

PhD Position – Structural Biology and Molecular Evolution

CIC bioGUNE is looking for highly-motivated early stage researcher to work in the ERC Synergy project RGNcestry: Tracing and harnessing the ancestry of RNA-guided nucleases, funded by the European Commission.

CIC bioGUNE, member of the Basque Research and Technology Alliance (BRTA), is awarded with the “Excelencia Severo Ochoa” accreditation by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation, the highest recognition in Spain for excellence in research. CIC bioGUNE is a key research center within the national and international scientific landscape and has emerged as a knowledge source in the area of health science. The cutting-edge scientific activity of CIC bioGUNE researchers explores the interface between Chemistry, Structural, Molecular and Cell Biology, with the aim of developing a more Precise Medicine.

We are seeking candidates for a PhD position in structural biology and molecular evolution, focusing on the study of ancestral RNA-guided nucleases (RGNs). The successful candidate will contribute to experimental and structural characterization of these proteins and participate in dissemination activities linked to the project.

The candidate will be part of a consortium including Botnar Insititue for Immune Engineering (Switzerland), Columbia University (USA), Biofisika Institute (Spain), and CIC bioGUNE (Spain). Active participation in consortium activities such as research, meetings, training, dissemination, and outreach is expected.

Requirements:

- Master’s degree in biotechnology, molecular biology, or related fields.
- Interest in protein characterization, molecular evolution, and interdisciplinary training.
- Proficiency in English and strong communication skills.
- Motivation for collaborative research and public engagement.

Application procedure:

Candidates should apply via [CIC bioGUNE Careers](#), uploading an updated CV and a 1–2 page research statement, including contact information for two referees, using the following [form](#) and indicating 43081.

Contract:

Doctoral position for four years, with annual evaluation. Starting date April 1st, 2026.