Saarland University is a campus university with an international reputation for research excellence, particularly in computer science and in the life sciences and nanosciences. The university is also distinguished by its close ties to France and its strong European focus. Around 17,000 students, studying over one hundred different academic disciplines, are currently enrolled at Saarland University. Saarland University is officially recognized as one of Germany’s family-friendly higher-education institutions and with a combined workforce of more than 4000 it is one of the largest employers in the region.

The Department of Cellular Neurophysiology, CIPMM, Universität des Saarlandes is inviting applications for the following position commencing at the earliest opportunity.

**PHD Student position (m/f/x)**

*Reference number W2521*, salary in accordance with the German TV-L salary scale¹, pay grade: E13 TV-L, duration of employment: 3 years, volume of employment: 65% of standard working time.

**Workplace/Department:**

We are an ambitious and successful group studying the cellular mechanisms of exocytosis using high-end microscopy techniques. We offer exiting research, state of the art equipment, and an international environment. We are part of the ATTACK consortium funded by the European Research Commission (ERC) ([https://supramolecular-attack-particles.eu/](https://supramolecular-attack-particles.eu/)). As such we work in a highly collaborative environment.

We work at the interface between immunology and neuroscience by studying the mechanism of exo- and endocytosis in a variety of cell types. In particular, we investigate the cellular mechanisms of lytic granule (LG) exocytosis in cytotoxic T cells (CTL) using high-end microscopy techniques (STED, SIM, TIRFM, confocal microscopy and electron microscopy), genetic engineering methods and FACS. See doi: 10.1038/s41467-022-28596-y and 10.3389/fimmu.2023.1177670 for latest publications on the subject; for more information visit our website: [https://cipmm.uni-saarland.de/index.php/en/physiology/cell-neuro/cell-neuro-research](https://cipmm.uni-saarland.de/index.php/en/physiology/cell-neuro/cell-neuro-research)

Your role: You will investigate the release mechanisms of the supramolecular attack particles (SMAPs), which will place your work in the center of our ATTACK project.

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¹ TV-L = collective agreement on remuneration of public sector employees in the German Länder

The pay grade assigned to an employee depends on their professional qualifications and the number of years of service. Each pay grade is further subdivided into levels. Entry-level employees with no previous experience will initially be assigned a level 1 rating. After one year at level 1 of the E10 pay grade, an employee will move up to level 2. After a further two years, the employee will move to level 3, etc.
**Job requirements and responsibilities:**
You will use a comprehensive range of methods in the field of molecular biology, biochemistry and cell biology (cloning, protein expression, Western blot, FACS, ELISA, fluorescence microscopy, etc.) and apply CRISPR/Cas9 genetic engineering to modify primary cell cultures. You will develop new concepts to complement the state of the art.

You will be part of a committed and collegial team, dealing with varied and interesting topics and will be given scientific freedom with the opportunity for continuous professional exchange and personal development.

You will present your results at scientific congresses and internal meetings, participate in national and international research projects (e.g. experimental studies and collaboration on reports), prepare and collaborate on scientific publications.

You will co-supervise young scientists (e.g. Bachelor’s, Master’s and doctoral students), assume responsibilities in the laboratory.

**Your academic qualifications:**
- Completed university studies in Master of Immunology, Physiology, Pharmacology or any Biology related disciplines.
- Language skills (according to GER): English

**The successful candidate will also be expected to:**
- You should 1. have a background in cell culture, microscopy, and/or other immunology techniques; 2. be disposed to work with laboratory animals; 3. have a high degree of resilience and commitment to science (mandatory)
- Language skills (according to GER): German *(e.g.: German -C2) (option necessary language skills)*

**What we can offer you:**
- A flexible work schedule allowing you to balance work and family, among other things the possibility of teleworking
- Secure and future-oriented employment with attractive conditions
- A broad range of further education and professional development programmes (for example language courses)
- An occupational health management model with numerous attractive options, such as our university sports programme
- Supplementary pension scheme (RZVK)
- Discounted tickets on local public transport services (‘Job-Ticket Plus’ of the saarVV)

We look forward to receiving your **meaningful online application** (in a PDF file) by **25.08.2024** to ute.becherer@uni-saarland.de. Please include the reference number W2521 in the subject line of the e-mail.

If you have any questions, please contact us for assistance. Your contact:
Frau Dr. Ute Becherer
ute.becherer@uks.eu
Tel.: None

Pay grade classification is based on the particular details of the position held and the extent to which the applicant meets the requirements of the pay grade within the TV-L salary scale. Part-time employment is generally possible.

If you have obtained a foreign university degree, a proof of the equivalence of this degree with a German degree by the Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen (ZAB) is needed before hiring. If necessary, please apply for this in time. You can find more information at [https://www.kmk.org/zeugnisbewertung](https://www.kmk.org/zeugnisbewertung).

Unfortunately, neither costs for attending an interview at Saarland University nor costs for any certificate evaluation by the ZAB can be reimbursed in principle.

We welcome applications regardless of gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion/belief, disability, age, and sexual orientation and identity. In accordance with its policy of increasing the proportion of women, the University actively encourages...
applications from women. Applications from severely disabled persons will be given preferential consideration in the event of equal suitability.

When you submit a job application to Saarland University you will be transmitting personal data. Please refer to our privacy notice for information on how we collect and process personal data in accordance with Art. 13 of the Datenschutz-Grundverordnung. By submitting your application you confirm that you have taken note of the information in the Saarland University privacy notice.