

**Bioinformatician/Senior Bioinformatician
for Applied Methodological Research
Hutton band D or E – (Senior-)Postdoctoral
Permanent
Salary from £31,522/£38,442 dependent on grade**



BioSS seeks a motivated and innovative quantitative scientist to work in the critical and expanding methodological area of Statistical Genomics and Bioinformatics in collaboration with biological scientists. The post represents an excellent long-term career opportunity for an suitably qualified quantitative scientist, offering a stimulating mix of work including: collaboration with biological scientists at leading UK research institutions; interactions with other quantitative experts within and beyond BioSS; a generous time allocation within which to develop your own area of quantitative methodological research; and the opportunity to develop your career in BioSS as we grow our strengths as a centre of quantitative applied research and consultancy. We will consider applications at either the postdoctoral or senior postdoctoral grade, depending on experience: note our higher expectations of candidates for the more senior grading. BioSS is eligible to apply for UKRI funding, and we will be keen for the successful applicant to contribute to, develop or lead proposals (depending on experience) as we seek to grow our portfolio of such projects. This position will be based at the BioSS site within the James Clerk Maxwell Building on the King's Buildings campus of the University of Edinburgh.

BioSS is a member of the SEFARI (Scottish Environment, Food and Agriculture Research Institutes) collective (<https://sefari.scot/>), and offers a stimulating working environment, with over 40 staff and students at four locations, collaborating on applications in plant & crop science, animal health & welfare, environmental science & ecology, and nutrition & human health.

The post is based at the BioSS Headquarters in Edinburgh, located in the James Clerk Maxwell Building at the University of Edinburgh, King's Buildings campus. We offer extensive opportunities to develop collaborations with scientists in both the research institute and university sectors.



We are an equal opportunity employer. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees; we encourage applications from underrepresented groups in STEM, particularly women, BAME and LGBTQ+. We encourage flexible working and are happy to discuss options at interview stage.

Purpose of the post

- Delivery of collaborative research in the application areas of institutions with which BioSS is collaborating (SEFARI and others).
- Development of a portfolio of personal research in the field of novel quantitative methods applicable to high-throughput bioinformatics.
- Generating additional income for BioSS by supporting applications for funding and contributing to the resulting projects.
- *In the more senior role, candidates would be expected to deliver at a higher level, consistent with a longer or stronger track record of achievement; they would be*

expected to show more independent initiative and more leadership, and in particular to lead applications for funding.

Main responsibilities of post

- Contribute quantitative expertise to collaborative research projects across BioSS, focussed on (but not limited to) high-throughput bioinformatics and related activities with the SEFARI.
- Deliver research on methodology for the analysis of bioinformatics data, including high-throughput and computationally intensive methods. with clear relevance to the Scottish Government funded Strategic Research Programme.
- Develop strong collaborative links with scientists with the SEFARI.
- Contribute to applications for funding, including calls from UKRI, and contribute to delivery of resulting projects as appropriate.
- Represent BioSS externally at meetings with stakeholders from scientific and non-scientific backgrounds, and in particular online via development and delivery of research-related software.
- Extend collaborative links with government agencies, NGOs, universities, research institutes and commercial organisations.
- Contribute to the development and delivery of BioSS training courses for scientists.
- *In the more senior role, applicants would be expected to lead and manage funding applications; take personal responsibility for building, managing and maintaining relationships with specific groups of scientists, external organisations and stakeholders; establish new links and new areas of collaboration; and in all such activities explicitly seek to generate benefit across the entirety of BioSS by acting in support of other staff.*

Grade, starting salary and duration

- This post will be offered at Hutton Grade D (bioinformatician, salary range £31,522 - £38,442) or Grade E (senior bioinformatician, salary range £38,442 - £49,205).
- This is a permanent appointment.
- All individuals wishing to work within the UK must be entitled to do so before they can be employed.

Knowledge, skills and experience

Essential

- A PhD in a quantitative discipline with substantial bioinformatics and computational components, or an MSc with commensurate post-qualification development and work experience (generally three years).
- Experience of development and use of modern quantitative methods applied to real-world examples.
- A track record of research and/or collaboration evidenced by scientific journal and conference papers in a methodological field relevant to the SEFARI.

- Evidence of ability to initiate, manage and maintain scientific collaborations.
- The ability to work independently.
- Enthusiasm for development and application of quantitative methods, and for collaborating with applied scientists in a range of scientific areas.
- Understanding of data types and quantitative issues relevant to general bioinformatics and high-throughput bioinformatics, sequencing in particular.
- Good computer programming ability to handle large data sets and deploy algorithmic, computational and statistical bioinformatics techniques.
- Evidence of good written communication.
- Ability to give effective spoken presentations, to both quantitative and wider scientific audiences.
- *For the more senior role, applicants should demonstrate a stronger past track record across most of these attributes. Experience of developing funding applications is essential for the more senior role.*

Desirable

- Experience of methodological development and scientific collaborations in the field of bioinformatics.
- Evidence of work on the data analysis of high-throughput sequencing experiments.
- Broad knowledge of biological topics relevant to bioinformatics, especially how they influence data and data generation.
- Experience working in phylogenetics and phylodynamics.
- Evidence of contribution to funding proposals.
- Understanding of experimental design, sequencing protocols and the implications they have on downstream data processing.

How to apply for this post

Applications for this post (Ref: **BioSS-01 21**) should be made through the recruitment pages of BioSS's parent organisation, the James Hutton Institute www.hutton.ac.uk/careers

The application process involves creating an account and uploading personal details along with:

- a CV, including as a minimum your education and employment history plus your relevant scientific achievements;
- names and addresses of three referees, one of whom must be your current employer;
- a short explanation of why you consider yourself suitable for this post, including a description of your current and planned research activities.

The closing date for applications will be 27th April 2021; the interview date is to be confirmed.

Potential applicants may contact Professor Glenn Marion (Glenn.Marion@bioess.ac.uk) to discuss this position.

We will not consider the use of 3rd party recruitment agencies for the sourcing of candidates for this position.

BioSS has been awarded Investors in People Gold Status and is formally part of The James Hutton Institute, a Scottish charity No. SC041796 and an equal opportunities employer.



The James Hutton Institute is a: Stonewall Diversity Champion; Athena SWAN Bronze Status Holder; Disability Confident Committed Employer and a Living Wage Employer.