

Research Tech for wild plant-pathogen lab- University of Maryland

The Bruns lab at the University of Maryland, College Park is seeking a part to full-time lab technician to assist with a new NSF-funded project on evolutionary responses to environmental change in wild plant-pathogen populations. This is an ideal position for a recent graduate in ecology and evolution looking to gain more research experience prior to applying for graduate school. The main duties will be the setup and day-to-day management of large-scale greenhouse and growth chamber fungal inoculation experiments, and associated lab work. Lab work duties include: propagation of haploid fungal cultures, basic light microscopy, spore quantification, and DNA extraction. Additional duties include supervising hourly undergraduate workers, data management, assistance ordering reagents for the lab, and participation in weekly lab meetings.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Ecology, Evolutionary Biology, Biology, Plant Sciences, or Environmental Sciences
- Prior research experience (lab, greenhouse, or field)
- Basic analytical skills including the ability to calculate dilutions, and effectively manage data sheets.
- Ability to drive a motor vehicle in the state of Maryland

Preferences:

- Academic background in ecology and evolution
- Experience working with plants and/or fungi
- Knowledge and skills in basic molecular techniques including DNA extraction and PCR.
- Evidence of troubleshooting/problem solving and analytical skills
- Strong interpersonal skills and organizational skills, including the ability to effectively communicate and coordinate with lab personnel
- Ability to manage multiple projects amid shifting priorities
- Ability to work independently and in group settings

Duration: 1 year with possibility of extension

The position will remain open until filled, but for best consideration, please apply by 12/20/2025

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To apply: Please provide a cover letter and CV contract info for 3 references emailed directly to ebruns@umd.edu