

Postdoc in protein engineering

Applications are invited for a part-time 2-year postdoc position in the field of protein engineering at the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Expected start date and duration of employment

This is a 2-year position from 1 August 2026.

Job description

You will be part of an international and dynamic team to focus on dissecting and altering substrate specificities of OGT and OGA or suitable homologs.

- You will be working closely with other postdoctoral researchers, guiding technician and reporting to the professor.
- This project involves different methodology including protein purification, enzymology and protein design/engineering.

Your profile

Applicants should hold a Ph.D.'s degree in Biology and have experience in engineering sugar binding proteins and be familiar with the field of protein O-GlcNAcylation.

Preferred qualifications:

- Preferably at least five years of research experience in a protein biochemistry lab having used common methods such as cloning, recombinant protein expression and purification, SDS-PAGE, western blot and mass spectrometry
- Experience with the latest protein design tools
- Investigating protein-sugar interactions both *in silico* and *in vitro*
- Targeted mutagenesis / protein engineering and screening of muteins
- Computational biology on an HPC cluster
- Teaching experience with bachelor and master students

Candidates should have the following personal skills:

- Excellent interpersonal and collaborative skills.
- Excellent time management skills and ability to meet deadlines.
- Excellent attention to details and asks reasonable questions.
- Troubleshooting and problem-solving mindset.
- Ability to work independently, with limited direction, and within a team environment.
- Fluency in English, spoken and written.

Who we are

The postdoc will be done in the research group of Daan van Aalten which is affiliated to the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics.

The Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics is part of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Aarhus University and comprises research within the areas of Plant Molecular Biology, Neurobiology, RNA Biology and Innovation, Protein Science, Cellular Health, Intervention and Nutrition.

Please refer to <http://mbg.au.dk/> for further information about The Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics and to <https://nat.au.dk/> and <http://www.au.dk/> for information on Faculty of Natural Sciences and Aarhus University, respectively.

What we offer

The department/centre offers:

- a well-developed research infrastructure, laboratories and access to shared

Application Deadline:
12 May 2026

Institute/Faculty:
Department of
Molecular Biology and
Genetics

Faculty:
Faculty of Natural
Sciences

**Academic contact
person:**
Daan van Aalten
Professor
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+4593588272

Vacant positions:
1

Number of months:
24

Hours per week:
7,4

**Expected date of
accession:**
01/08/2026

equipment

- an exciting interdisciplinary environment with many national, international and industrial collaborators
- a research climate encouraging lively, open and critical discussion within and across different fields of research
- a work environment with close working relationships, networking and social activities
- a workplace characterised by professionalism, equality and a healthy work-life balance.

Place of work and area of employment

The place of work is Universitetsbyen 81, 8000 Aarhus C, and the area of employment is Aarhus University with related departments.

Contact information

For further information, please contact: Professor, Daan van Aalten, daan@mbg.au.dk.

Deadline

Applications must be received no later than 12 May 2026.

Application procedure

Shortlisting is used. This means that after the deadline for applications – and with the assistance from the assessment committee chairman, and the appointment committee if necessary, – the head of department selects the candidates to be evaluated. All applicants will be notified whether or not their applications have been sent to an expert assessment committee for evaluation. The selected applicants will be informed about the composition of the committee, and each applicant is given the opportunity to comment on the part of the assessment that concerns him/her self.

Letter of reference

If you want a referee to upload a letter of reference on your behalf, please state the referee's contact information when you submit your application. We strongly recommend that you make an agreement with the person in question before you enter the referee's contact information, and that you ensure that the referee has enough time to write the letter of reference before the application deadline. Unfortunately, it is not possible to ensure that letters of reference received after the application deadline will be taken into consideration.

If you wish to add a referee **after** you have submitted your application, you must send this person's details (name, job title, place of work, and email address) as well as the name of the position you have applied for to: HR.Nattech@au.dk

Formalities and salary range

Natural Sciences refers to the [Ministerial Order on the Appointment of Academic Staff at Danish Universities under the Danish Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation](#).

The application must be in English and include a curriculum vitae, degree certificate, a complete list of publications, a statement of future research plans and information about research activities, teaching portfolio and verified information on previous teaching experience (if any). Guidelines for applicants can be found [here](#).

Appointment shall be in accordance with the collective labour agreement between the Danish Ministry of Taxation and the Danish Confederation of Professional Associations. Further information on qualification requirements and job content may be found in the [Memorandum on Job Structure for Academic Staff at Danish Universities](#).

Salary depends on seniority as agreed between the Danish Ministry of Taxation and the Confederation of Professional Associations.

Aarhus University's ambition is to be an attractive and inspiring workplace for all and to foster a culture in which each individual has opportunities to thrive, achieve and develop. We view equality and diversity as assets, and we welcome all applicants.

Research activities will be evaluated in relation to actual research time. Thus, we encourage applicants to specify periods of leave without research activities, in order to be able to subtract these periods from the span of the scientific career during the evaluation of scientific productivity.

Aarhus University offers a broad variety of services for international researchers and accompanying families, including relocation service and career counselling to expat partners. Read more [here](#). Please find more information about entering and working in Denmark [here](#).

Aarhus University also offers a Junior Researcher Development Programme targeted at career development for postdocs at AU. You can read more about it [here](#).

At the Faculty of Natural Science at Aarhus University, we strive to support our scientific staff in their career development. We focus on competency development and career clarification and want to make your opportunities transparent. On [our website](#), you can find information on all types of scientific positions, as well as the entry criteria we use when assessing candidates. You can also read more about how we can assist you in your career planning and development.

The application must be submitted via Aarhus University's recruitment system, which can be accessed under the job advertisement on Aarhus University's website.

Aarhus University

Aarhus University is an academically diverse and research-intensive university with a strong commitment to high-quality research and education and the development of society nationally and globally. The university offers an inspiring research and teaching environment to its 37,000 students (FTEs) and 8.700 employees and has an annual revenue of EUR 1.106 billion. Learn more at www.international.au.dk/