

**Jobbnorge ID:** 282121  
**Deadline:** 7/8/2025  
**Website:** <http://www.ntnu.no>  
**Scope:** Fulltime  
**Duration:** Temporary

The Department of Biology has a vacancy for a

## Postdoctoral Fellow in toxicology/chemicals in plastics

### This is NTNU

NTNU is a broad-based university with a technical-scientific profile and a focus in professional education. The university is located in three cities with headquarters in Trondheim.

At NTNU, 9,000 employees and 43,000 students work to create knowledge for a better world.

You can find more information about working at NTNU and the application process [here](#).

Video: <https://youtu.be/Xt-yHCN5QS0>

### About the position

Are you ready to take your academic career to the next level? We offer an exciting 3-year postdoctoral position that gives you the opportunity to develop a strong profile as researcher. You will address the relevant question of how chemicals in plastics affect human health and gain valuable experience in interdisciplinary work across toxicology, molecular biology and brain research. The purpose of a postdoctoral position is to build up an academic track record that qualifies you for a position as assistant or associate professor. The position also offers additional skills that are to your future career, including science communication and outreach. Apply for this position and become part of vibrant scientific environment and take the next step in your career with us.

### About the project

The postdoctoral position is embedded in the PlastBrain project funded by NTNU's [Health and Life Sciences and Health initiative](#). The project aims at understanding how chemicals in plastics affect brain health via disrupting cellular signaling via G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs). We have recently discovered that these [chemicals disrupt adenosine](#) and [melatonin receptors](#) widely expressed in the brain. Given that the downstream impacts on brain health are unknown, PlastBrain will elucidate the causative chemicals, their effects on brain function and animal behavior as well as the underlying molecular and cellular mechanisms. The postdoctoral fellow will take the lead on this endeavor, in collaboration with a PhD fellow focusing on brain function and health. PlastBrain is a collaboration between the Department of Biology ([Martin Wagner](#)), the Kavli Institute for Systems Neuroscience ([Emre Yaksi](#)), and the Department of Clinical and Molecular Medicine ([Nathalie Jurisch-Yaksi](#)).

### Duties of the position

- Implement and manage the PlastBrain project in collaboration with whole team,
- Carry out experiments addressing our research questions, in particular cell-culture and zebrafish work to understand chemical impacts on GPCR signaling and mechanisms of action as well as chemical analyses to identify causative chemicals,
- Publish our results in academic journals and present those at international conferences,
- Contribute to dissemination activities and public science communication,
- Mentor and supervise Master students working on the project,
- Apply for research follow-up funding,
- Take part in career-promoting activities (e.g., workshops) offered by NTNU and other institutions.

### Required selection criteria

- You must have completed a doctoral degree in toxicology (human or environmental), molecular or cell biology, neurosciences, or related biological disciplines,
- If you are in the final phase of your doctorate and can document that the thesis has been submitted or that the defense date has been confirmed, your application can be considered even if you have not defended. NOTE: Documentation of the obtained doctorate must be presented before you can take up the position,
- Robust and documented track record of scientific publications and presentations,
- Robust and documented experience in working with molecular and cell culture techniques,

- Good oral and written language skills in English (equivalent level B2)

PLEASE NOTE: For detailed information about what the application must contain, see paragraph "About the application".

As a result of the new Act relating to universities and university colleges with associated regulations of 01/08/2024, NTNU has, during a transitional period (for decisions on employment in recruitment positions before 1 August 2025), chosen to use the terms of employment in the old [regulations of 31 January 2006 no. 102 on terms of employment for positions such as postdoctoral fellow, research fellow, scientific assistant and specialist candidate](#)

## Preferred selection criteria

The following criteria are beneficial but not required to apply for the position:

- Experience in investigating the environmental or health impacts of plastics, in particular the analysis and toxicity of chemicals in plastics,
- Experience in neuroscience, in particular in working with zebrafish,
- Experience in public science communication,
- Good oral and written language skills in Norwegian/Scandinavian.

## Personal characteristics

Working as a Postdoctoral fellow requires that you

- Show curiosity, creativity and a strong motivation for the subject,
- Work independently and in a structured way, with clearly defined goals and strategies to achieve them,
- Present and discuss your research inside and outside the team,
- Work constructively and flexibly under pressure,
- Analyze data, assess different perspectives and draw well-founded conclusions.

## We offer

- An exciting job with an important [social mission](#)
- An engaging scientific environment with a strong and international team
- Career guidance throughout the postdoctoral program and together with you we will prepare a career plan, which contains the skills and knowledge you will acquire
- Open and inclusive working environment with committed colleagues
- Mentor programme as a new employee at NTNU
- Favourable terms in the [Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund](#)
- [employee benefits](#)

## Diversity

Diversity is a strength, and at NTNU we aim to be an employer that reflects the diversity in society and that makes use of the potential of the population's collective skills. Our vision is [Knowledge for a better world](#) and [our values are creative, critical, constructive and respectful](#). We believe that an organization that is equal, diverse and gender-balanced is essential for us to achieve our goals.

We strive to attract employees with different skills, life experiences and perspectives to contribute to even better problem solving of our societal mission in research and education.

If you think this position is relevant and interesting, we encourage you to apply, regardless of gender, functional ability and cultural background, or whether you have been out of work for a period of time.

## Salary and conditions

As a Postdoctoral Fellow (code 1352) you are normally paid from gross NOK 594 500 per annum before tax, depending on qualifications and seniority. From the salary, 2% is deducted as a contribution to the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund.

The period of employment is three years, and the position does not include teaching duties.

As an employee at NTNU, it is important to keep yourself up to date with academic and organizational changes and to adapt to them.

For the necessary professional and social interaction, it is a prerequisite that you are physically present and available to the institution on a daily basis.

The appointment is carried out in accordance with the principles of the [State Employees Act](#), and [Export control](#) (legislation that regulates the export of knowledge, technology and services). Candidates who, after assessment of the application and attachments, are considered to be in conflict with the criteria in the latter act, will not be able to be employed.

## About the application

The attachments (including a description of your scientific work) must accompany the application as these documents form the basis of the application assessment. The documents must be submitted in English.

Please note: the application will only be assessed on the basis of the information we have by the application deadline. Therefore, make sure that your application clearly shows how your skills and experience meet the criteria described above.

The application must include:

- A cover letter briefly stating your motivation and experience (maximum one page),
- CV, including a list of your five most relevant publications (maximum two pages),
- A research plan describing your methodological approach to answer the scientific questions of the PlastBrain project (maximum two pages)
- Transcripts and diplomas for Bachelor's-, Master's- and PhD degrees. If you have not yet completed your PhD, you must provide confirmation on your estimated date for the doctoral dissertation, or confirmation that your PhD thesis has been submitted. Documentation of a completed doctoral degree must be presented before taking up the position.
- A copy of the doctoral thesis (if you are close to submitting, you can attach a draft),
- Name and contact information of three referees who you have worked with closely (e.g., PhD supervisors),
- Recommendation letters (optional).

If all or parts of your education has been taken abroad, we also ask you to attach documentation of the scope and quality of your entire education. Description of the documentation required can be found [here](#). If you already have a statement from [Norwegian Directorate for Higher Education and Skills \(HK-dir\)](#), please attach this as well.

If you have had leave or another break in your career, it is important that this is stated in your application so that the selection committee can take this into account and that the amount of your research may be reduced as a result.

In the evaluation of which candidate is best qualified, emphasis will be placed on education, experience and personal qualities. Motivation, ambitions and potential for research will also be emphasized in the assessment of the candidates.

NTNU recognizes a wide range of academic contributions and is committed to follow evaluation criteria for research quality according to [The San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment DORA](#) and the obligations in [CoARA](#) (responsible assessment of research and recognition of a greater breadth of academic contributions in accordance with NTNU's social mission).

## General information

A public list of applicants with name, age, job title and municipality of residence is prepared after the application deadline. If you wish to be exempt from entry on the public list of applicants, this must be justified. Assessment will be made in accordance with [current legislation](#). You will be notified if the exemption is not granted.

If you have any questions about the position, please contact Prof. Martin Wagner, email: [martin.wagner@ntnu.no](mailto:martin.wagner@ntnu.no).

If you have any questions about the recruitment process, please contact HR-consultant Emilie Mikkeltaug, email: [emilie.s.mikkeltaug@ntnu.no](mailto:emilie.s.mikkeltaug@ntnu.no).

If you find this position interesting, and in accordance with your qualifications, please submit your application electronically via [jobbnorge.no](http://jobbnorge.no) with your CV, diplomas and certificates attached. Applications submitted elsewhere will not be considered. Upon request, you must be able to obtain certified copies of your documentation.

### Application deadline: 08.07.2025

For practical information about [working at NTNU](#), please visit [this webpage](#).

[The city of Trondheim](#) is a modern European city with a rich cultural scene. [Trondheim is the tech capital of Norway](#) with a population of 200,000. The Norwegian welfare state, including healthcare, schools, kindergartens and overall equality, is probably the best of its kind in the world. Professional subsidized day-care for children is easily available. Furthermore, Trondheim offers great opportunities for education (including international schools) and possibilities to enjoy nature, culture and family life and has low crime rates and clean air quality.

## NTNU

### NTNU - knowledge for a better world

The Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) creates knowledge for a better world and solutions that can change everyday life.

### Department of Biology

We work with global challenges in natural diversity, climate, the environment, health and nutrition. Our expertise in biological processes at all levels - from molecules to ecosystems - contributes to a sustainable society. The Department educate graduates for a wide range of careers in public administration, business and academia. [The Department of Biology](#), is one of eight departments in the [Faculty of Natural Sciences](#).

## Additional information

### Place of service:

Høgskoleringen 1 7491 Trondheim (Trondheim Municipality)