



Jobbnorge ID: 294723
Deadline: 3/1/2026
Website: <http://www.uio.no/>
Scope: Fulltime
Duration: Project

PhD Research Fellow in Biochemistry and Structural Biology

About the position

Position as PhD Research Fellow in Biochemistry and Structural Biology available at Section for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Department of Biosciences, University of Oslo.

The fellowship period is three years.

A fourth year maybe considered and it will involve 25 percent of other career-promoting work. Other career-promoting work may consist of teaching, supervision, and/or research assistance. This is dependent upon the qualification of the applicant and the current needs of the department.

Starting date no later than October 1, 2026.

No one can be appointed for more than one PhD Research Fellowship period at the University of Oslo.

Place of work is Section for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Department of Biosciences and The Structural Biology Core Facility at Blindern, Oslo.

Job description

The project focuses on biochemical and structural biology aspects of a protein redox network that is important for bacterial defense and survival e.g. during host infections. Firmicute bacteria, including the human pathogens *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Bacillus anthracis* have a unique bacterial low molecular weight thiol (bacillithiol), which is a key antioxidant compounds used to maintain the cellular redox balance. Under oxidative stress, bacillithiol becomes oxidised and regenerated by a bacillithiol disulfide reductase. Bacillithiol also protects cysteine residues from irreversible over-oxidation through post-translational bacillithiolation, which is reversed after stress by bacilliredoxin enzymes.

The PhD candidate will use biochemical, biophysical, and structural methods to decipher reaction mechanisms of these enzymes, and to identify inhibitor leads with potential antimicrobial or antivirulence activity.

Methods include protein expression and purification, structural methods such as protein crystallography, enzyme activity assays, biophysical methods for interaction studies, and mass spectrometry.

The position is associated with the Hersleth research group (www.hersleth.org) focusing on structural redox enzymology and biochemistry. During autumn 2026 the research group is moving, together with other structural biology groups at the University of Oslo, to the Structural Biology Core Facility lab in the new Life Science Building.

What skills are important in this role?

The Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences has a strategic ambition to be among Europe's leading communities for research, education and innovation. Candidates for these fellowships will be selected in accordance with this, and expected to be in the upper segment of their class with respect to academic credentials.

Required qualifications:

- Master's degree or equivalent in biochemistry, structural biology, biophysics, molecular microbiology, or related fields
- Foreign completed degree (M.Sc.-level) corresponding to a minimum of four years in the Norwegian educational system
- Fluent oral and written communication skills in English
- Experience in characterisation of proteins using biochemical, molecular biological, biophysical, and/or structural methods
- Ability to plan, perform, and analyse experiments

Candidates without a master's degree have until **June 30, 2026** to complete the final exam.

Desired qualifications:

- Experience with protein expression and purification
- Experience with different biochemical or biophysical methods for structural studies (e.g., X-ray crystallography), enzymology, protein-protein/protein-ligand interaction studies, and/or structure-based drug-design
- Use of basic bioinformatics tools

Language requirement:

- Good oral and written communication skills in English
- English requirements for applicants from outside of EU/ EEA countries and exemptions from the requirements: <https://www.mn.uio.no/english/research/phd/regulations/regulations.html#toc8>

Grade requirements:

The norm is as follows:

- The average grade point for courses included in the Bachelor's degree must be C or better in the Norwegian educational system
- The average grade point for courses included in the Master's degree must be B or better in the Norwegian educational system
- The Master's thesis must have the grade B or better in the Norwegian educational system

The purpose of the fellowship is research training leading to the successful completion of a PhD degree. For more information see: <http://www.mn.uio.no/english/research/phd/>

All candidates and projects will have to undergo a check versus national export, sanctions and security regulations. Candidates may be excluded based on these checks. Primary checkpoints are the Export Control regulation, the Sanctions regulation, and the national security regulation.

What are we looking for in you?

Personal skills:

- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team
- Ability to work precise in a structured manner and swiftly adapts to new tasks
- Good communication and collaboration skills
- Positive attitude and the ability to handle hectic periods

Employment in the position is based on a comprehensive assessment of all qualification requirements applicable to the position, including personal qualifications.

We can offer you

- A pleasant and stimulating work environment
- Good [welfare schemes](#)
- Opportunity of up to 1.5 hours a week of [exercise during working hours](#)
- A workplace with good development and career opportunities
- [Career development programmes](#)
- Membership in the [Statens Pensjonskasse](#), which is one of Norway's best pension schemes with beneficial mortgages and good insurance schemes
- Oslo's family-friendly surroundings with their rich opportunities for culture and outdoor activities
- Salary in position as PhD Research Fellow, position code 1017 in salary range NOK from 550 800 - 595 000, depending on competence and experience. From the salary, 2 percent is deducted in statutory contributions to the State Pension Fund

We need different perspectives in our work

UiO is an open and internationally oriented comprehensive university that strives to be an inclusive and diverse workplace and academic environment. You can read more about UiO's work on equality, inclusion, and diversity at uio.no.

We fulfill our mission most effectively when we draw upon our variety of experiences, backgrounds, and perspectives. We are looking for great colleagues, could you be the next one?

We will do our best to accommodate your needs. Relevant adjustments may include modifications to working hours, task adaptations, digital, technical, or physical adjustments, or other practical measures.

If you have an [immigrant background, a disability, or CV gaps](#) (Norwegian), we encourage you to indicate this in the job application portal. We always invite at least one qualified candidate from each group for an interview. In this context, disability is defined as an applicant who identifies as having a disability that requires workplace or employment-related accommodations. For more details about the requirements, please refer to the [Employer portal](#) (Norwegian).

The selections made in the job application portal are used for anonymized statistics that all state employers include in their annual reports. More information about gender equality initiatives at UiO can be found [here](#).

We hope you will apply for the position with us.

How to apply

The application must include:

- Cover letter - statement of motivation and research interests
- CV (summarizing education, positions and academic work - scientific publications)
- Copies of the original Bachelor and Master's degree diploma and transcripts of records (see below)
- Documentation of English proficiency if applicable
- List of publications and academic work that the applicant wishes to be considered by the evaluation committee
- Names and contact details of 2-3 references (name, relation to candidate, e-mail and telephone number)

Application with attachments must be submitted via our recruitment system Jobbnorge, click "Apply for this job". Foreign applicants should attach an official explanation of their University's grading system.

When applying for the position, we ask you to retrieve your education results from [Vitnemålsportalen.no](https://vitnemalsportalen.no). If your education results are not available through Vitnemålsportalen, we ask you to upload copies of your transcripts or grades. Please note that all documentation must be in English or a Scandinavian language.

General information

The best qualified candidates will be invited for interviews.

Applicant lists can be published in accordance with [Norwegian Freedom of Information Act § 25](#). When you apply for a position with us, your name will appear on the public applicant list. It is possible to request to be excluded from this list. You must justify why you want an exemption from publication and we will then decide whether we can grant your request. If we can't, you will hear from us.

Please refer to [Regulations for the Act on universities and colleges chapter 3](#) (Norwegian), [Guidelines concerning appointment to post doctoral and research posts at UiO](#) (Norwegian) and [Regulations for the degree of Philosophiae Doctor \(PhD\) at the University of Oslo](#).

The University of Oslo has a [transfer agreement](#) with all employees that is intended to secure the rights to all research results etc.

About the University of Oslo

The University of Oslo is Norway's oldest and highest rated institution of research and education with 26 500 students and 7 200 employees. Its broad range of academic disciplines and internationally esteemed research communities make UiO an important contributor to society.

Department of Biosciences (IBV) is one of nine departments at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. Research in the department is organised in five sections covering topics within biochemistry, molecular biology, physiology, cell biology, genetics, aquatic biology, toxicology, ecology, and evolutionary biology. The Department also operates Finse research station, the Biological research station in Drøbak and UiO's research vessel. Education across these topics is offered for around 300 bachelor, 170 master, and 75 PhD students. With 48 permanent professors/associate professors, post-docs, researchers, technical, and administrative personnel, the Department has a total staff of 260 from more than 30 different countries. The Department aims to maintain high international standards within both research and teaching. The new bachelor program in bioscience is the first of its kind to include programming and computational modelling as core elements.

Additional information

Contact persons:

- For further information please contact: Senior Lecturer Hans-Petter Hersleth, Phone: +47 228 54631 | E-mail: h.p.hersleth@ibv.uio.no
- For questions regarding Jobbnorge, please contact HR Adviser Nina Holtan, Phone: | E-mail: nina.holtan@mn.uio.no

Place of service:

Problemveien 7 0313 Oslo (Oslo Municipality)