

Hier
entsteht
Zukunft!



UNIVERSITÄT
DES
SAARLANDES

Foto: Oliver Dietze

Saarland University is a campus university that is internationally recognized for its strong research programmes. Fostering young academic talent and creating ideal conditions for teaching and research are a core part of the university's mission. As part of the University of the Greater Region, Saarland University enables students and staff to share and exchange knowledge and ideas between disciplines, between universities and across borders. With over 17,000 national and international students, studying more than a hundred different academic disciplines, Saarland University is a diverse and dynamic learning environment. [Saarland University is officially recognized as one of Germany's family-friendly higher-education institutions and with a combined workforce of more than 4,000 it is one of the largest employers in the region.]

The Institute of Virology is inviting applications for the following position commencing at the earliest opportunity.

Doctoral Research Position (m/f/x)

Reference number W2708, salary in accordance with the German TV-L salary scale¹, pay grade: E13 TV- L, duration of employment: 3 years, volume of employment: 50 % of standard working time.

Workplace/Department:

Institute of Virology, Saarland University, Campus Homburg

Job requirements and responsibilities:

We are looking for a highly motivated co-worker with strong research interest in 3D-cell culture research, microbiota and molecular virology.

Goal of the project is to use genetically programmed commensal lactobacilli as living therapeutic material (LTM) to provide long-term delivery of biopharmaceuticals for chemoprevention of chronic inflammation and carcinogenesis in the female genital tract. We focus on the use of 3-dimensional organotypic and organoid tissue culture models to study the LTM effects on inflammatory signaling and virus-induced carcinogenesis. Unique 3D-cell biology techniques as well as molecular biology techniques, such as single cell sequencing, chromatin and pan-omics analyses are available for innovative transdisciplinary cancer research.

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.

Your academic qualifications:

- Completed scientific university studies in natural sciences such as biology, biochemistry, pharmacy or equivalent
- Language skills (according to GER): English – C1

The successful candidate will also be expected to:

- Enthusiasm for science and interdisciplinary collaboration
- Initiative
- Structured and goal-oriented approach to work
- Open-minded personality, teamwork and communication skills
- Above-average academic performance
- Experience with cell and molecular biology techniques would be an advantage

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' of the saarVV)

We look forward to receiving your **meaningful online application** (in one PDF file) by **29.08.2025** to **s.smola@mx.uni-saarland.de**. Please include the reference number **W2708** in the subject line of the e-mail.

If you have any **questions**, please contact us for assistance. Your contact:

Frau Prof. Dr. Sigrun Smola

Institute of Virology

Tel.: +49-6841-1623931

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>.

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.