

Master's Degree Graduate Student Assistantship Available!

Starting January 2023

The Beck Research Group in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Eastern Illinois University (EIU) has an NSF grant (NSF 2213273) funded master's student graduate assistant position available. Funding includes full tuition waiver and competitive stipend. Applicants should have an interest in conducting research in the field of chemical biology at the interface of chemistry, biochemistry, and cellular biology. Ideal candidates will have laboratory experience in either (a) organic synthesis OR (b) *in vitro* biochemistry techniques. In this position, students will gain experience in organic synthesis, mammalian cell culture, assay development, gel electrophoresis and Western blotting, fluorescence microscopy, absorbance and fluorescence spectroscopy, and other *in vitro* methods. In addition to completing coursework and requirements as part of the MS Chemistry program, duties will include carrying out scientific research as part of a master's thesis project, assisting in mentoring undergraduate students, and supporting the administration of EIU's iSTEM program (<https://www.eiu.edu/clas/istem.php>). Administrative tasks in support of the iSTEM program include but are not limited to assisting the advisory committee in planning, advertising, and running events and programs.

Qualifications

Applicants should qualify for EIU's Thesis-track Master's in Chemistry or Master's in Chemistry, Biochemistry Option Program at <https://www.eiu.edu/eiuchemgrad/apply.php>.

Application Instructions

- Apply or already be accepted to EIU's Thesis-Track Master's in Chemistry or Thesis-Track Master's in Chemistry, Biochemistry Option Program at <https://www.eiu.edu/eiuchemgrad/apply.php> for Spring (January) 2023 matriculation
- Complete a Graduate Assistantship Application listing "Chemistry Dept." as your first choice for "Department/School/Office Preference" at <https://www.eiu.edu/graduate/GAapplication/GAappl.php>
- After completing these applications applicants should email the following to Professor Michael W. Beck (MBeck2@EIU.edu) as PDFs:
 - CV/Resume including details of any research/laboratory experience and the contact information for at least two references who are familiar with the applicant's knowledge in related scientific fields and/or research/laboratory capabilities
 - Unofficial undergraduate transcripts
 - A brief statement not exceeding one-half (1/2) page outlining their dedication to increasing the involvement and success of underrepresented groups in STEM careers
- All application steps must be completed before October 1, 2022 to be considered for the position

About the Beck Research Group

The Beck Research Group is dedicated to training the next generation of scientists while addressing biochemical and biological problems that have implications for human health. To achieve this, we utilize our diverse scientific backgrounds in a collaborative environment to study these problems at the molecular-level through the development and application of small molecule chemical tools. This allows for the creation of highly trained scientists while making significant scientific contributions that will improve the well-being of humankind in our local, national, and global communities. See www.Beck-Lab.com for more information.

About Eastern Illinois University

EIU is a primarily undergraduate institution with BS, BA, and MS programs in Chemistry and Biochemistry. Class sizes are small, with a heavy emphasis on personal interaction between faculty and students and on undergraduate research participation. Further information about EIU and the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department can be found at www.eiu.edu and www.eiu.edu/eiuchem. We are located in Charleston, IL, which is about 1 hour south of Champaign-Urbana, 3 hours south of Chicago, and 2 hours from both St. Louis and Indianapolis.

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement

Eastern Illinois University is an Affirmative Action/ Equal Opportunity Employer –minority/female/disability/veteran – committed to achieving a diverse community.

Applicants should contact Prof. Michael W. Beck at MBeck2@EIU.edu or (217) 581-6227 if they have any questions about the application or position.