



Position	<b>Research Associate/Senior Research Associate, Molecular Biology</b>
Supervisor	Alexandra Seletsky, Ph.D.
Department	Biology
Prerequisites	B.S. in Biology or related scientific field with 3+ years of relevant experience or Master's degree with experience

### **Mission:**

The mission of Arrakis Therapeutics is to extend small molecule drug discovery into new realms of biology by discovering and developing compounds that selectively target RNA. By targeting specific RNA structure/function relationships, Arrakis will generate drug candidates with novel mechanisms of action for high-value molecular targets that are challenging to address via traditional approaches in therapeutic indications with high unmet medical need.

Screening small molecules candidates through biochemical functional assays is a key activity at Arrakis. This role will lead efforts to assess functional impact of small molecule binding events through medium- to high throughput biochemical and genetic based assays. Expertise with next generation screening and biochemical assay development is expected. Experience with RNA handling, pooled screening and protein purification would be a plus.

### **Key Outcomes:**

1. Develop and execute in vitro translation assay(s) compatible with medium-throughput screening to characterizing 100-1000s of small molecule candidates on liquid handling systems.
2. Execute CRISPR/Cas9 based genetic screens and other pooled screening strategies to provide insights into protein:RNA interactions utilizing sequencing based strategies.
3. Develop biochemical assays to interrogate the functional consequences of perturbing RNA structure in vitro and in vivo.
4. Perform basic tissue culture and molecular biology methods to enable lysate based assays.
5. Work effectively with a cross-functional biology, informatics, assay development and chemistry team to deliver high-quality results on aforementioned objectives in an efficient manner.

### **Core Competencies:**

1. **Fast-acting/efficient.** Moves quickly and proactively with a strong work ethic to produce high-quality results while fostering a positive work environment. Able to produce significant output with minimal wasted effort. Focuses on key priorities. Does not let important details slip through the cracks or derail a project. Demonstrates tenacity and willingness to go the distance to get something done.

2. **Integrity.** Does not cut corners ethically. Earns trust and maintains confidences. Does what is right not just what is politically expedient. Speaks plainly and truthfully. Follows-through on commitments. Expects personal performance and team performance to be nothing short of world-class.
3. **Intelligence and innovation.** Learns quickly. Demonstrates ability to proficiently understand new information. Able to structure and process qualitative and quantitative data and draw insightful conclusions. Exhibits a probing mind and achieves penetrating insights. Generates new and innovative approaches to problems.
4. **Teamwork.** Reaches out to peers and cooperates with the team to establish an overall collaborative working environment. Let's others speak and seeks to understand their viewpoints. Often solicits feedback and reacts calmly to objective feedback. Speaks, writes, and presents clearly without being overly verbose. Able to convince others to pursue a course of action. Able to communicate the big picture in an inspiring way. Exhibits passion and excitement over work. Has a can-do attitude without losing objectivity.
5. **Flexibility/adaptability.** Adjusts quickly to changing priorities and conditions. Copes effectively with complexity and change. Calm under pressure.
6. **Technical proficiency.** Strong In the areas of molecular biology, cell biology and biochemistry with an emphasis on methodologies highlighted in the Key Outcomes section.