm.qmul.ac.uk/people/ylin/
https://www.qmul.ac.uk/blizard/all-staff/profiles/yung-yao-lin.html

Informal enquiries should be made to:

Name: Dr Yung-Yao Lin

Email: yy.lin@qmul.ac.uk

General Information

Please note that we advertise our salaries on a range to indicate the trajectory of progression that can be made. Appointments are usually made at the start of the salary range. The Queen Mary salary structure includes automatic pay progression within the published grades, subject to service, funding and performance. In addition to this, there are performance related annual pay review schemes in place.

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