

TECHNICIAN (Biomechanics)

Full-time (37 hours per week); Open-ended contract

Job Ref: REQ251071

As part of the University's ongoing commitment to redeployment, please note that this vacancy may be withdrawn at any stage of the recruitment process if a suitable redeployee is identified.

Loughborough University's Technician Commitment

Loughborough University is a signatory of the national Technician Commitment Scheme which pledges to ensure the visibility, recognition, career development and sustainability of their technical staff. The successful candidate will therefore be joining a thriving and visible community of staff with opportunities for collaboration and networking, and a clearly defined career pathway against which they can map and plan their own professional development and career progression.

School summary

The postholder will work in the School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences. Internationally recognised for its contribution to the study of sport, exercise and health, the School has wide-ranging expertise, encompassing such diverse areas as biomechanics, medicine, molecular and cellular biology, nutrition, pedagogy, psychology, physiology, sociology, economics and sport management.

The School has an active and ambitious plan to grow capacity and influence through developments as part of the National Centre for Sport and Exercise Medicine, Loughborough in London, StemLab and within Para Sport.

The School is extremely proud to have held an [Athena Swan Silver Award](#) since 2013, recognising the commitment and work of the School in addressing gender inequalities in Science, and to improving career progression for female academics.

The School is committed to ensuring that female students and staff are able to achieve their full potential, and provides a flexible and open working culture to enable staff to maintain a work-life balance.

We support our Athena SWAN initiatives by investing in:

- Bespoke leadership programmes to encourage and build confidence in women to take leadership roles.
- Working lunches, where needed, to enable meetings to be held between 10.00am and 4.00pm (as per our Silver Action Plan).
- Monthly coffee mornings which provide opportunities for networking and developing a sense of community within the School.

Job Description

Job Grade: Grade 5, Technical Teaching and Specialist (TTS)

Job Purpose

To work as part of a team to support and co-ordinate the daily operation of School technical facilities, using their knowledge and expertise to ensure compliance with health and safety regulations and the effective use of technical facilities, equipment and resources. This position provides an invaluable contribution to the learning, teaching and research aims of the School.

To be responsible for managing equipment and spaces employed for biomechanics and muscle function laboratories; overseeing activities within the allocated labs ensuring that equipment is serviced, and consumables are stocked. The postholder will assist the wider technical team where required.

The postholder will receive general guidance and instruction but will be required to plan and organise their work independently. Initially, tasks will be straightforward within well-established routines and procedures but will increase in complexity and level of responsibility as the postholder's knowledge, training and professional development progresses.

Job Duties

- Support and co-ordinate the daily operation of technical facilities, equipment and resources within the School, assuming a higher level of responsibility for facilities aligned to your specialism, and co-ordinating the work of other technical staff.
- Provide technical support for teaching, learning, and research activities, including demonstrating and instructing students and staff on equipment use, processes and techniques.
- Keep updated on Health and Safety regulations, implementing and enforcing them, and escalating any issues. Carry out risk assessments and other compliance activities as required. Take on University health and safety roles, such as first aider and fire marshal. Ensure appropriate clothing, footwear and safety equipment is worn during technical activities.
- Co-ordinate equipment procurement and/or procure equipment and consumables within budget and policy guidelines.
- Develop and maintain technical documentation, such as standard operating procedures, and instructional materials.
- Drawing on your own expertise, identify technical issues and suggest solutions.
- Help prepare for and assist with Open Days, student visit days and outreach activities. Flexibility regarding working hours/days is required at times.
- Maintain good working relationships and communicate effectively with technical staff, academics, students, and visitors, including communicating complex information effectively to varied audiences. Attend and contribute to team meetings within the School and attend University technician networking events.
- Provide cover for any absence of other technical staff when necessary.
- Complete role-specific training, such as manual handling and working at height training. This may require externally-provided training.
- Undertake other general tasks and duties, commensurate with the level of the position, as directed by the Line Manager.

Points To Note

The purpose of this job description is to indicate the general level of duties and responsibility of the post. The detailed duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character or level of responsibility entailed.

Special Conditions

All staff have a statutory responsibility to take reasonable care of themselves, others and the environment and to prevent harm by their acts or omissions. All staff are therefore required to adhere to the University's Health, Safety and Environmental Policy & Procedures.

All staff should hold a duty and commitment to observing the University's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion policy and procedures at all times. Duties must be carried out in accordance with relevant Equity, Diversity and Inclusion legislation and University policies/procedures.

Successful completion of probation will be dependent on attendance at the University's mandatory courses which include Belonging and Inclusion and, where appropriate, Recruitment and Selection.

Organisational Responsibility

Reports to: Technical Supervisor (Biomechanics/Neuromuscular Function)

Person Specification

Your application will be reviewed against the essential and desirable criteria listed below. Applicants are strongly advised to explicitly state and evidence how they meet each of the essential (and desirable) criteria in their application. Stages of assessment are as follows:

- 1 – Application
- 2 – Test/Assessment Centre/Presentation
- 3 – Interview

Essential Criteria

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Experience of working in a laboratory, workshop or other technical facility, supporting biomechanical analyses, or another related field.	1,3
	Experience of conducting or assisting with biomechanical analyses (e.g. 3D motion capture, isokinetic dynamometry, EMG).	1,3
	Experience of applying good Health & Safety practices in a relevant setting.	1,3
	Experience of working with human participants.	1,3
	Experience of providing teaching and learning support to students, including practical demonstration & instruction.	1,3
Skills and abilities	Ability to work with professionalism and discretion, in accordance with University values.	1,3
	Ability to use good communication and interpersonal skills to work effectively with others.	1,3
	Ability to communicate complex information in an effective and engaging way to a range of audiences, specifically in biomechanics.	1,3
	Ability to work efficiently and accurately, planning and prioritising own workload to deliver tasks within agreed timescales.	1,3
	Ability to apply your own initiative, be self-motivated and work with minimal supervision.	1,3
	Ability to be flexible and adapt to a changing work environment.	1,3
	Ability to learn new skills, techniques, processes and procedures, and have an aptitude for problem solving.	1,3
	Ability to establish and maintain effective documentation, such as standard operating procedures and instructional materials.	1,3
	Ability to use common Microsoft Office software to a good standard.	1,2,3
	Excellent IT skills to enable the integration of equipment to computer programmes	
Training	Proven commitment to ongoing professional development, including mandatory and role-specific training.	1,3
	Willingness to be trained and to maintain training to act as a First Aider and Fire Warden	1,3
Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)	Commitment to understanding EDI challenges and observing University EDI policies	1,3
Qualifications	Level 3, or equivalent qualification, in a relevant subject, including but not limited to: SVQ/NVQ Level 3/Two A Levels in relevant subject(s)	1

	and 5 GCSEs (including Maths and English)/Level 3 Vocational Awards/Advanced Vocational Certificate of Education (AVCE)/BTEC National Diploma/Ordinary National Certificate/Diploma (ONC/OND)/or equivalent qualification in another country. <i>While a Level 3, or equivalent, qualification is preferred, we recognise the value of practical and 'real-world' knowledge and expertise, therefore candidates with a strong industry track record will be considered based on their demonstrated skills, achievements, and contributions to the field.</i>	
	Qualified to at least A-Level standard (or equivalent) which include science and/or maths qualification	1
Other	Willingness to provide support for events, such as University open and visit days (occasional Saturday working may be required)	1,3
	Willingness to travel for work purposes, such as visiting suppliers, training and professional development.	1,3

Desirable Criteria

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Experience of providing technical support in a relevant setting, supporting either teaching and learning or research activities.	1,3
	Experience of operating 3D motion capture systems.	1,3
	Experience of conducting kinetic analyses (e.g. isokinetic dynamometer, force plate).	
	Experience of purchasing equipment and consumables within agreed budgets, in accordance with organisation procurement policies.	1,3
	Experience of providing teaching and learning support to students, including practical demonstration & instruction.	1,3
	Experience of collecting and processing human movement data.	1,3
Skills and abilities	Ability to co-ordinate and supervise the work of others.	1,3
	Ability to diagnose and repair electrical faults.	1,3
	Knowledge of statistical analysis appropriate for Biomechanics.	1,3
Training	Willingness to take on wider University roles on behalf of the School/Service, such as Health & Safety or other roles.	1,3
Other	Current driving license (to meet University requirements for driving University/hired vehicles).	1,3
	Knowledge of Human Tissue Authority Licensing and Legislation.	1

Conditions of Service

The position is **full time** and **open-ended**. Salary will be on the **Technical Teaching and Specialist** job family at **Grade 5**, £29,588-£34,610 per annum, at a starting salary to be confirmed on offer of appointment.

The appointment will be subject to the University's normal [Terms and Conditions of Employment](#) for staff employed on Grade 5 or under.

The University is committed to enabling staff to maintain a healthy work-home balance and has a number of [family-friendly policies](#).

The University offers a wide range of [employee benefits](#)..

We also offer an on-campus nursery with subsidised places, subsidised places at local holiday clubs and a childcare voucher scheme (further details are available at: [Childcare Support](#))

In addition, the University is supportive, wherever possible, of flexible working arrangements. We also strive to create a culture that supports equity and celebrates diversity throughout the campus. The University holds a Bronze [Athena SWAN](#) award which recognises the importance of support for women at all stages of their academic career.

Flexible working will be considered, including part-time hours. However, this role requires the postholder to be present on campus and is not suitable for *Dynamic Working* or working from home.