



Scientist / Senior Scientist, AAV Molecular Biology

Akouos is building the leading gene therapy company focused on hearing disorders. Our objectives are to restore the inner ear's ability to produce functional proteins required for hearing, rejuvenate structures of the hearing circuit critical for high-fidelity signal transduction and inner ear homeostasis, and reinforce healthy hearing with local, enduring protein production to protect against drug-, noise-, and age- associated ototoxicity. Ensuring delivery to the right cells, in the right amounts, and at the right time is central to our ability to restore and preserve hearing. Recombinant adeno-associated viruses (AAVs) can be harnessed as powerful vectors that are capable of safely and efficiently delivering therapeutic nucleic acids to the nuclei of target cells. Akouos' initial focus is on delivery of AAV gene therapies to treat hearing loss in genetically-defined patient populations.

Akouos launched in 2017 with backing from 5AM Ventures, New Enterprise Associates, and Partners Innovation Fund.

Akouos was featured in Biospace as the top 20 life science startups company to watch in 2019. <https://www.biospace.com/article/1-top-20-life-science-startups-to-watch-in-2019/?keywords=akouos>

Responsibilities:

- Design and optimize transgene plasmid constructs for AAV vector product development
- Perform in-vitro and ex-vivo assay development (DNA/ RNA/ protein analysis) using AAV vector
- Propose, design and conduct series hands-on experiment to show proof of concept (PoC) data and advance vector candidates to preclinical phase
- Write SOPs and technical transfer documents to external vendors
- Prepare and analyze data, as well as present results to multidisciplinary research teams and scientific conferences
- Maintain accurate and detail documentation of experiments and projects through meticulous lab notebook practices

Requirements:

- Ph.D. in virology, biochemistry, molecular or cell biology, and a 2 - 5 years of hands-on experience working in a laboratory environment; with multiple peer-reviewed scientific publications.
- Gene therapy and animal study research experience
- Able to innovate, work independently and set priorities to meet project deadlines.
- Extremely self-driven and detail-oriented.
- Agile in very dynamic working environment
- Able to trouble-shoot and take initiative accordingly
- Possess outstanding verbal and written communications skills and proficient in Microsoft products (Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.)

Qualified applicants should submit their resume to careers@akouos.com.

Akouos is committed to equal employment opportunity and non-discrimination for all employees and qualified applicants without regard to a person's race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, age, religion, national origin, ancestry, ethnicity, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, marital status, or any characteristic protected under applicable law.