Köhler Lab

Lab Technician Position

Summary

Opportunity for skilled hands and sharp minds - at any career stage

The Köhler Lab at the Max Perutz Labs is seeking a **full-time lab technician** to support our research on **nuclear envelope biology, chromatin regulation, and cellular stress resilience**.

About the Position

We are particularly interested in candidates with a background in **biochemistry**, but we welcome applications from scientists at **diverse levels of experience**, from early-career technicians to highly skilled experts looking for a long-term research role in a collaborative academic setting.

This position offers a chance to join an ambitious, curiosity-driven team at the Vienna BioCenter, one of Europe's leading hubs for molecular life sciences.

Your Role

You will support and carry out experimental work in the lab, adapted to your level of experience. Responsibilities may include:

- Protein purification and biochemical reconstitution, including membrane systems
- Preparation, documentation, and quality control of key reagents
- Work with *S. cerevisiae* and tardigrades - the most resilient animal on Earth
- Support for imaging workflows or biochemistry/structural biology pipelines, depending on expertise
- Contribution to the development and optimization of experimental protocols
- Active participation in lab meetings and a culture of technical excellence and shared learning

Lab Support and Organization

In addition to research tasks, you will contribute to:

- Managing lab stocks, placing orders, and maintaining reagent inventories
- Supporting equipment maintenance and ensuring proper documentation of lab protocols
- Onboarding new lab members and coordinating shared resources

Candidates

We are open to **a range of qualifications and backgrounds**, and we will tailor the role to the right candidate.

We encourage you to apply if you have:

- A degree in **biochemistry, structural biology, molecular biology**, or a related field (MSc or equivalent, or higher)

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A joint venture of universität wien and MEDIZINISCHE UNIVERSITÄT WIEN
Part of Vienna BioCenter

- Experience with common lab techniques (e.g., protein purification, cloning, cell culture, electrophoresis)
- A **reliable and independent work style, strong organizational skills, and attention to detail**
- A collaborative spirit and interest in contributing to ambitious basic research
- **English proficiency**
- Candidates with **substantial prior experience** - e.g., in protein biochemistry, structural workflows, or advanced lab operations - are particularly encouraged to apply and may be considered for **senior-level responsibilities** within the lab.

What We Offer

- A full-time technician position with **flexibility to match experience and interests**
- The opportunity to work in a lab that values **deep technical skill, long-term continuity**, and intellectual engagement
- Access to state-of-the-art infrastructure including **cryo-EM, proteomics, imaging**, and **high-throughput technologies**
- Integration into an **internationally recognized research group**
- Employment follows the University's collective bargaining agreement and can be adjusted according to qualifications and experience.
- This full-time position is available immediately.
- Initial two-year contract, renewable; the role is intended as a long-term contribution to the lab.

Application

Please send your **CV and a brief cover letter** to:
alwin.koehler@maxperutzlabs.ac.at **and** maren.schneider@univie.ac.at

Let us know whether you are seeking a junior or more advanced role, and what skills you are most excited to contribute. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. The call will remain open until the position is filled.

Contact

Alwin Köhler (alwin.koehler@maxperutzlabs.ac.at) and Maren Schneider (maren.schneider@univie.ac.at)

About the Köhler Lab

We investigate how the **nuclear envelope** functions as a dynamic boundary that integrates gene regulation, lipid metabolism, mechanical resilience, and stress adaptation. We combine **biochemistry, structural biology, imaging, and genetics** - often using unusual model systems like **tardigrades**, the most resilient animals known.

Recent publications include:

- *Stankunas & Köhler*, Nat. Cell Biol. 2024
- *Gallego et al.*, Nature 2020
- *Romanauska & Köhler*, Cell 2018

More info: https://www.maxperutzlabs.ac.at/research/research-groups/koehler

About the Max Perutz Labs

The Max Perutz Labs are a research institute established by the University of Vienna and the Medical University of Vienna to provide an environment for excellent, internationally recognized research and education in the field of Molecular Biology. Dedicated to a mechanistic understanding of fundamental biomedical processes, scientists at the Max Perutz Labs aim to link breakthroughs in basic research to advances in human health. The Max Perutz Labs are located at the Vienna BioCenter, one of Europe's hotspots for Life Sciences, and host around 40 research groups, involving approximately 450 scientists and staff from more than 50 nations.

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