



Research Associate – Senior Scientist, Structural Biology (Multiple Roles Open)

Zentalis Pharmaceuticals is a San Diego based pharmaceutical company dedicated to the discovery and development of small molecule therapeutics targeting fundamental biological pathways of cancer. In the six years since our inception, we have successfully cleared four INDs with the FDA. We believe our deep pipeline of oncology therapeutics has the potential to significantly improve the lives of patients with various types of cancer.

Multiple positions at various levels available. Level of position commensurate with candidate education and experience. This is an on-site role that is expected to work from the San Diego, CA office.

Position Description:

The Zentalis Structural Biology group is seeking outstanding, detail-oriented, enthusiastic, and motivated individuals to join the scientific team. These individuals will work both independently and collaboratively within the group as well as across multi-disciplinary drug discovery project teams. The successful candidates will be familiar with all aspects of the gene to structure process with emphasis in the crystallization of challenging protein or protein complexes with small molecules for X-ray crystallographic structure determination. Candidates with significant hands-on experience with protein production and purification from *E. coli* and/or insect cell hosts preferred.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Design, plan and execute crystallization trials leveraging state-of-the-art commercially available sub-microliter crystallization instrumentation
- Crystallization of protein-small molecule complexes, from identification of initial crystallization conditions to crystal optimization leading to high-resolution co-structures, small molecule soaking, micro/macro seeding, crystal cryoprotection and harvesting in preparation for synchrotron data collection
- Analyze, interpret, and clearly articulate details of protein structure and ligand-protein interactions from co-structures to project teams and effectively interact with colleagues in computational chemistry, medicinal chemistry, biology, and other groups to drive project progression
- Responsible for operation and maintenance of crystallography (crystallization plate imager/drop setter) and protein purification (FPLC) instrumentation and ensure necessary reagents, supplies, equipment, and accessories are stocked
- Peruse, read, and interpret primary literature involving structures of relevant and related oncology drug targets and apply this information to internal structure projects
- Interface closely with structural biology colleagues to ensure robust purification schemes and crystal systems are established for targets in a timely fashion and aligned to the scientific project team goals



- Work closely and collaboratively with structural biology colleagues to implement appropriate procedures, technologies, and instrumentation to establish and evolve a robust gene-to-structure workflow within the group
- Other duties as deemed appropriate.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Degree in biochemistry, molecular biology, biology, or related field preferred
 - Minimum BS required for Research Associate level
 - To be considered for higher levels, MS with 3-5 years of experience or recent/pending PhD with gene-to-structure experience in an X-ray crystallography lab setting, preferably with an emphasis on early drug discovery and structure-based drug design
- Hands-on proficiency in expressing and purifying mg quantities of crystallography-grade proteins from E. coli and/or insect cells by FPLC (IMAC, GST, IEX, SEC, HIC, etc.)
- Familiarity and experience with X-ray data collection, structure visualization, data processing, structure solution and refinement software
- Demonstrated technical proficiency, problem-solving, and understanding of core concepts pertaining to cloning, protein expression/purification, protein crystallization/optimization, and structure determination
- Ability to maintain comprehensive, up-to-date records of experimental methods, results, and observations with high level of accuracy, effective oral and written communication skills
- Ability to multi-task/ prioritize, effectively manage time of daily activities, and thrive working in a dynamic, fast-paced, and highly collaborative environment
- Proficiency functioning in a goal and team-oriented setting with learner's mindset
- Flexibility within a rapidly changing environment
- Knowledge of oncology drug discovery is preferred