

External Job Advertisement Reg.-Nr. 5-4021/25-H

The Faculty of Natural Sciences I, Institute of Biochemistry and Biotechnology, as part of the DFG-funded Research Training Group 2498 "Communication and Dynamics of Plant Cell Compartments", at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg is seeking a part-time (65%)

Research Associate (m/f/d)

for a fixed term of 3 years, starting from 01.08.2025.

Remuneration will be determined based on job duties and responsibilities and will be aligned with the fulfillment of listed personal requirements, up to pay grade 13 under the *TV-L (Tarifvertrag für den Öffentlichen Dienst der Länder – 'German Public Service Pay Agreement for the Federal States')*.

The Research Training Group 2498 "Communication and Dynamics of Plant Cell Compartments", located at Halle's Weinberg Campus, is a structured PhD program funded by the "Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft" (DFG). The RTG 2498 brings together groups from different contributing institutes at the Martin Luther University Halle Wittenberg and the associated Leibniz Institute of Plant Biochemistry (IPB), providing graduate students a stimulating and interdisciplinary scientific environment with access to diverse methodological and instrumental competencies.

Job Responsibilities:

- Conduct research within an exploratory project of the RTG2498 entitled ["The role of RNAs in the unfolded protein response in plants"](#)
- Investigate UPR-effectors using RNA-seq (cyPhyRNA-seq)
- Validate and characterize identified target RNAs in vitro and in *Arabidopsis thaliana*
- Perform molecular biology and RNA biochemistry experiments (radiolabelled nucleic acids), prepare NGS-libraries
- Generate and analyze genetically manipulated *Arabidopsis* plants and study functional roles of alternative UPR-protein isoforms under stress conditions
- Presentation and publication of scientific data

The opportunity to obtain your own academic qualification as part of a doctorate is given.

Requirements:

- Successfully completed scientific university degree MSc degree (or equivalent) in Biology, Biochemistry or related subjects
- Enthusiasm for molecular plant biology and RNA-based gene regulation
- Expertise and/or motivation to learn and apply molecular biology and plant genetics techniques, including cloning, RNA-seq, RNA biochemistry, proteinexpression and purification, generation of genetically modified *Arabidopsis* plants
- Strong communication skills and the ability to collaborate in an interdisciplinary research environment
- Excellent English language skills (written and spoken)
- High motivation to work in a cooperative manner within the RTG

Applications from disabled persons, including those of equal status (as certified by the Bundesagentur für Arbeit / Federal Employment Agency), will be given preferential consideration if they are equally suitable and qualified. Women are strongly encouraged to apply. Applications from individuals of all nationalities are explicitly welcome. Applicants with a degree that was not obtained at a German university must submit a Statement of Comparability for Foreign Higher Education Qualifications from the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) (<https://www.kmk.org/zab/central-office-for-foreign-education>) as proof of equivalence upon conclusion of the employment contract. You can find ways to apply for a financial grant for this under: <https://www.anerkennung-in-deutschland.de/html/de/pro/anerkennungszuschuss.php#>.

If you have any project-related questions, please contact Prof. Dr. Christina Weinberg, Tel.: 0345 55-24920, email: christina.weinberg@bct.uni-halle.de. For any inquiries regarding the application process, please contact the coordinator of the RTG 2498 (Kristin Leimer, Tel.: +49 345 55-24834, email: kristin.leimer@biochemtech.uni-halle.de).

For your application, please use the online application form at: <https://rtg2498.uni-halle.de/application/>. The deadline for the submission is 31.05.2025.

This job posting is subject to potential budgetary restrictions.

Application costs will not be reimbursed by Martin Luther University. Only applications submitted via the application web form (<https://rtg2498.uni-halle.de/application/>) can be accepted.