

Senior Cancer Postgraduate Mentor

Salary: £11.99 per hour (Grade 1 Spinal Point 3)

Hours: Hours vary, up to 4 hours per month

Duration: Casual staff, flexible contract between April – October 2024

Location: Oglesby Cancer Research Centre, Manchester

Responsible to: Georgina Binnie-Wright

Enquiries: georgina.binnie@manchester.ac.uk

Job Description

We're looking to recruit up to two Senior Cancer Postgraduate Mentors to oversee a small group of Cancer Postgraduate Mentors to ensure they can do their job effectively. You must have worked as a mentor on our programme last year (2022-23) or have experience in a role with similar managerial responsibilities.

As a Senior Cancer Postgraduate Mentor, you'll still have the opportunity to be matched with a mentee, whilst working with our Postgraduate Programme Manager to provide training to other mentors and to refine and enhance this mentorship scheme.

You'll have the opportunity to inspire the next generation of cancer researchers. You will help support your mentor to gain research experience and provide them with career advice. Your mentee will have the chance to visit your lab group* to gain hands-on experience of scientific research.

We will provide training before you start your role and you'll have regular contact with our Postgraduate Programme Manager.

Our mentorship scheme aims to make sure that more diverse researchers are attracted and recruited to cancer postgraduate research programmes. We particularly welcome applications from students from the following groups:

- Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic background;
- Have ever been in local authority care;
- Have ever been in receipt of free school meals;
- First in family to attend higher education.

This role is flexible and hours will vary throughout the year but we expect a contribution of up to 4 hours per month's mentorship (in-person and/or virtually) + hosting your mentee on a paid hourly lab visit of up to 2 days during the summer vacation (date to be agreed by mentor-mentee).

*If your PhD project lab is unable to host a student then you can still apply to the mentoring scheme. We will look to host your mentee with a similar lab group whilst you still provide day-to-day support.

The MCRC is a partnership founded by

Key Responsibilities and Opportunities available include:

- Providing training to Cancer Postgraduate Mentors, with the assistance of the MCRC Postgraduate Programme Manager;
- Acting as a point of contact for a small number of Postgraduate Cancer Mentors to assist with any queries or issues they may have;
- Identifying opportunities for your mentee to develop their academic CV, e.g. through signposting them to conferences or talks;
- Being empathetic and willing to share your own journey;
- Helping your mentee to set short and long-term career goals;
- Providing advice on applying for a cancer-focused PhD in future;
- Providing guidance on cancer-specific PhD applications and interviews;
- To contribute to the development of the mentorship scheme by suggesting new ideas for engagement;
- To complete compulsory training as required.

Benefits of being a Senior Cancer Postgraduate Mentor:

- Gain managerial experience;
- Help to define and shape this mentorship programme;
- Inspire the next generation of postgraduate researchers;
- Gain skills in leadership, mentoring and communicating with other people.

How to apply

Please complete our [short application form](#) to apply for this role.

The deadline to apply for this role is 12:00 (GMT) on Monday 4th March 2024.

If your application is successful, we'll invite you to have an informal chat and find out more about you and assess your suitability for this programme. This is also a chance for you to find out more about us, learn how the mentoring scheme works and ask us any questions you may have.

We aim to inform everyone of the outcome of their application a week after the deadline. Please note, if we receive a sufficient number of applications we may close the job advert earlier than advertised.

Version Control		
Version	Date	Amendments made (if applicable)
1	24.02.05	JD produced
2	24.02.26	Amendments to postdoc/CRTF eligibility

Person Specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of previously working on this mentorship programme or similar relevant managerial experience • Experience of successfully applying for and undertaking a PhD in Manchester 	
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of the MCRC and/or CRUK Manchester Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of previously participating in this mentorship scheme • Knowledge of key issues affecting access and inequity in postgraduate research
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to inspire and lead others • Excellent listening and communication skills • Ability to establish strong working relationships with a range of individuals • Approachable and personable • Empathetic • Self-motivated and self-reliant • Ability to ensure observation of service procedures, for example maintaining confidentiality 	

Senior Cancer Postgraduate Mentor FAQs

Who can apply?

You must be a current MB-PhD or Non-Clinical PhD student at the Manchester Cancer Research Centre or Cancer Research UK Manchester Centre to apply. Postdocs and Clinical Research Training Fellows are also eligible to apply but will be paid in [vouchers](#) due to already being full-time University of Manchester employees.

Can international students apply?

Yes, we welcome applications from all students. However, you will need to provide evidence of your right to work in the UK and check any limitations on the number of hours you are allowed to work with your UK visa.

How will I be paid?

You will join The University of Manchester payroll as a casual employee and submit timesheets of the hours you work each month to get paid. The pay for casual employees is £11.99 per hour. You will accrue 1 hours' annual leave for each 8.3 hours worked, which will be paid at the end of the job role. Hours are variable and meeting dates will be defined by the Postgraduate Programme Manager, yourself and your mentee.

Postdocs and Clinical Research Training Fellows will be paid in [vouchers](#) equivalent to the hourly paid job rate due to already being full-time University of Manchester employees.

Will training be available?

You will receive relevant training from the Postgraduate Programme Manager, enabling you to deliver training on mentorship guidelines and requirements to other students, with their guidance.

What support will I get?

You'll be assigned a small number of mentees and will feedback monthly to the MCRC Training Office on their participation in the scheme. We will work with you to define and enhance the mentoring scheme.