

## TRANSLATIONAL HEALTH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE

(An Autonomous Institute of the Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India)  
NCR Biotech Science Cluster, 3<sup>rd</sup> Milestone, Faridabad – Gurgaon Expressway, P.O. Box No. 04, Faridabad - 121001

### HIV Vaccine Translational Research Project

**Recruitment Notice No: THS / RN / 11 /2016**

#### **Recruitment for Scientific Positions**

- a) Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) is an autonomous Institute of the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India. The institute is an integral part of the interdisciplinary NCR Biotech Science Cluster located at Faridabad, and is designed as a dynamic, interactive organization with the mission to conduct innovative translational research and to develop research collaborations across disciplines and professions to translate concepts into tangible products to improve human health.
- b) THSTI has set up niche centres for research in areas relevant to planned translational work. They are: Vaccine and Infectious Disease Research Centre (VIDRC), Paediatric Biology Centre (PBC), Centre for Bio-design & Diagnostics (CBD), Drug Discovery Research Centre (DDRC), Centre for Human Microbial Ecology (CHME) and Policy Centre for Biomedical Research (PCBR). Clinical Development Services Agency (CDSA) and National Bio-design Alliance (NBA) are THSTI's extramural centres.
- c) Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI), India and the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI), USA have set up a collaborative program entitled "HIV Vaccine Translational Research" (HVTR) to accelerate and advance HIV vaccine research and development. The program is an integral part of the THSTI cluster of research centers and linked to global network of R&D facilities, including IAVI's Neutralizing Antibody Consortium (NAC) and IAVI Design and Development lab, situated in Brooklyn, New York. The THSTI-IAVI HIV Vaccine Design Lab examines novel AIDS vaccine platforms and immunogens, standardizes preclinical testing of AIDS vaccine candidates, and develops candidates for evaluation in clinical trials. It is an innovative discovery program directed at designing, testing and implementing high-throughput (HT) strategies for HIV-1 envelope-based immunogen screening and prioritization to help discover and advance novel HIV vaccine candidates. The program is targeted to expand the number of vaccine candidates for testing, and enhance the speed with which they can be assayed. The unique industrial-type high-throughput vaccine design, screening

and selection processes proposed will be largely facilitated by interdisciplinary interaction and thus driven by principles of international collaboration, high-quality science and vaccine-oriented applied research.

**To strengthen its research mission, “HIV Vaccine Translational Research” (HVTR) is seeking to fill the positions of Scientist and Senior Scientist. The details of these positions are provided below.**

e) Applications are invited from suitable candidates for the following positions:

**1. Name of the scientific positions:**

- |      |                  |   |                 |
|------|------------------|---|-----------------|
| (i)  | Senior Scientist | - | Two positions   |
| (ii) | Scientist        | - | Three positions |

**1.1 Qualification & Experience :**

➤ **Sr. Scientist/Scientist for Immunology / Immuno-pathogenesis position:**

PhD or an equivalent degree in Immunology/ Virology/ Biotechnology/ Microbiology/ Immunology or any other disciplines of Life Sciences. Good understanding of immunology with experiences of working with primary cells, T- and/or B-cells, mammalian cell culture, purification of antibodies, ELISA, Western blotting, flow cytometry.

**Desirable** : Experience of working with infectious primary cells (preferably HIV positive cells), e.g., PBMC; isolation and dissemination of primary immune cells with particularly B-cells, single cell sorting (hands on experience to use cell sorter; e.g., FACS ARIA), cloning of IgG chains, experience in Real Time PCR, experience in B-cell biology work; good understanding on HIV biology, immunology and vaccinology.

Candidates with a minimum post-PhD experience of 3 years for Sr. Scientist, and 1 year for Scientist, possessing essential & desirable qualifications as described above would be preferred.

➤ **Sr. Scientist/Scientist for Virology & Molecular Biology position:**

PhD or an equivalent degree in Virology/Biotechnology/Microbiology/Immunology or any other disciplines of Life Sciences. Good understanding of virology with experience of working with viruses both at the basic and molecular level and not limited to PCR, molecular cloning, gene expression, mammalian cell culture, ELISA, Western blotting and gene sequencing

**Desirable:** Preparation and purification of viruses via mammalian cell culture, virus neutralization assays, site-directed mutagenesis, knowledge and hands on experience working on bioinformatics; good understanding of HIV biology, immunology and vaccinology

Candidates with a minimum post-PhD experience of 3 years for Sr. Scientist, and 1 year for Scientist, possessing essential & desirable qualifications as described above would be preferred.

### **1.2 Key Responsibilities:**

Manage, mentor and train the technical staff to meet the goals of the projects and the needs of THSTI-IAVI program.

- To take an active lead in the maintenance and development of laboratory processes and procedures
- To ensure consistently high quality outputs and effective execution adhering to GLP-like procedures
- To set goals/targets for the projects of the lab in consultation with principal investigators and research on the projects to produce effective solutions
- Provide interpretation of results, guidance and scientific support to the scientific team as required
- Keep complete records of experimental work and provide full and detailed reports and data used to support product license applications and patents as and when required
- To foster information sharing and report research and development progress to principal investigators highlighting, in particular risks, issues and probable solutions
- Be an important part of the strategic team led by Program Director for planning the scientific work plan and assist project development by supplying technical input for the preparation of proposals based on the results and/or publications
- To be able to effectively communicate technical activities (both verbally and in writing) to all levels within the THSTI-IAVI program and externally when required
- To provide key technical input and implementation strategies which could influence/drive the THSTI-IAVI program's short and long term objectives.
- To represent the lab on a purely scientific level at national and international meetings. To write scientific papers for publication in refereed journals and to act as an acknowledged research expert in the chosen field.

### **1.3 Key Capabilities:**

- The successful candidate should have a strong foundation in science and be an experienced vaccine scientist with a commitment to the design and advancement of HIV vaccines
- Significant record of professional accomplishment including publications, patents and public speaking
- Believes in the potential of collaborative approaches to problem solving; able to contribute to and follow the project plan with minimal guidance from the Principal Scientist

- Experienced in mentoring
- Ability to manage short-term and long-term lab resource needs of the set objectives
- Effective scientific communicator as evidenced by publications and presentations at scientific meetings
- An understanding of priority-setting, resource management and the bridge-building required to foster scientific cooperation
- Encourages open communication and participation with an emphasis on transparency and the sharing of information
- Able to handle challenging situations, including daunting tasks and complex interpersonal issues, with a calm, assured, unflinching approach that keeps all “eyes on the prize”
- A champion of innovation who responds to complex problems and challenges by applying new perspectives and exploring a variety of relevant possible solutions
- A team player and team-builder who is willing to work with and patiently align diverse stakeholders who maintain their individual autonomy and decision-making

#### 1.4 Consolidated monthly emoluments & Age limit :

S.No.	Name of the position	Monthly consolidated emoluments	Age limit
(i)	Senior Scientist	Rs. 72,000/-	50 years
(ii)	Scientist	Rs. 60,000/-	40 years

#### 2. GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS:

- Appointment will be made on contract initially for a period upto 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2018 with an initial probation period of one year that may be extended at the discretion of the competent authority.
- These posts will not have claim for regularization of their employment.
- Persons working in Govt./PSUs/autonomous bodies should apply through proper channel or produce “No Objection Certificate” at the time of Interview.
- All educational professional and technical qualification should be from a recognized Board/University.
- The experience requirement specified shall be the experience acquired after obtaining the minimum educational qualifications required for the post.
- The age limit, qualification, experience and other requirements for the posts are relaxable at the discretion of the competent authority, in case of candidates otherwise well qualified. In case candidates are not found suitable for the posts notified, they can be offered lower post / lower emoluments on the recommendation of the Selection Committee.

- vii. Age and other relaxations for direct recruits and departmental candidates: 1. By 5 years for candidates belonging to SC/ST communities. 2. By 3 years for candidates belonging to OBC communities. 3. For Persons with Disabilities (PwD) falling under the following categories : (i) UR - 10 years , ii) OBC - 13 years (iii) SC/ST - 15 years 4. For Ex-servicemen upto the extent of service rendered in defence forces (Army, Navy & Air force) plus 3 years provided they have put in a minimum of 6 months attested service. 5. Relaxation of 5 years will also be permissible to those who had ordinarily been domiciled in the Kashmir division of the State of Jammu and Kashmir during the period from 01/01/1980 to 31 /12/1989 subject to production of relevant certificate from concerned authority. 6. Age is relaxable for Government servants up to 5 years in accordance with the instructions or orders issued by the Central Government, from time to time 7. There is no upper age limit for the Institute employees who are treated as departmental candidates.
- viii. Number of positions may vary depending upon the requirement at the time of interview.
- ix. Reservation rules shall apply wherever applicable. Outstation SC/ST/PwD candidates called for the interview will be paid to & fro second class railway fare, as per Govt. of India rules on production of the proof of travel.
- x. In case a large number of applications are received for each post, screening will be done to limit the number of candidates to those possessing higher/relevant qualification.
- xi. Only shortlisted candidates will be called for interview.
- xii. All results will be published on our website and all future communications will be only through email.
- xiii. Canvassing in any form will be a disqualification.
- xiv. Interested candidates may please email in their application duly mentioning the recruitment notice no. with a cover note, current curriculum vitae and bibliography, together with a brief description of past and present scholarly interests and accomplishments and names of three references to Head-Administration, THSTI at [hvtr@thsti.res.in](mailto:hvtr@thsti.res.in) on or before 15<sup>th</sup> April 2016.