

Staff Research Associate II (9612C), Innovative Genomics
Institute - 82057
University of California, Berkeley

Direct Link: <https://www.AcademicKeys.com/r?job=264480>

Downloaded On: Oct. 29, 2025 8:11am

Posted Oct. 28, 2025, set to expire Jun. 30, 2026

Job Title	Staff Research Associate II (9612C), Innovative Genomics Institute - 82057
Department	Innovative Genomics Institute
Institution	University of California, Berkeley Berkeley, California
Date Posted	Oct. 28, 2025
Application Deadline	Open until filled
Position Start Date	Available immediately
Job Categories	Professional Staff
Academic Field(s)	Research/Technical/Laboratory
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Job Description

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Staff Research Associate II (9612C), Innovative Genomics Institute - 82057

About Berkeley

At the University of California, Berkeley, we are dedicated to fostering a community where everyone feels welcome and can thrive. Our culture of openness, freedom and belonging make it a special place for students, faculty and staff.

As a world-leading institution, Berkeley is known for its academic and research excellence, public mission, diverse student body, and commitment to equity and social justice. Since our founding in 1868, we have driven innovation, creating global intellectual, economic and social value.

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We are looking for applicants who reflect California's diversity and want to be part of an inclusive, equity-focused community that views education as a matter of social justice. Please consider whether your values align with our [Guiding Values and Principles](#), [Principles of Community](#), and [Strategic Plan](#).

At UC Berkeley, we believe that learning is a fundamental part of working, and provide space for [supportive colleague communities via numerous employee resource groups](#) (staff organizations). Our goal is for everyone on the Berkeley campus to feel supported and equipped to realize their full potential. We actively support this by providing all of our full-time staff employees with at least 80 hours (10 days) of paid time per year to engage in professional development activities. Find out more about how you can [grow your career](#) at UC Berkeley.

Departmental Overview

The Innovative Genomics Institute (IGI) is a non-profit, academic research organization formed through the partnership of UC Berkeley and UC San Francisco, and

located on the UC Berkeley campus. A key focus of the IGI is accelerating translation of CRISPR-based approaches to address real-world problems in human health, agriculture, and climate.

The IGI is committing to hiring researchers who want to work in a high- performing culture. The IGI is interested in applicants who may have had non- traditional career paths, taken time off for family/personal reasons, or excelled in careers outside academia. Most of our job postings list "required" and "preferred" qualifications. We encourage individuals to apply who do not meet every preferred qualification, but who could grow and thrive in the role.

Position Summary

This Staff Research Associate II will support microbiome-editing projects in the Rubin Lab by constructing and validating DNA tools (plasmids, CRISPR/CAST systems), delivering them to non-model bacteria and communities, and quantifying outcomes with sequencing-based assays. Responsible for generating high-quality reagents and reproducible data that advance our core programs in gut, soil/rhizosphere, and bioenergy-relevant microbiomes.

Application Review Date

The First Review Date for this job is: 11/06/2025.

Responsibilities

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Responsible for molecular cloning & plasmid assembly (30%)

- Design, assembly, and QC of editing vectors (e.g., CRISPR-associated transposase systems, reporter/selection constructs, origin-of-replication variants).
- Perform PCR, Gibson/Golden Gate cloning, restriction analysis, plasmid prep, gel extraction, and Sanger/NGS-based verification to prepare cargos for delivery into non-model bacteria and microbiomes.

Editing in isolates & communities (25%)

- Culture aerobic and strict anaerobic bacteria using sterile and glove-bag techniques (<0.5 ppm O). Deliver DNA cargos by conjugation or electroporation with tight control of growth phase, buffer conditions, and electroporation parameters.
- Perform antibiotic/selection titrations, pooled editing assays in microbial communities (gut, soil, bioenergy), and phenotypic/reporter selections.
- Optimize recovery and selection windows to enable reproducible editing outcomes without collapsing communities.

Sequencing-based readouts & QC (20%)

- Extract DNA from isolates and mixed communities; construct amplicon/TnSeq/metagenomic libraries, including low-input pools (1-10 ng DNA).
- Perform Qubit/Bioanalyzer QC, pool design, and demultiplexing/mapping to generate count tables.
- Monitor and troubleshoot biases (e.g., index hopping, low-biomass amplification).
- Summarize results for team review.

Data organization, analysis & reporting (10%)

- Maintain meticulous electronic notebooks and Benchling templates (plate maps, index sets, SOP checklists).
- Conduct basic QC and analysis in R/Python; generate figures and tables.
- Contribute methods, data QC, and documentation (strain/plasmid maps, deposition files) for manuscripts, reports, and presentations.

Lab operations, safety & compliance (10%)

- Manage inventory, media/buffer prep, and equipment upkeep.
- Enforce BSL-2 biosafety, antibiotic handling, and waste decontamination standards.

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- Track samples at scale (hundreds of indices, nanogram volumes) with second-person verification to prevent mix-ups.

Collaboration, communication & meetings (5%)

- Coordinate protocols, sample transfers, and timelines across JBEI/LBNL/IGI and external collaborators.
- Share SOP updates, troubleshooting notes, and QC checkpoints to harmonize cross-site datasets.
- Give brief internal presentations (5-10 min updates, flash talks) and contribute to posters or manuscripts when authorship criteria are met.

Required Qualifications

- Demonstrated molecular cloning experience (1+ year total, including academic research).
- Strong organizational habits and meticulous electronic record-keeping (Benchling/Drive).
- Ability to culture and manipulate bacteria; comfort following and improving SOPs.
- Team-science mindset, clear communication, and inclusive lab conduct.
- Experience testing AI-designed DNA sequences.
- Bachelor's degree in related area and/or equivalent experience/training.

Salary & Benefits

For information on the comprehensive benefits package offered by the University, please visit the University of California's [Compensation & Benefits](#) website.

Under California law, the University of California, Berkeley is required to provide a reasonable estimate of the compensation range for this role and should not offer a salary outside of the range posted in this job announcement. This range takes into account the wide range of factors that are considered in making compensation decisions including but not limited to experience, skills, knowledge, abilities, education, licensure and certifications, analysis of internal equity, and other business and organizational needs. It is not typical for an individual to be offered a salary at or near the top of the range for a position. Salary offers are determined based on final candidate qualifications and experience.

The budgeted annual salary range that the University reasonably expects to pay for this position is

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\$63,257.82 (Step 1) - \$67,158.04 (Step 4).

- This is an exempt monthly-paid position.

How to Apply

- To apply, please submit your resume and cover letter.

Other Information

This position is governed by the terms and conditions in the agreement for the Research Support Professionals Unit (RX) between the University of California and the University Professional and Technical Employees (UPTe). The current bargaining agreement manual can be found at:

<http://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/labor/bargaining-units/rx/index.html>

- This is not a visa opportunity.

SB 791 and AB 810 Misconduct Disclosure Requirement: As a condition of employment, the final candidate who accepts a conditional offer of employment will be required to disclose if they have been subject to any final administrative or judicial decisions within the last seven years determining that they committed any misconduct; received notice of any allegations or are currently the subject of any administrative or disciplinary proceedings involving misconduct; have left a position after receiving notice of allegations or while under investigation in an administrative or disciplinary proceeding involving misconduct; or have filed an appeal of a finding of misconduct with a previous employer.

"Misconduct" means any violation of the policies or laws governing conduct at the applicant's previous place of employment, including, but not limited to, violations of policies or laws prohibiting sexual harassment, sexual assault, or other forms of harassment, discrimination, dishonesty, or unethical conduct, as defined by the employer. For reference, below are UC's policies addressing some forms of misconduct:

[UC Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment Policy](#)

[UC Anti-Discrimination Policy](#)

[Abusive Conduct in the Workplace](#)

Equal Employment Opportunity

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The University of California is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, protected veteran status, or other protected status under state or federal law.

To apply, visit

https://careerspub.universityofcalifornia.edu/psc/ucb/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/HRS_HRAM_FL.HRS.CG_S

Contact Information

Please reference Academickeys in your cover letter when applying for or inquiring about this job announcement.

Contact

N/A

University of California, Berkeley

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