

The Department of Agricultural Sciences, Institute of Environmental Biotechnology is currently seeking two positions

Postgraduate Research Associate

project employment

(Reference code 260)

Extent of employment: 30 hours per week

Duration of employment: 1st of April 2026, limited to 31st of March 2029

Workplace: 3430 Tulln an der Donau, Konrad-Lorenz-Straße 20

Allocation in compliance with the Collective Agreement for University Staff to job group:
B1

Gross monthly salary: (depending on previous eligible experience) at least: € 2.786,10
(payable 14 times per year)

Responsibilities

- In cooperation with the Competence Center BEST, the COMET module “ELF4Green – Electrofermentation as an advanced tool for targeted bioproduction” will be implemented at the Institute for Environmental Biotechnology over the next four years. COMET modules promote cutting-edge research in Austria, strengthening the country's scientific base for future challenges
- The ELF4Green project develops innovative biotechnological processes for the production of green fuels and chemicals. By using electroactive microorganisms, metabolic pathways can be specifically regulated via electrical signals. Combining electro-fermentation, gasification, and gas fermentation enables the conversion of even hard-to-degrade residues such as plastics or wood waste into valuable products – contributing to a flexible and sustainable circular bioeconomy
- At the Institute of Environmental Biotechnology (BOKU University, IFA-Tulln site), a project team is being established in cooperation with BEST. Two positions for PhD students are available at BOKU on the following topics:
 - Upcycling through gasification and electro-gas fermentation
 - Electrically assisted acid and alcohol fermentation
- The responsibilities include planning and conducting fermentation and purification processes at laboratory and pilot scale, including the associated analysis, as well as evaluating and documenting the results

- In addition, presentation and publication of scientific results and networking with national and international project partners are expected
- Candidates are expected to pursue a PhD degree and will be supported accordingly

Required skills and qualifications

- Diploma degree in Biotechnology, Biochemistry, Chemistry or other equivalent university degree
- Language skills: Good English communication and writing skills, German language skills are an advantage
- Technical skills and willingness to work on the design and installation of experimental equipment
- Ability to work in a team

Desirable skills and qualifications

- Experience with microorganisms, fermentation, or biogas technology; knowledge of electro-fermentation is an advantage but not required
- Strong interest in interdisciplinary research
- Candidates should enjoy working independently and with a practical focus

Applications can be submitted until: 31st of January 2026

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna seeks to increase the number of its female faculty and staff members. Therefore qualified women are strongly encouraged to apply. In case of equal qualification, female candidates will be given preference unless reasons specific to an individual male candidate tilt the balance in his favour.

People with disabilities and appropriate qualifications are specifically encouraged to apply.

Please send your job application incl.

- motivation letter
- CV
- If available: Letters of recommendation

to Personnel Management, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences,
Peter-Jordan-Straße 70, 1190 Vienna; E-Mail: recruiting@boku.ac.at. **(Reference code: 260)**

We regret that we cannot reimburse applicants travel and lodging expenses incurred as part of the selection and hiring process.

www.boku.ac.at