

Research Associate – GeoVax Labs, Inc. (Full-time Position)

GeoVax is seeking a highly motivated individual for the Research Associate position reporting to the Director of Vector Development. GeoVax is a small, dynamic company. Our employees are flexible self-starters who contribute across multiple functional areas. In addition to the primary duties listed below, the Research Associate is expected to be capable of organizing and executing schedules and eager to continually gain new knowledge and proficiency with skills and laboratory assays and contribute to development of internal projects and programs in R&D.

The GeoVax portfolio includes prototype and clinical stage vaccines to address pandemic COVID, prevention from infection by hemorrhagic fever viruses and treatment of cancers. The technology focus of the company is on the use of MVA vectors as the basis for new vaccines, with the additional use of peptides, proteins, DNA plasmid and adjuvant-active materials, when required, to develop an efficacious product.

Position Summary:

The Research Associate participates in construction and characterization of MVA vector development process for use in vaccines. The experimental focus for vector development is the implementation of scientific approaches using relevant molecular biology and evaluation of results using experimental *in vitro* assays that lead to or otherwise support the development of novel MVA-vectored vaccines.

The vector development process includes technology development to address limitations for rapid and scalable vectored vaccine production, prototype construction and testing to document utility.

Duties and Responsibilities:

The Research Associate contributes to the design, construction and evaluation of all poxvirus-based vaccine candidates using techniques established, developed, or acquired by GeoVax. Primary duties of the position include:

- Construct and *in vitro* characterize the vaccine candidates
- Characterize and optimize the growth and yield of MVA recombinant viruses
- Purify and clone the vaccine candidates from the parental strains
- Produce and characterize premaster seed virus and research virus stocks for non-clinical testing
- Perform insert stability testing by multiple cell culture passages and associated assays to measure expression of the inserted genes
- Recording and reporting of scientific data

- Internal presentation of data

Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Science with 3 years of supervised, productive, and applicable experience in virology, molecular and/or cell biology.

or

- Master of Science degree including a minimum of 1 year laboratory training through supervised academic research in virology, molecular and/or cell biology.

- A strong interest in vaccine development and basic understanding of immunology

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

In-depth knowledge of:

- Sterile cell culture methodologies
- Virology
- Molecular biology theory and techniques
- Scientific laboratory records maintenance
- Basic data analysis and presentation

Working knowledge of:

- Use of hazardous materials
- Knowledge of biosafety laboratory requirements
- Knowledge of preparation of laboratory reports