



Postdoctoral Scholar in Bacterial Pathogenesis
University of Kentucky – Lexington, KY

Description

The Shaffer lab (<https://www.shafferlab.com>) in the Department of Veterinary Science at the University of Kentucky is soliciting applicants for a fully-funded Postdoctoral Scholar position focused on bacterial pathogenesis. This position is associated with projects which aim to (i) develop novel *in vitro* model systems that will be used to interrogate host-pathogen interactions; (ii) resolve the architecture, assembly, and function of diverse bacterial cell surface structures; and (iii) understand molecular mechanisms underlying the transportation of microbial cargo to target host cells. In addition, the Postdoctoral Scholar will be encouraged to develop independent projects within these research themes. Our research group uses ‘omics’ approaches, chemical biology, genetics, biochemistry, cell biology, and high-resolution microscopy to study multiple facets of bacterial pathogenesis. We are specifically interested in understanding how bacteria build and operate dynamic nanomachines to interact with the host.

The successful candidate will be a self-motivated, creative thinker capable of working independently within a highly-collaborative, interdisciplinary environment. The candidate will have the opportunity to work closely with an extensive network of collaborators at the University of Kentucky, Penn State College of Medicine, Caltech, Umeå University (Sweden), and the University of Edinburgh (UK). Additionally, the successful candidate will hold a senior position within the laboratory and will contribute to the mentoring of graduate and undergraduate research. Salary is commensurate with experience and at the established NIH postdoctoral stipend levels.

Required Qualifications

PhD in Microbiology, Biochemistry, Immunology, Molecular and Cellular Biology, or a related discipline. Strong background and expertise in bacteriology, molecular biology techniques, microbial pathogenesis, or innate immunity. Candidates must have excellent English writing and communication skills, as well as an established record of high productivity (evidenced by multiple first-author papers).

How to Apply

The position is available immediately and review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Applicants should submit a single PDF file to carrie.shaffer@uky.edu containing (i) a cover letter summarizing past research accomplishments and career goals, (ii) a current CV, (iii) one representative publication, and (iv) the names and contact information for three references. The anticipated start date for this position is early-mid 2019.

The University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is an equal opportunity organization and welcomes applications from women and minorities.