



Instytut Katalizy i Fizykochemii Powierzchni
im. Jerzego Habera
Polskiej Akademii Nauk



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

FORM FOR EMPLOYERS

INSTITUTION . Jerzy Haber Institute of Catalysis and Surface Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences

CITY . Krakow

POSITION Research Assistant (post-doc)

DISCIPLINE .

- Biology (microbiology, molecular biology)
- Chemistry (analytical chemistry, applied chemistry, biochemistry, heterogeneous catalysis, homogeneous catalysis, inorganic chemistry, instrumental analysis, instrumental techniques, molecular chemistry, organic chemistry, other, physical chemistry, reaction mechanisms and kinetics, structural chemistry)
- Engineering (Mechanical Engineering, Materials Engineering)

POSTED August 25th 2026

EXPIRES September 25th 2026, 3:00 pm GMT+1

WEBSITE www.ikifp.edu.pl

KEY WORDS biomaterials, microbiology, proteins, materials engineering, biopolymers, physicochemical characterization of biomaterials

DESCRIPTION (field, expectations, comments):

The Jerzy Haber Institute of Catalysis and Surface Chemistry of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Krakow announces a competition for the position of Assistant (post-doc) in the group Theoretical and Experimental Biocatalysis for the implementation of the project OPUS LAP PHA-CURE M.Guzik (UMO-2024/55/I/ST8/02132).

The competition is open to persons who meet the conditions set out in the Act on the Polish Academy of Sciences of 30 April 2010 (Journal of Laws 2020, item 1796, as amended), Article 89, Section 4.

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In particular the successful candidate will be responsible for:

- optimization of polyhydroxyalkanoate fermentation processes;
- production of biomaterials (single- and multi-component) and their characterization using advanced surface and structural analysis methods;
- collaboration with a PhD student on expression of recombinant proteins;
- collaboration with other project participants and supervision of interns and PhD students in the research group;
- participation in planning, conducting research, analyzing results, and preparing scientific publications;
- presentation of research results at national and international conferences.

Required education level:

The candidate should hold a Ph.D. in the biological sciences in the field of microbiology or biotechnology; in the chemical sciences in the field of chemistry or biotechnology; or in the technical sciences in the field of materials engineering or a related field.

Skills / qualifications:

- at least 4 years of research experience in the field of materials engineering and/or biotechnology, evidenced by scientific publications in JCR-listed journals in which the candidate played a significant role (first author and/or corresponding author in at least two papers), as well as presentations at national and international conferences;
- experience in carrying out national and international research projects as a researcher and/or project leader;
- at least 4 months of research experience gained at a foreign research institution as part of an internship;
- experience in laboratory work;
- practical knowledge of the following research techniques in the characterization of biomaterials and their surfaces, as well as the analysis and interpretation of the obtained results: SEM/TEM, QCM, DLS, FTIR, UV-Vis, NMR, and DSC; and fluorescence imaging methods;
- experience in working with biological objects;
- very good command of spoken and written English, confirmed by a C1 certificate;
- high motivation for scientific research and the ability to work in a team;
- the candidate must meet the requirements specified in the NCN regulations governing the hiring of postdocs in the OPUS competition (28th edition)*.

* The postdoc contract is reserved for individuals who obtained their Ph.D. in the year of employment on the project or within the 12-year period preceding January 1 of the year of employment on the project. This period may be extended by the duration of long-term (more than 90 days) documented sick leave or rehabilitation leave due to incapacity for work. Additionally, this period may be extended by the number of months spent on leave related to the care and upbringing of children, granted in accordance with the provisions of the Labor Code, and in the case of women—by 18 months for each child born or



adopted child, if this method of identifying breaks in the research career is more advantageous.

The PhD degree of the candidate need to be awarded by another institution than the one planned to employ them at this post or they have completed a continuous and evidenced post-doctoral fellowship of at least 10 months in another institution than the host institution for the project and in another country than the one in which they have been conferred a PhD degree.

Furthermore, during the period of receiving remuneration, a person employed in a post-doc position may not receive any other remuneration from funds allocated as direct costs from research projects funded through NCN competitions, nor may they receive remuneration from another employer under an employment contract, including an employer based outside the territory of Poland. When the remuneration is paid, they will be receiving no pension under the social security scheme.

Detailed requirements

The candidate's application should include:

1. employment application
2. copy of the diploma conferring the doctoral degree
3. full curriculum vitae
4. at least one opinion about the candidate from the previous supervisor
5. list of scientific achievements
6. self-report - maximum 1 A4 page

Required languages

- English (C1)

Required research experience

4-10 years.

Additional information

Salary:

Gross salary will amount to 9 000,00 - 9 100,00 PLN per month depending on the candidate's experience.

Qualification criteria

- high evaluation of the doctoral dissertation, as confirmed by peer reviews (0-10 points). Minimum number of points required: 8;
- at least 4 years of research experience in the field of materials engineering and/or biotechnology, supported by a scientific publications record in JCR-listed journals in which the candidate played a significant role (first author and/or corresponding author on at least two papers), as well as presentations at national and international conferences (0-10 points). Minimum number of points required: 3;



- experience in carrying out national and international research projects as a researcher and/or project manager (0-5 points). Minimum number of points required: 1;
- at least 4 months of research experience gained at a foreign research institution as part of an internship (0-5 points). Minimum number of points required: 1;
- experience in laboratory work (0-5 points). Minimum number of points required: 3;
- practical knowledge of the following research techniques related to the characterization of biomaterials and their surfaces, as well as the analysis and interpretation of the results obtained: SEM/TEM, QCM, DLS, FTIR, UV-Vis, NMR, and DSC; and fluorescence imaging methods (0-5 points). Minimum number of points required: 3;
- experience working with biological objects (0-5 points). Minimum number of points required: 1;
- very good command of spoken and written English, as evidenced by a C1 certificate (0-1 points). Minimum number of points required: 1.

Selection process

Applications for the competition should be submitted electronically via the platform <https://praca.ikifp.edu.pl>.

The deadline for submitting documents is **2026-09-25 3:00 pm GMT+1**. The competition will be concluded by **2026-10-09**. Candidates will be informed about the outcome.

Employment will be offered for a period of **12 months** in accordance with applicable regulations.

In the case of candidates with equivalent qualifications or if clarification of submitted information is needed, selected candidates may be invited to an online interview.

Additional information

The Institute has been adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities. The Institute does not provide accommodation.

The Jerzy Haber Institute of Catalysis and Surface Chemistry of the Polish Academy of Sciences, awarded the HR Excellence in Research Award by the European Commission, fully supports and applies the principles of open, transparent and merit-based recruitment (OTM-R). The Institute fully endorses and follows the [OTM-R policy](#) as one of the pillars of the European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers, as well as a key element of the HR Strategy ([HRS4R](#)).