

Job Title: Junior Research Fellow / Project Associate Dept of Biology

Reports to: Krishna Melnattur, Biology and Psychology

Location: AC03 Basement Fruit Fly Facility

Experience (in years): 0-3 years

Nature of work: The JRF / PA will assist in a SERB funded project to understand the mechanisms of sleep drive modulation and its functional consequences. The lab uses the fly *Drosophila* as a model to explore these questions. The JRF / PA will assist with fly genetics, circuit manipulations, anatomical analyses, and building behavioural apparatuses. For more on the lab's research: <https://melnatturlab.weebly.com>

About Ashoka University:

Ashoka University is India's premier interdisciplinary teaching and research university, an institution that has become a beacon of academic excellence in the less than 10 years since its inception. At Ashoka, we encourage you to embrace change, learn and grow continuously, and strive for excellence in what you do.

As part of our thriving and committed workforce, you will:

Be Mission-Driven: Champion interdisciplinary learning, innovative pedagogy, and academic rigor to transform Indian higher education.

Think Strategically: Collaborate with other innovative colleagues to shape the future of higher education through strategic planning and a forward-thinking approach.

Act Authentically: Embrace authenticity and integrity, fostering an inclusive and supportive environment where every voice is valued.

Take Accountability: Own your work and drive positive change, as an individual seeking to make a meaningful contribution.

Build Collaboration: Experience the power of teamwork and diverse perspectives, working collectively towards our shared goals.

Deliver Excellence: Strive for high quality in all aspects, upholding the highest standards of academic excellence, student support, and professional development opportunities.

At Ashoka University, we are on a mission to redefine higher education and create a remarkable space where innovation and collaboration thrives. As a **pioneering force in interdisciplinary learning**, we **continually grow and adapt** to stay at the forefront of educational excellence with emphasis on inclusivity and equal opportunity. Our philosophy revolves around **care, well-being, and connection**, which are deeply embedded in everything we do.

When you join our community, you become part of an extraordinary journey in which you can enhance your potential and make a meaningful impact.

About the Biology Dept: The lab is located in the Department of Biology, Ashoka University. The Dept is home to world class faculty pursuing diverse areas of research, and has state-of-art equipment in a shared facility.

Role and Responsibilities: The lab uses a range of neurobiological techniques including genetics, molecular biology, immunohistochemical circuit tracing, functional imaging, and high throughput behavioural analysis. The position involves working closely with the principal investigator and lab members on all of these experiments, performing data analysis, and other routine lab tasks. The fellow /assistant would also be expected to keep up with the relevant literature, participate in group discussions and occasionally present their work. If interested, the assistant / fellow could also aid in preparation of manuscripts.

Qualifications and Skills Required: Bachelor's degree or Master's degree in biological sciences from a UGC accredited university. Additional qualifications for JRF are: Post-graduate or graduate degree with NET/GATE qualification. Compensation will be as per Department of Science and Technology, Government of India norms. Interest and motivation to solve fundamental questions in brain science, excellent organisational skills, the ability to handle multiple projects and keeping of meticulous laboratory records is a must. Prior experience of working with *Drosophila* and studying behaviour and neural circuits is preferred but not required.

Application Submission Process:

To ensure your candidacy receives the attention it deserves, kindly follow the application submission process outlined below:

Prepare an Updated CV: Showcase your professional accomplishments, skills, and experiences in an updated curriculum vitae.

Submit Your Application: Email your CV to the PI at krishna.melnattur@ashoka.edu.in, ensuring the subject line reads as follows: JRF/PA – Biology Dept _SERB_sleep_project_Applicant Name.

Include Essential Details: Along with your CV, kindly provide the following information:

- Cover letter describing your career goals, research interests and what excites you about the lab's work.
- Notice period: Inform us of the time required to transition from your current role, if applicable

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted as part of our rigorous selection process.

Adherence to Deadlines: To ensure fairness and efficiency, please submit your application by Nov 27 2023. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.