**Akhtar Laboratory**  
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago  
Job Opening

**Job Title:**  
Research Technician

**Job Location:**  
Chicago, IL 60611, USA

**Job Description:**  
This Research Technician position is in the Akhtar laboratory at the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago. The focus of the Akhtar laboratory is to understand the interaction between viruses and the pediatric brain. Toward this goal, the lab utilizes a wide variety of approaches including animal models, cell culture models, molecular biology, and genome sequencing. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to contribute to ongoing clinically-relevant research in the laboratory that addresses how variations within the viral genome contribute to different neurologic outcomes, and identifies critical components of defense in the pediatric brain against viral infection. This position will provide a strong foundation for individuals contemplating continued training in medical or graduate school.

The successful candidate will perform experiments to support research in the laboratory including viral infection of animals and cells, viral plaque assays, isolation of nucleic acids and proteins, PCR, immunoblotting, viral genome sequencing, generation of viral mutants, and microscopy techniques. Additionally, the candidate will be asked to record and interpret results, organize data, and prepare short reports to be discussed with the Principle Investigator. Finally, the Research Technician will spend a portion of their time performing basic laboratory maintenance tasks including cataloging and organizing laboratory reagents, inventorying and ordering laboratory supplies, preparing chemical solutions for laboratory use, and performing routine maintenance on laboratory equipment. It is anticipated that successful projects in which the technician participates will lead to authorship on scientific manuscripts.

**Required Qualifications:**
- Bachelor’s degree in a biological science and bench research experience.
- Strong interpersonal skills, as well as verbal and written communication skills.
- Reliability is essential!
- To be successful in this position, the technician must have scientific curiosity, a high level of self-motivation, the ability to take instruction and correction, the ability to follow directions, good organizational skills, and the ability to work and think independently.
- Desire to dedicate at least two years to work in the Akhtar lab.

Interested applicants should email Dr. Lisa Akhtar ([lisa.akhtar@northwestern.edu](mailto:lisa.akhtar@northwestern.edu)) a cover letter, current CV, and contact information for 2-3 references. This position is available for the successful candidate to start in early April 2020. The Stanley Manne Children’s Research Institute is an equal opportunity employer. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, religion, national or ethnic origin, disability, or protected veteran status. The Akhtar lab is committed to maintaining a safe, open, and diverse laboratory environment and underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.