

Luca Technologies Inc.

Job Description

Molecular Biology Research Associate

Summary of Primary Responsibilities

Luca is currently seeking a talented molecular biologist to join a multidisciplinary team studying subsurface microorganisms. The individual will be responsible for the molecular/biochemical analysis of subsurface, anaerobic microbial communities using complex and novel molecular/biochemical techniques, often creating, troubleshooting, and optimizing these techniques for routine use. The individual will be responsible for the design, execution, analysis, and reporting of experimental results.

Qualifications:

Education and Experience – Bachelors Degree in Molecular Biology, Biology, Microbiology, Biochemistry or related field and 3+ years applicable molecular biology and/or biochemistry experience, or Masters Degree in Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Biochemistry or related field and 0 to 3 years applicable molecular biology and/or biochemistry experience. Individual must have a broad background and comprehensive understanding of standard molecular analysis, including nucleic acid extraction, purification and detection, enzymatic reactions, PCR, and assay development. Previous experience in anaerobic microbiology and environmental nucleic acid isolation experience desired but not required. Previous experience with protein biochemistry desired. Previous experience managing large data sets and associated projects a plus. Must possess strong attention to detail, good interpersonal and communication skills, and the ability to work with minimal supervision. Critical, creative, and independent thinking is required.

Job Requirements:

Communication Skills - Ability to communicate effectively with co-workers and managers is essential. Primary communication channels will be between supervisors and lab peers. Must be proficient in English. Must be able to read and write to receive and communicate basic scientific principles. Capable of reading and implementing basic scientific protocols and recording and maintaining a precise laboratory notebook record. Verbal communication skills are essential to be able to communicate questions, feedback and articulate areas of concern

Computer Skills - Must be proficient with Microsoft Office suite. Additional computer skills are helpful.

Laboratory Skills - Skilled in the use of common laboratory equipment. This equipment includes but is not limited to pH meters, pipettors, heating and stirring plates, balances. Must be able to quickly learn to use anaerobic equipment. Attention to detail is critical.

Work Environment - Majority of time will be spent in the laboratory where the employee will be exposed to laboratory chemicals, radioactive chemicals, field samples (including but not limited to coal, oil, shale, water and naturally produced gases). Significant portion of daily activity may involve working with samples in a glove bag. Must be able to lift up to 20 lbs.

