

Research Trainee or Technician position in Dr. Jacqueline Achkar's lab

Albert Einstein College of Medicine, 1300 Morris Park Ave, Bronx, NY 10461
Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases
Department of Microbiology & Immunology

Principal Investigator: [Jacqueline M. Achkar](#), M.D., M.Sc., FIDSA

About us:

The PI Dr. Achkar is an NIH-funded physician scientist. Her translational research program is focused on the evaluation of immune and other host responses to Mycobacterium tuberculosis in patients at various states of infection towards i) biomarker discovery and the development of better diagnostic tests for active tuberculosis (TB); and ii) the identification and study of protective antibody functions against M. tuberculosis. Dr. Achkar has several national and international collaborations with investigators from a broad range of expertise in areas such as clinical trials/research, biodesign, biochemistry, epidemiology, and biostatistics. As a specialist in Infectious Diseases with a master's in clinical research methods, Dr. Achkar analyzes her laboratory data in the context of clinical findings to provide critical data to the field of TB diagnostics, immunotherapy, and vaccine development.

Responsibilities:

The research assistant will be involved and trained in techniques relevant to our translational research program. The focus will be on identifying antibody responses to mycobacterial antigens that could serve as biomarkers or correlates of protection against TB. This will include techniques such as the culturing of mycobacteria, the production of antigens, human sample preparations, data recording, and the performance and analysis of antibody detection assays such as immunoblots, ELISAs, and microarrays.

Please note: This is a full-time position. Applicants must be able to make at least a two-year commitment to the lab. Depending on degree qualification, the applicant may be able to begin as a research trainee or technician. A research trainee will also have the opportunity to move on to a lab technician position in their second year, based on performance. This will confer extra responsibilities including more independence and data analysis.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Prior laboratory experience with a bachelor's degree in biology or a related scientific field for a trainee position; advanced degree required to start as a technician
- Broad skill base in standard techniques (such as ELISA, Western Blot, DNA and RNA extraction, PCR, and protein purification)
- Detail-oriented, organized, and have at least a simple understanding of scientific literature
- Excellent interpersonal skills and self-directed work ethic

Preferred Qualifications:

- Specific research experience and/or extensive coursework in microbiology and immunology
- Experience using GraphPad Prism and Endnote

If interested, please send your CV and cover letter to JAchkarLab@gmail.com. Please do not directly contact the lab by phone, unless otherwise stated. First round interviews will be held through Zoom. Depending on the situation, a second in-person interview might be required.