



UNIVERSITETET I BERGEN

**University of
Bergen**
Department of
Biomedicine

Jobbnorge ID: 245020

Deadline: 5/23/2023

Website: <https://www.uib.no/om/84775/ledige-stillinger-ved-uib>

Scope: Fulltime

Duration: Temporary

Department of Biomedicine

PhD-position in cancer biology

UiB - Knowledge that shapes society

Through robust and close interaction with the world around us - globally, nationally and locally - we shall be instrumental in building a society based on knowledge, skills and attitudes.

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Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oYaThmlq6Kg>

PhD position

At the Faculty of Medicine, Department of Biomedicine in Professor Martha Chekenya's research group (<http://www.uib.no/en/rg/marthaenger>), a full-time PhD-position is available for a period of four (4) years or max 4 months after completed the PhD-degree, if this is achieved within a shorter time than four years. The positions include 25 % required duties such as teaching, exam work or supervision, depending on the demands at the department.

The position is part of the project "Developing novel small molecule inhibitors of Chondroitin sulfate proteoglycan 4 (CSPG4) function: approaching new therapy for glioblastoma" project, funded by the University of Bergen.

About the project/work tasks:

Glioblastoma is the most malignant primary brain cancer, where no effective treatments are currently available. The focus of the project is to develop novel small peptide molecules that inhibit the function of Chondroitin sulfate proteoglycan 4 (CSPG4), an important biomarker for aggressive disease course in brain cancer patients using integrative structure-based drug discovery and computational approaches. As a foundation for drug discovery, the structure of CSPG4 will be determined using cryo electron microscopy. Based on the obtained structure, small molecule or peptide ligands will be designed. The hits will be validated as future drug candidates to target glioblastoma cells using diverse molecular and cell biology techniques in vitro and in vivo. The project is part of an interdisciplinary collaboration between the Biochemistry and Structural Biology research group at Lund University in Sweden and the Brain Tumour Immunology and Therapy (BTi) group at the Department of Biomedicine, University of Bergen. The successful candidate will join a highly active and multidisciplinary brain cancer research milieu with state-of-the-art technologies and mentoring by leading scientists. Research stay in Sweden will be necessary for limited time periods during the course of the project.

Qualifications and personal qualities:

- The applicant must hold a master's degree or equivalent in the field of biochemistry, structural biology, or molecular biology
- Applicants must demonstrate strong theoretical knowledge and practical competence in biochemistry and structural biology methods
- The successful candidate must have experience in related molecular and cellular biology techniques (molecular cloning, recombinant protein expression and purification, mammalian cell culture, western blot, qPCR and in vitro cellular assays)
- The successful candidate must have experience in membrane protein expression in *Pichia pastoris* and purification system
- The successful candidate must have experience in working with cancer cell lines including patient derived cell lines
- Documented experience in either x-ray crystallography or Cryo-EM is required, experience with structure-based drug design is an advantage
- Documented experience from relevant research projects using various growth and reporter assays, flow cytometry, immunofluorescence, CRISPR, generation of stable cell lines and single clone derivation using mammalian tumour cells is a plus
- Ability and motivation to carry out a PhD project
- The candidate should demonstrate strong inner motivation, enthusiasm, and commitment for research. A strong work ethic with ability to work independently, demonstrate creative and problem-solving capabilities while being structurally organised
- The applicant must be fluent in oral and written English, see documentation requirements

Applicant whose education is from another country than Norway, need to also attach a certified translation of the diploma and transcript of grades to English or a Scandinavian language, if the original is not in any of these languages. It is required that the applicant enclose a review from NOKUT whether the education in question (bachelor and master's degree) is of a scope and level that corresponds to the level of a

Norwegian master's degree. Please see www.nokut.no/en for more information about NOKUT's general recognition. The review from NOKUT may take some time and the application should be sent to NOKUT as soon as you have decided to apply for the position. If no answer within the application deadline, you must enclose documentation from NOKUT that they have received your application.

See documentation requirements for language qualifications: <http://www.uib.no/en/med/115526/english-language-requirements-phd-admission>

About the PhD position (applies to university PhD positions):

Organized research training (PhD program):

The candidate must take part in the University of Bergen approved PhD programme leading to the degree within a time limit of 3 years. You must have admission to the organized research training (PhD program) at the Faculty in order to qualify for the position. Application for admission to the PhD programme, including a project plan outline for the training plan must be submitted no later than three months after the date of commencement.

The PhD-position:

PhD-positions are fixed term positions. You cannot be employed in a PhD-position for more than one fixed term period at the same institution or have had similar employment at an institution in the region

We can offer:

- Exciting development opportunities as part of your role in a strong professional environment
- Salary NOK 540 500 (code 1017, pay grade 55) in the state salary scale. For applicants with at least one year of employment in a position as a General Practitioner or Dentist, salary NOK 557 100 (code 1017, pay grade 57). Medical specialist starts on salary NOK 575 400 (code 1017, pay grade 59)
- Enrolment in the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund
- Good [welfare benefits](#)

Your application must include:

- A brief account of the applicant's research interests and motivation for applying for the position
- Certified copies of diplomas and transcripts of grades
- Applicant whose education is from another country than Norway, need to also attach a certified translation of the diploma and transcript of grades to English or a Scandinavian language, if the original is not in any of these languages. It is required that the applicant enclose a review from NOKUT whether the education in question (bachelor and master degree) is of a scope and level that corresponds to the level of a Norwegian master's degree. Please see www.nokut.no/en for more information about NOKUT's general recognition. This may take some time and we recommend you to apply as soon as you know you will apply for this position. If no answer within the application deadline, please enclose documentation from NOKUT that they have received your application
- Documentation of language skills (English) <http://www.uib.no/en/med/115526/english-language-requirements-phd-admission>
- Complete list of publications and scientific work you want to be evaluated
- Any publication in your name
- Two references (name and contact information)

General information:

For further information please contact Professor Martha Chekenya Enger, e-mail martha.enger@uib.no

Apply for this vacancy through JobbNorge, applications sent to this email will not be considered.

UiB must follow Norway's export control regulations when processing applications for this position.

The state labour force shall reflect the diversity of Norwegian society to the greatest extent possible. People with immigrant backgrounds and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply for the position.

The University of Bergen applies the principle of public access to information when recruiting staff for academic positions.

Information about applicants may be made public even if the applicant has asked not to be named on the list of persons who have applied. The applicant must be notified if the request to be omitted is not met.

The successful applicant must comply with the guidelines that apply to the position at all times.

For further information about the recruitment process, click [here](#).

Life as a PhD candidate at UiB

Marion Claireaux tells about life and work as a PhD candidate at UiB.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nrt6VxMeJ4&index=2&list=PLf8ZIYfAO0qjhROTj6SthDbSScg0ISO6G>

About UiB

The University of Bergen is a renowned educational and research institution, organised into seven faculties and approximately 54 institutes and academic centres. Campus is located in the centre of Bergen with university areas at Nygårdshøyden, Haukeland, Marineholmen, Møllendalsveien and Årstad.

There are five departments and eight centres at Faculty of Medicine.

[Read More about the faculty](#) and [departments](#).

Additional information

Place of service:

Jonas Lies vei 91 5021 Bergen (Bergen Municipality)